

FALL 2024

Unit 2, Session 3

CONNECTION POINT:

Love should be without favoritism within the family.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: Many of us have experienced favoritism in the workplace. We've seen someone being treated as the "teacher's pet." Favoritism even happens in the church, and unfortunately it can be seen in the family. While we may give lip service to loving everyone equally, it's easy to show a preference for the child, grandchild, or parent who shares the same interests, does what is expected, or even shows a favoritism toward you. Favoritism leads to dysfunction, but love should rule our hearts.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to live out his or her faith.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:1; 18:1-2,41-46

Live It Out: Review the Bible story, emphasizing that God can do anything. Give your child watercolor paints and paper to paint a rainy scene. Print Jeremiah 14:22 on the page.

God stopped the rain for three years and no food could grow. The people needed rain.

God said to His prophet Elijah, "Go and tell King Ahab I will send rain."

Elijah went to King Ahab and said, "God says it will rain soon. Go, eat, and drink before the heavy rain comes." King Ahab listened to Elijah. He went to eat and drink.

Elijah climbed Mount Carmel to pray. Elijah bent down to the ground and prayed. Elijah told his servant, "Go and look toward the sea." The servant went, looked, and came back.

"I do not see anything," the servant said to Elijah.

Elijah prayed seven times. He sent his servant to look toward the sea for a rain cloud. The servant came back and said, "I see a cloud the size of a man's hand."

Black clouds were in the sky. The wind began to blow. Heavy rain began to fall.

KIDS

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:1; 18

Live It Out: Review with your child how God showed He was the only God. Help him memorize Isaiah 44:6. Pray with your child, thanking God that He is the only God.

God stopped rain from falling for three years. The famine was severe. King Ahab was ruining Israel because he followed false gods.

Elijah summoned all of Israel with the 450 prophets of Baal to meet him at Mount Carmel.

Elijah told the people to make a choice to follow God or to follow Baal and issued a challenge. He told the people to place a bull on each altar and to call on their gods and he would call on his to see who answered first. The God who answers with fire, he is one God.

The prophets of Baal called all day, but no one answered.

Elijah prepared an altar for the Lord, and poured water over it. He called out to God, and the Lord's fire came down and consumed the altar and the sacrifice.

Afterward, Elijah prayed for rain, and God sent a great rainstorm.

STUDENTS

Scripture: Genesis 25:24-28; 27:5-13

- Why are differences something to celebrate?
- When have you felt the pain of deception or betrayal?
- How, in our culture, do people sometimes take advantage of those who are weak?

Live It Out: As husband and wife, Isaac and Rebekah were called to show unity and work together as partners who complement one another. Instead, they were more concerned with their own selfish perspectives and personal favorites, and it fostered great conflict within the family.

It can be easy to show favoritism to people who are like us, who are pretty or popular, or who we think can help us get ahead. Chances are, there are teens at your student's school who deal with the pain of being ignored or rejected because of others' favoritism. Talk to your student about how harmful favoritism can be, and encourage him or her to reach out and befriend others who may not be like him or her.