

Elisha the Prophet

2 Kings 2; 4-5

Why do Christians continue to sin?

Christians continue to sin because we still have a sin nature, but when Jesus returns, He will make us sinless like Him.

It is the Lord your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him.

Deuteronomy 13:4

Story Point:

God proved He is the one true God by answering Elijah's prayers.



PREPARE HEARTS

- ☐ Starter Activity and Question of the Day
- ☐ 11:00 - Kids Worship



ACTIVATE HEARTS

- ☐ Lesson Review - Elisha the Prophet
- ☐ Discussion Questions
- ☐ Group Demonstration: Making Lemonade



ENGAGE HEARTS

- ☐ Group Game: Elisha Says
- ☐ Share and Care Prayer Time
- ☐ Group Game - Robe Relay
- ☐ Group Activity - Match the Mentor

SHEPHERD GUIDE

This week, we continue our exploration of the divided kingdoms of Israel and Judah. We will focus on the prophet Elisha after he picked up the mantle— quite literally—from Elijah as the man of God in Israel. In Elisha's story we see profound demonstrations of God's power and love. As you prepare to teach kids, consider the ways you have seen God at work in your own life. In what ways do you experience wonder with God, and how is that sense of awe drawing you closer to Him?

God has power over life and death. Through Elisha, God demonstrated His power over life and death. When he raised the widow's son, it demonstrated that God is sovereign over life itself. This miracle reminds us that, even in despair, God can intervene, restoring hope and life where there seems to be none. This power reassures us that God cares deeply for us and is actively involved in our lives.

God can do miraculous works. Elisha's ministry was marked by miraculous works, such as healing the waters of Jericho and multiplying the widow's oil. These acts are not just displays of power; they reveal God's compassion and provision. They show us that God desires to meet our needs, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual.

We can worship God by serving others. When Elisha responded to the widow's cry for help, he exemplified how serving those in need is a form of honoring God. Jesus modeled this perfectly in His life, reminding us that when we serve others, we reflect His love and grace. In our communities, we have countless opportunities to serve, showing God's love in action.

As you lead kids, show them that we can be inspired to acknowledge God's power, celebrate His miraculous works, and commit ourselves to serving others as an expression of our worship. Through this, we can participate in God's ongoing story of love and redemption in the world.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 10:20 - 10:30 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

- *KNOW that God is all-powerful. He can do miracles.
- *BE aware of the Holy Spirit and how He can be working in their lives.
- *SERVE others and show God's love.



As you arrive and children come and go - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the others. Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.

Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.

When most kids have arrived for 2nd service (by 10:50ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.

**Option - Pen Pal Kit!!*



PREPARE HEARTS

Question of the Day:

Have you ever been somewhere amazing like the Grand Canyon, or the beach, or the mountains?

Have you ever experienced wonder when you've seen something amazing?

When we see God's beautiful creation, we might feel a sense of surprise and admiration for what God has made. Another word for those feelings is wonder.

In the Bible we read about incredible things God has done that may give us a sense of wonder. From creating everything out of nothing, to parting the Red Sea, to raising Jesus from the dead, God's amazing acts point us to who He is and what He is like. We're about to hear a Bible story about ways that God showed His power through miracles, and hopefully we will experience that sense of wonder that comes from learning about God!

Starter Activity

Welcome and
Question of the
Day



KIDS WORSHIP

11:00

Take children to LG2 for combined Pre-K -4th grade worship time.



ACTIVE MINDS

You can use the REVIEW VIDEO on your TV and / or use this lesson as a review of what was taught 1st service.

Elisha the Prophet

Bibles,
Review Video –
Bible story on TV

Open your Bible to 2 Kings 2 . You can use the Kids Sermon Outline as you go through the story.

KIDS SERMON OUTLINE

God has power over life and death (2 Kings 2:1-12): God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.

God can do miraculous works (2 Kings 4): Elisha performed many miracles through God's power.

We can worship God by serving others (2 Kings 5): Because Naaman witnessed the miracles God performed through Elisha, the commander worshiped the one true God.

Elijah was a powerful prophet to Israel, but God had a plan for another man to be a prophet after Elijah. That man's name was Elisha. Elijah went on a journey, and Elisha refused to leave his side. When they came to the Jordan River, Elijah rolled up his robe and struck the water. The river parted, and they crossed on dry ground.

Elisha asked Elijah if he could receive twice as much of Elijah's spirit. Elijah replied, "If you see me taken away from you, then you will have it." As they continued walking, a chariot of fire with horses of fire separated the two men, and Elijah was taken up into heaven in the whirlwind.

Elisha picked up the robe Elijah left behind and walked back to the Jordan River. He struck the water, and it parted. Elisha crossed over. Everyone who saw it said that the spirit of Elijah had rested on Elisha. From that moment on, Elisha performed many miracles.

In the city of Jericho, the water was not good to drink or water plants. Elisha asked for a bowl of salt and threw some into the spring. The water was healed!

Another day, a widow cried out to Elisha, saying "My husband has died, and now I don't have enough money to pay the people I owe. I will lose everything if I can't pay them." Elisha told her to borrow lots of empty containers from all her neighbors and pour into them a small jar of oil she had. The oil kept pouring out until all the containers were filled. She could sell the oil and pay back her debts.

When Elisha would pass through the town of Shunem, a woman who lived there would invite him to eat some food and rest. One day, as he was heading toward her town, the woman rushed out to him to tell him that her only son had died. When Elisha arrived at the house, he prayed and laid down on top of the boy's body. Then Elisha got up and bent over the boy. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes!

On another occasion, a commander of the Aramean army, Naaman, had a skin disease. He heard from a servant girl that there was a prophet in Samaria who could heal him. He sent word to Elisha, who replied with these instructions: "Go wash seven times in the Jordan River and your skin will be clean." Naaman followed these instructions, and his skin was clear of the disease. Naaman said, "I know there's no God in the whole world except in Israel." Elisha performed all these miracles and more as the prophet of God!

CHRIST CONNECTION

Elisha spoke the truth of God and performed miracles. Jesus taught with the authority of God and performed miracles as well. Elisha was a prophet, but Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior.

Wow! God spoke through the prophet Elisha and gave him power to perform miracles. **What were some of the wonderful things God did through Elisha?** [Allow responses.] Elisha spoke the truth of God and performed miracles. He made the bad water good for drinking, and he provided oil for the widow so she could pay her debts. He brought the dead boy back to life, and He healed Naaman's skin disease. **Do you think God loves people?** Yes! All these stories show us that God cares about us and wants to provide for our needs.

These stories of Elisha point forward to Jesus. Jesus taught with the authority of God and performed miracles as well. Elisha was a prophet, but Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior. Just as the stories of Elisha show us God's love, Jesus came into the world with the greatest demonstration of love there has ever been. Jesus lived the perfect life we cannot live, and He died on the cross to pay for our sin. But He didn't stay dead! Jesus was raised to life by the power of God's Spirit, and He promises that everyone who follows Him will receive that same Spirit to bring believers new life with God!



Discussion

Discussion questions listed here

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

Elisha didn't have power apart from God. How can God's power live in us? Tell kids that it was God's power that allowed Elisha to perform miracles. Share how we can have God's power in our lives too through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Tell kids that the Holy Spirit gives believers power to turn away from sin and obey God. Explain that the Holy Spirit has power to transform Christians to be more like Jesus. Remind kids that one day followers of Jesus will be sinless like Him.

Elisha wanted to be like Elijah. Why do Christians want to be like Jesus? Remind kids that when God first created people, He created them in His image. This means that we were created to be like Him and live in ways that show what He is like. Discuss how sin has broken that image, and we don't always live in ways that show us what God is like. But when Jesus, the image of the invisible God, came to earth, He made the way for sinners to be made right with God and be able to rightly show what God is like. Jesus' life shows us how we were created to be and how He gives us new life so we can be like Him.

Elijah didn't die but was taken up to heaven. What happens to Christians when they die? Explain that some people in the Bible, like Elijah and Enoch, didn't experience death. God simply brought them to be with Him. However, this is not the case for most people. We face physical death because of sin. The good news is that those who have trusted in Jesus as their Savior and Lord will be with God after they die. The Bible tells us that we go to be with God in heaven. We don't have to fear death because Jesus defeated death and made the way for us to live with God forever.



Group Demonstration:

Making Lemonade

- Container of water
- Lemons
- **Knife
- Sugar
- Spoon
- Small cups
- Song on USB

Display a pitcher of water. Slice several lemons and ask for some volunteers to squeeze the juice into the pitcher. As you work through the teaching, add sugar and stir.

SAY: One of the miracles God did through Elisha was turning the bad water into water that was good for drinking and watering crops. Listen to this. [Read 2 Kings 2:19-22.] **What did Elisha add to the water to make it good?** [Allow responses.]

In this pitcher we have lemon juice that makes the water very sour. It wouldn't be very good to drink as it is. By adding sugar, the lemon water becomes sweet. We've made lemonade!

We heard stories of people who went through some hard times. The water was bad, the widow had lost her husband and was poor, another woman's son died, and a man named Naaman had a bad skin disease. But God worked in all these situations to show His power and love for each person.

God often allows us to go through hard things that might seem sour. You might have to say goodbye to someone you love, move away from home, get sick, or get into a fight with a good friend. What are some other difficult situations you might be in? [Allow responses.] Do we go through hard times because God doesn't love us? Has He abandoned us? No way! God loves us more than we can imagine, and He is always with us. He wants us to know Him and trust that He will give us what we need. Now, God doesn't promise that life will always be sweet. We will still have times of sadness in our lives, but we can keep trusting in God's goodness to us to see us through.

Option: Play "Lemonade" by Forrest Frank (On USB on the TV under Sept. 28th)



Group Game: Elisha Says

- None

Play this game as you would Simon Says. Give commands to the group, such as jump up and down or touch your toes.

The kids should only follow the commands if you preface it with "Elisha Says". If they do the action without that phrase, they are out.

SAY: The Bible is filled with stories about how God partners with people to accomplish His plans. God used Elisha to point people to God. Elisha gave people instructions to follow, and when they did, they witnessed wonderful miracles! You and I have a front-row seat to witness what God is doing in the world. God uses people like you and me to show what He is like to the people around us. When we recognize what God is doing in our lives and show Him gratitude and praise, other people take notice. We can use those times to share our faith with people who don't yet know Jesus.



Share and Care Prayer

Spend some time as a class sharing about:

- Our Global Partner Family of the Month (**The Smith Family**)
- Ask for specific prayer requests that any of the kids have to share about something going on in their own lives.

Have the class sit in a circle as you share and care for one another's needs. Ask for and share requests with one another. Review and follow up with any prayer requests from the chain made the week before. Use the Global Partner of the Month spotlight sheet (In the Pen Pal Kit) to talk about prayer requests from the Smith Family.

Pray together - option - Popcorn Prayer (Open it up for anyone to pray in any order... like popping popcorn).



Robe Relay

- Robes

Form kids into three teams.

Move half of the kids from each team to one end of the room. Give each team at the other end of the room a robe or an over-sized button-down shirt.

Challenge teams to compete in a relay where one kid from each team will put on the robe, run to their teammate at the other end of the room, take off the robe, and hand it to their teammate to put on.

Teams will relay back and forth until one team is the first to have all the kids wear the robe.

SAY: Today, we will see how the prophet Elijah's time on earth was coming to an end. God had called Elisha to serve as a prophet after Elijah. Elisha looked up to Elijah and wanted to be a prophet like him, serving God powerfully like Elijah had done. Elijah left his robe, and when Elisha took it up, the spirit of Elijah rested on Elisha. God spoke through the prophet Elisha and gave him power to perform miracles.



Match the Mentor

- Red Mentor cards
- Green Mentee cards

Talk about how Elijah was a mentor for Elisha. A mentor is someone who we look up to. Someone who encourages us and challenges us to the right thing and grow closer to God and follow His ways.

Explain how the Bible is full of other pairs of mentors. See if the children can match the person to their mentor.

- Hand out mentor cards to half the class (Red)
- Hand out mentee cards to the other half (Green)
- Have them walk around and find their match (needs to be a red and green card together) by asking, "Who does who go with in the Bible?" "Which person was a leader and who was their follower. See if they can find their match.
- Have them sit down or stand beside their match. Help them with their matches as needed.

Cards and matches:

Elijah - Elisha / . Moses - Joshua. / Paul - Timothy / . Jesus - The Disciples
Eli - Samuel / Naomi - Ruth. / Barnabas - Paul

Ask: Why do you think God gave people helpers in the Bible? Why is it good to have someone to look up to? Who helps you learn about God? (parents, grandparents, teachers, siblings, pastor, friends,