

ELIJAH CONFRONTED AHAB

Bible Reference: 1 Kings 18-19

Date: 9/14/25

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

2nd Service

Memory Verse:

“...so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other.” 1 Kings 8:60

Big Picture Question:

**How many gods are there?
There is one true God.**

Christ Connection

- The fire came down to show the people of Israel that the Lord is God. When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son

Schedule

- **Welcome/ Intro Activity**.....5 minutes
- **Kids Worship @ 11:00**.....15-20 minutes
- **Circle Time and Bible Story**.....10 minutes
- **Movement Activity**.....10 minutes
- **Craft**.....5-7 minutes
- **Music**.....5 minutes
- **Friends From Afar**.....5-7 minutes
- **Prayer and Bible Verse**.....10 minutes
- **Snack/ Discussion Time**.....5-7 minutes
- **Additional Activities**.....As Needed

Notes and Reminders

Happy First 2nd Sunday of the new Shepherding Year! As we establish the routines of this new year and the children adjust to their new class, both at church and school, would you pray that the people they meet and the places they go this year would help them to know God better? We are so thankful for your willingness to serve these children!

SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

What is the boldest request you've ever made to the Lord? Have you ever experienced God answer your prayers in a uniquely powerful way? In this week's Bible story, we see how God answered Elijah's prayers.

King Ahab led the people to worship Baal. The prophet Elijah condemned Ahab for leading the people astray and instructed him to gather all the people and prophets of Baal for an epic showdown. The test was simple: both Elijah and the prophets of Baal would offer sacrifices to see if Baal would respond or if God would respond.

The prophets of Baal cried out, danced, and prayed all day with no response or hint of fire on their altar. When Elijah's turn came, he prepared the bull on the altar but took his trust in the Lord a step further by asking for water to be poured on top, saturating it completely. Elijah prayed, "LORD, let it be known that you are God in Israel, and I am your servant. Answer so that this people will know that you, the LORD, are God."

Immediately, fire fell from heaven and completely consumed the offering along with the wood, the stones, and even the water! After the showdown at the altar, Jezebel sought to kill Elijah, and Elijah fled. This time, Elijah's prayer was one of weariness and desperation. Again, God proved faithful to Elijah and answered his prayer. The Lord spoke to Elijah in a whisper and encouraged him, reminding him that the Lord would save those who remained faithful to Him.

The people of Israel knew that the Lord is the one true God when He answered Elijah's prayer and sent fire down from heaven. In the same way, people would know that Jesus is God's Son when the Holy Spirit came down like a dove when Jesus was baptized. Jesus is the Son of God and gave His life up for us.

Remember that God hears and answers the prayers of those who belong to Him. Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to listen and respond to our prayers. Remind boys and girls that through Jesus, we can boldly take our requests to God!

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

King Ahab turned the people away from God and led them to worship a fake god named Baal. But God sent the prophet Elijah to stop this. Elijah told Ahab to gather all the people and the prophets of Baal for a big challenge to show who the real God was.

The challenge was simple: both Elijah and the prophets of Baal would offer a sacrifice and ask their god to send fire from heaven. Whoever's god answered with fire was the true God.

The prophets of Baal prayed all day, danced, and shouted, but nothing happened—no fire came. Then it was Elijah's turn. He prepared his sacrifice and even poured water all over it to make it really hard to burn. Then he prayed to God and asked Him to show that He is the one true God.

Right away, fire came down from heaven and burned up everything—even the water! This showed everyone that God is real and powerful.

But after this amazing event, Queen Jezebel wanted to kill Elijah. Elijah was scared and tired, so he ran away and prayed to God again—this time for help and comfort. God didn't answer with fire, but with a quiet whisper. He reminded Elijah that He was still with him and that many people were still faithful to God.

The people saw that the Lord is the one true God because He answered Elijah's prayer with fire. Later in the Bible, when Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son. Jesus came to save us by giving His life for us.

Welcome to the start of a new school year and Shepherding year! As you help the children in your room get used to their new setting, focus on getting to know who they are. Be intentional about remembering their names.

Sometimes it can be helpful to learn something about them and pair that with their name to remember them better. (For Example: "Today I met Suzie whose favorite movie is *Moana*"). Then, the next time you see the child, you will have a better chance of remembering their name, and it will give you something to talk about ("Hi Suzie! I know last time I saw you, you told me your favorite movie is *Moana*! Which song from *Moana* is your favorite?")

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Hide crowns beneath a stack of paper towel tubes assembled to resemble a fire. Invite children to find the crowns beneath the logs. Place the Big Picture Question Poster nearby and review as the crowns are discovered.
- **SAY** Welcome! I'm glad to see you today! You did a great job finding all the crowns. What do crowns remind you of? [Allow responses.] In our Bible story today we will learn about a time when God showed He is the one true God by sending fire. When Jesus came, the Holy Spirit came like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes


Thinking Activity

- Greet the children in group time. Encourage children to sit in a circle. Pass around a dry rock and discuss how it feels. Next, pass around a wet rock and talk about how that rock feels. Discuss how they are the same and how they are different.
- **SAY** These are both rocks, but one is wet and the other is dry. How did each rock feel? [Allow responses.] Rocks are not usually burned up in a fire, especially wet rocks. In our Bible story today, we will learn about a time when even the wet rocks were burned by fire. Let's listen and find out what happened!

Bible Story

- Israel had a bad king named Ahab. King Ahab and many of the Israelites prayed to a pretend god named Baal. But Elijah lived in Israel too, and Elijah loved God. Elijah went to King Ahab and said, "You made things really bad in Israel because you stopped listening to God. Let's bring everyone together and see who the real God is." So, everyone came, and Elijah said, "Let us have a contest. If the LORD is God, follow Him. But if Baal is God, follow him. We will both put a bull on an altar and pray. The God who sends fire is the real God." The people who prayed to Baal went first. They shouted and danced all day, but no fire came. Elijah said, "Maybe your god is busy or sleeping!" Then it was Elijah's turn. He put his bull on the altar and told people to pour lots of water on it. Then Elijah prayed, "God, show everyone that you are the real God." God sent fire from the sky! It burned up everything!



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- The people were amazed and said, “The LORD is God!” King Ahab was very mad, so Elijah ran away to be safe. Elijah was tired and told God he felt alone. God told Elijah to go to a mountain. There was a big wind, an earthquake, and fire—but God was not in those things. Then Elijah heard a quiet whisper, and in that whisper, God said, “Elijah, you still have work to do. Some people still love me. Go help them.” Elijah did what God told him.

Christ Connection

- The fire came down to show the people of Israel that the Lord is God. When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God’s Son

Review Activity

- Assist children in putting the events of the story in order using the Bible Story cards. Lead children in retelling the story when finished.
- SAY King Ahab led the people to pray to a pretend god named Baal. Elijah challenged the people to a contest between their god and the one true God. The people worshiping Baal built their altar first, but no fire came from their god. Elijah built an altar for God and made the rocks, wood, and sacrifice wet so that only a miracle from God could make them burn. Elijah prayed, and God sent fire from heaven and burned up the altar and sacrifice. God showed He is the one true God. King Ahab was mad, and Elijah fled. God told Elijah he was not alone and to go help the people who loved Him. Elijah obeyed God.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Create a line down the middle of the room with the painter’s tape. Give children a set of choices to make, pointing to one side of the tape for one choice, and to the other side of the tape for the other choice. Each time you present a choice, start by saying, “Choose today.” For example, you might say, “Choose today: do you prefer chocolate ice cream or vanilla ice cream?” Continue giving the children choices, and end on this question: “Choose today: will you follow the one true God or a false god?”

- SAY The people of Israel were presented with a choice. If Baal was real, they should follow him.
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- But if God was real, they should leave behind every other false god and follow the Lord. God showed He is the one true God. We have a similar choice today. We must choose if we are going to follow God and His ways or not. Trusting in Jesus is the only way we can be forgiven of our sin so that we may live with Him forever.

Craft

5-7 minutes

Distribute a stone altar craft sheet and red, orange, and yellow tissue paper squares to each child. Guide children to wad the tissue paper squares into balls and glue them to the top of the altar.

SAY This picture of an altar made of stone and sticks is similar to the altar that Elijah and the priests of Baal built. They had a contest to see whose god could send fire to light the altar. God showed He is the one true God by sending fire to burn up the altar. The fire came down to show the people of Israel that the Lord is God. God is so powerful! When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son.



Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today's activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included.



Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, You are the one true God. You sent fire down from heaven to show that You are God and Baal is not. You sent Your Son, Jesus, to live, die, and rise again so we could be forgiven of our sin. We love You! Amen.

Bible Verse

- Lead the children in saying the memory verse. As you say the verse act out the motions Elijah could have used to build the altar (carrying heavy rocks, hammering, sawing, etc.)
- You all did a great job pretending to build the altar! Elijah thought it was important that the people see that there is one true God! He was willing to do a lot of work!

Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
3. What was the contest Elijah set up to show that the Lord is the true God? (The god who made his altar catch fire would be the one true God.)
4. Why was Elijah's God able to light the altar on fire, but Baal was not? (God is alive and is all-powerful. He can do anything and everything. Baal isn't real and has no power.)
5. Whom should we worship as the one true God? (The Lord is God, and we should worship only Him.)
6. How many gods are there? There is one true God.

SAY The people of Israel were confused. They had been told that Baal was a real god, which was not true! Elijah set up a contest. He and the prophets of Baal both set up altars and asked their god to set the altar on fire. But only the Lord, the God of Elijah, had the power to send fire from heaven. God showed He is the one true God.





Additional Activities

As Needed

Hold a Contest

- Ask children to each think of a special talent, such as standing on one foot, singing, spinning around quickly, or jumping high. Hold a contest where each child shows their special talent. Celebrate each child's special ability.
- **SAY** That was a fun contest! I learned that you are all very talented. Elijah set up a contest with the prophets of Baal to determine who is truly God. God showed He is the one true God by sending fire from heaven to burn up the altar. The people who saw this were amazed and said, 'The Lord is God!' When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son.

Decide Hot or Cold

- Place two plastic hoops on the floor. Put a red piece of paper in one hoop, and a white piece of paper in the other hoop. Direct children to move to the hoop with the red paper if the item you name is hot or move to the hoop with the white paper if the item you name is cold. Name items such as fire, ice cream, the sun, snow, coffee, refrigerator, freezer, cookies out of the oven, and so forth.
- **SAY** Is fire hot or cold? [Allow responses.] Fire is very, very hot. When Elijah prayed to God, God answered his prayer by sending fire down from heaven. What happened to the altar? (everything was burned) God showed He is the one true God by sending fire to burn up the stones, the sticks, and even the water. The fire came down to show the people of Israel that the Lord is God. When Jesus came to earth, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son.



NAME: _____



Elijah Confronted Ahab

1 Kings 18–19

STORY POINT: God showed He is the one true God.

CHRIST CONNECTION:
God sent fire to show everyone He is the real God. When Jesus came, the Holy Spirit came like a dove to show that Jesus is God's Son.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:
May all people know the LORD is God. There is no other!
1 Kings 8:60

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:
How many gods are there? There is one true God.

Scan the QR code
for resources to
use at home!



A Quiet Whisper

INSTRUCTIONS: Elijah heard God quietly whisper to him. In each section below, circle the picture that is quiet.

