

ENDURING
FAITH[™]

Sunday School • Midweek
Bible Curriculum

ONE-ROOM STUDY GUIDE

Unit 6: God Restores His People



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

THE ONE-ROOM CLASSROOM

This guide was created for leaders who teach multiple ages in one classroom. Options for younger and older children, size, and ability of your group help you tailor the lessons to your needs. Check-boxes help you choose and prepare the activities for each lesson.

OVERVIEW

The Overview lets you see the biblical foundation of each lesson at a glance. All levels of the Enduring Faith Bible Curriculum share the same Bible Truth, Bible Verse, Law & Gospel, and Scripture Snapshot, allowing families to learn together each week.

LESSON PREP

Use these suggestions for your own Bible study as you prepare to lead this lesson.

Basic: Begin here—read the full Bible text.

More Time: Read the leader devotion, found in the digital resource center.

In Depth: Gain a deeper understanding of the narrative and its context.

SUPPLIES

For This Lesson: Gather only the supplies for the activities you choose to use. You may want to put together a Supply Box of frequently used items to keep on hand. Look below for suggestions of items to include in the Supply Box.

For Every Lesson: Use this checklist as a reminder of items that you may want on hand for every lesson.

SUPPLY BOX

The items in the Supply Box are used frequently. Gather them to be prepared for many of the lesson activities.

- ☐ White copy paper, construction paper, tissue paper
- ☐ Crayons, markers, colored pencils, pencils, pens
- ☐ Paint, paint brushes, and smocks
- ☐ School glue, glue sticks, tape, glitter glue
- ☐ Child-friendly scissors, hole punch, stapler
- ☐ Yarn, pom-poms, craft sticks, pipe cleaners
- ☐ Wiggle eyes, beads, buttons, stickers
- ☐ Paper plates, paper lunch bags, paper cups
- ☐ Play dough and tools
- ☐ Posterboard or large sheets of paper

LAUNCH

Begin: Use the Opening Worship, the Lesson Opening, and/or music from the digital resource center.

Say: Choose an option to help get children thinking.

Prayer: Call upon God's name and ask for His guidance as you study His Word.

LEARN

Tell the Bible Narrative: Two narrative options are provided—one for younger children and one for older children.

Do This: Choose an option to review the lesson.

Talk about It: Choose questions to fit the learning level of your group.

Key Discussion Points: These points guide your discussion and highlight biblical truths.

Christ Connection: This shows how Jesus is central to every lesson.

LIVE

A variety of activity options lets you choose how you will reinforce the Bible Truths of the lesson. Choose from crafts, snack, movement, Bible Verse fun, and more.

Remember to gather the supplies you will need for each activity option you choose.

LEAVE

Say: This thought sums up the truth of the lesson.

Prayer: Give thanks to God for His blessings, love, and new life in Jesus.

DIGITAL RESOURCE CENTER

Additional resources are available in the online digital resource center at cph.org/digitalcontent. Ask your coordinator for access to the materials in the online digital resource center.

PLANNING PAGES

See Planning Pages for Leader Devotions, Order of Opening Worship, and Lesson Openings.

MUSIC RESOURCES

Ask your coordinator for access to music for each unit.

ENDURING FAITH PAGES

Enduring Faith Pages provide a reproducible take-home resource that gives a summary of each Bible lesson and provides suggestions for “taking home” Bible truths from the lesson. Each page also has an illustrated version of the day's Bible Verse, perfect for coloring.

DOWNLOADABLE ACTIVITY PAGES

Each lesson has an extra activity page that can be downloaded and photocopied.

PROVIDED-FOR PROPHET

God
Provides
for Elijah
1 Kings 17
874–853 BC

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

God provides all we need.

BIBLE VERSE

He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever. Psalm 111:5

LEARNER GOAL

I understand that God gives me all that I need.

LAW & GOSPEL

In sin, I complain that God does not give me what I need or deserve.

Through His Son, God daily supplies me with all good gifts to sustain me in body and soul.

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

The prophet Elijah warns King Ahab of the severe drought coming. God first sends Elijah to the brook Cherith, where He provides ravens to feed him. When the brook dries up, Elijah lodges with a widow in Zarephath. Despite her limited supply of flour and oil, it never runs out. God supplies just what they need each day. When the widow's son dies, Elijah raises him back to life through God's power.

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read **1 Kings 17** and study notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.

MORE TIME Read the leader devotion, found in the digital resource center.

IN DEPTH Read **1 Kings 16** and study notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible* for context in regard to the bleak religious landscape of Israel leading up to Ahab.

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- ☐ Three paper bags, dried-up plant, bread or flour, box of tissues
- ☐ Shoe box, smaller box, brown paper, craft sticks
- ☐ Poster paper, feathers, washable paint
- ☐ Popcorn kernels, popped popcorn
- ☐ Old magazines
- ☐ Colored paper, pipe cleaners

FOR EVERY LESSON

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Device with prepped music
- ☐ Copies of downloadable activity page
- ☐ Copies of Enduring Faith Page
- ☐ Supply Box

LAUNCH

Plan your lesson by reading through the options in each section. Choose the activities that will best fit your learners, and mark those boxes to guide you as you teach the lesson.

BEGIN

- ☐ Follow the Order of Opening Worship, use the Lesson Opening, or do both (part of the planning resources in the digital resource center).
- ☐ Sing songs, using music found in the digital resource center or your own favorite songs.

SAY

- ☐ **Hi, children. It's good to see you all here! I wonder . . . what did you have for breakfast? Today, we'll hear how God took care of Elijah.**
- ☐ Have students take turns giving clues that describe a blessing that you can see in your space (e.g., "I spy something brown; it provides a good place to rest" [chair]). **God provides for us in more ways than we can count. In our Bible narrative today, we'll learn how God provided for a prophet named Elijah.**

PRAY

Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good gifts. Thank You for the gift of Your Word. In Your name we pray. Amen.

LEARN

Show your Bible, and remind the children that all the stories in God's Word are true.

TELL THE BIBLE NARRATIVE

Choose one of the options on the next page to tell the Bible narrative.

DO THIS!

Use one or more of the following activities to talk about the Bible narrative after you've read it.

- ☐ **FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE YOUNGER** This narrative has three parts. Prepare three paper bags, numbered 1, 2, and 3, and set them in three different places in your teaching space. Move to each space to tell that part of narrative. In bag number 1, put something to represent the drought, such as a dried-up plant. In bag number 2, put some bread or a jar of flour. In bag number 3, put a box of tissues to represent the widow crying. As you tell the story, let students first reach into the bag and try to guess what the item is without seeing it, only touching it. Then, when you bring the item out, let students hold it as you ask them to predict why you might have put that item in the bag. Then, tell that part of the narrative.
- ☐ **FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE OLDER** Have the older students use the same paper bags, but don't put the numbers on them. Have students reach in and try to identify what's in the bag only by touch. Then, have the students tell how the item is related to the narrative. Encourage the students to retell the narrative themselves in their own words.

TALK ABOUT IT

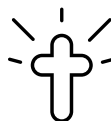
Choose a few questions that best fit the learning level of your group.

- ☐ What did God send to feed Elijah?
- ☐ How did God provide food for the widow, her son, and Elijah?
- ☐ How does God provide for us?

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Guide discussion, using these key points.

- God sent Elijah to a brook for water. He sent birds to bring bread and meat to Elijah every morning and evening.
- God gave the widow, her son, and Elijah enough flour and oil to make bread to eat for each day. God raised the widow's son back to life.
- God provides things for our daily life. Most important, He gives us eternal life through Jesus.



CHRIST CONNECTION

God provides for all our daily needs, but even better, He provides for all our eternal needs, including forgiveness, life, and salvation through Jesus.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

STORYTELLING DIRECTIONS: After each bolded section, lead the children in saying, “Don’t worry; God will help.”

A long time after King David and his son Solomon lived, there was a wicked king named Ahab. King Ahab didn’t love God at all. Instead, he prayed to a pretend god called Baal. Many of the people in his kingdom prayed to Baal too. The people were wrong to worship Baal. Baal couldn’t make it rain. Only God can do that!

A man named Elijah didn’t pray to Baal. Elijah knew God was the only true God. So Elijah only prayed to Him. Elijah was God’s special helper, a prophet. That means Elijah spoke for God. One day, God sent Elijah to King Ahab with a message.

Elijah told the king, “Your prayers to Baal have made God angry. He will show He is the true God. Now, there will be no more rain for a few years.” Just as God said, no rain fell. **The plants withered and died so there wasn’t enough food or water for people to eat and drink.** (“Don’t worry; God will help.”)

God told Elijah to go live by a brook. He said, “You can drink water from the brook.” God sent birds to bring bread and meat to Elijah every morning and evening. Elijah lived by the brook for many days, and God took care of him. But finally, the brook dried up too. Then, God told Elijah, “Go to another country. There is a widow there who will help you.” A widow is a woman whose husband has died. Elijah walked and walked. Finally, he saw the woman gathering sticks to build a fire. Elijah asked her for a drink of water and some bread.

The woman said, **“I’m sorry. I have no bread. I have only a handful of flour and a little bit of oil. I’m making a fire so I can make a meal for myself and my son. We’ll eat it. Then, we have no more food, and we will die.”** (“Don’t worry; God will help.”)

Elijah said, “Don’t worry. Go and cook your food, but first make some bread for me. God told me that you will not run out of flour or oil until He sends rain again.” So the woman went home and made bread for Elijah and her son and herself. Every day, Elijah, the woman, and her son had food. The jar of flour and jug of oil never went empty, just as God said. It was a miracle—something only God can do! God used this woman to help Elijah.

Later, the woman’s son became sick and died. Elijah took the boy up to the room where Elijah was staying. (“Don’t worry; God will help.”) He put the boy on the bed and asked God to make him alive again. God answered Elijah’s prayer with a yes. The boy started to breathe again. Elijah took the boy to his mother. She was so happy!

At first, Elijah needed help. The woman helped him by giving him food. Then, the woman needed help. Elijah helped her by praying for her son, and God made him alive again. God loves us and gives us people to help us with our daily needs too, like food and clothing and a home. Jesus is our best helper. He took care of our need for a Savior by dying on the cross for us to take away our sins and by rising again to give us life in heaven.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR OLDER CHILDREN

After King Solomon built the temple, he began to turn away from the Lord. This caused his people to turn away from the Lord. After Solomon’s death, the kingdom of Israel was divided in two: the Northern Kingdom of Israel and the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

The Northern Kingdom was led by wicked kings who did not love the Lord. King Ahab was the seventh king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. He was the most evil of any of the kings.

Elijah was God’s prophet. He told King Ahab that there would be a drought. There would be no rain or even dew on the grass until the Lord said otherwise. King Ahab wanted to kill Elijah.

God told Elijah to go hide near a small brook called Cherith. There, God would take good care of Elijah. Elijah drank water from the stream, and God sent ravens with bread and meat for Elijah to eat in the morning and in the evening. After a while, the stream dried up because there was no rain.

Then, God told Elijah to go into the city of Zarephath, where a widow would help him. She was kind, and she gave

Elijah some water. When Elijah asked for bread, the woman was worried. She told Elijah that the flour and oil she used to make bread would soon be gone and she would have nothing for her son or for herself.

Elijah told her, “Don’t worry. Go and make some bread for me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. God says that your jar of flour and jug of oil will not go empty until He sends rain upon the earth. The woman did as Elijah said, and Elijah and the widow and her son ate for many days.

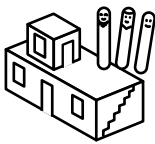
After this, the son of the woman became very sick and died. The woman cried and cried. She told Elijah that God must not love her anymore. Elijah was very sad too. He carried the son up to his room and laid the boy on his bed. Elijah prayed to God, “O Lord, let this boy be alive again!” Elijah trusted God to give him and the woman what they needed. The Lord listened to Elijah and answered his prayer by bringing the boy back to life. Elijah brought the boy back to his mother. The mother was full of joy and said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the Lord you speak is true.”

LIVE

Choose from the following activities and crafts to help connect Bible learning to life.

☐ Widow's House Craft

Work together to make this craft: Wrap a shoe box in brown paper. Draw windows and a door on the side of the box. Draw steps on the end of the box leading to the roof. Attach a smaller box to the roof, for Elijah's guest room. Draw Elijah, the woman, and her son on craft sticks. Have children retell the story, using the craft. Say, **God took care of Elijah, the woman, and her son. God takes care of us too!**



☐ Bread of Life

Ask your pastor to talk to your class about how God feeds us through His Word and the Lord's Supper. Ask him to show the children the bread and wine used in Communion. Tell the children that God saved Elijah from dying by providing food through the ravens and the woman. God saves us from sin and death by providing food for eternal life in the Lord's Supper. Jesus says He is the bread of life.



☐ Looking for Blessings

Play a game where children look for blessings God gives. Say this rhyme and do the actions together:

Look up. (*Point up with finger.*)

Look down. (*Look and point down.*)

Now, take a spin; turn around. (*Do so and point.*)

One of God's blessings I've found! (*Point to a child.*)

Name one of the children and say, **God made you,**

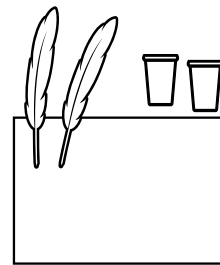


[Casey]. He loves you and takes care of you. Ask the child to name a blessing from God (flowers, birds, pets, parents, church, Jesus, etc.). Repeat for all children.

☐ Feather Painting

Set out poster paper, washable paint, and feathers. Show children how to use the feathers to paint different effects (e.g., dip tips in paint or lay feathers flat in paint). Ask, **What has feathers?**

What do feathers do? (They keep birds warm; they help them fly, etc.) Talk about how mother birds bring food for their babies. Review how God took care of Elijah by sending birds to feed him. God provides for us too. How?



☐ Popcorn Snack

Show some unpopped popcorn kernels. Then, show some popped popcorn and compare the kernels to the popped amount. Talk about how a little bread and oil didn't look like much either. But God provided for Elijah, the woman, and her son by making their flour and oil last a long time. Ask, **How does God provide for you?** Talk about how God provides for us. Say a prayer and enjoy the popcorn.



☐ God Provides Collage

Cut large heart shapes from poster paper. Let children cut out pictures from magazines of things God provides. Have them use glue sticks to make a collage. Glue a paper cross in the middle of the heart. Say, **We thank God for His love and forgiveness in Jesus. We thank Him for caring for us and giving us what we need.**



☐ Hands of Blessing

Have students trace around their hands on colored paper and cut out the hand shapes. In each finger space, have students write or dictate to you things that God provides. Tape the hand shape around the top of a pipe cleaner to make a flower. Gather the flowers into a bouquet for your classroom or send home.



LEAVE

SAY

God gave Elijah all that he needed, and God gives us all that we need.

PRAY

Dear Lord, thank You for giving us all that we need for body and soul. We thank You for giving us Jesus, so that we can have life with You forever. Help us to share this good news. In Your name we pray, Jesus. Amen.

CONSUMING FIRE

Elijah and the
Prophets of Baal
1 Kings 18:17–40
874–853 BC

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

God shows us His power.

BIBLE VERSE

And this is eternal life, that they know You, the only true God. John 17:3

LEARNER GOAL

I understand that God is all powerful.

LAW & GOSPEL

God demands that I fear, love, and trust in Him alone, yet I sinfully place my trust elsewhere.

Jesus proves that He is the true Lord—offering Himself as the sacrifice for sin.

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

Elijah challenges the people to stop “limping” between Baal and the true God. Gathering the 450 prophets of Baal, Elijah proposes a test to determine the truth: each side will butcher a bull for sacrifice and call on their god to send down fire. The prophets of Baal call upon their god, even cutting themselves to appease it, but nothing happens. Elijah drenches his offering with water, completely filling the trench around it. Then, Elijah offers a simple prayer to the true God, who sends down fire from heaven to consume the offering, the wood, and even the water in the trench.

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read **1 Kings 18:17–40** and study notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.

MORE TIME Read the leader devotion, found in the digital resource center.

IN DEPTH Read the article “Making a Prophet” in *The Lutheran Study Bible*, page 555.

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- ☐ A large rock, a cup of water, and a piece of paper
- ☐ Paper hearts
- ☐ Jumbo craft sticks; red, yellow, and orange crepe-paper streamers or ribbons
- ☐ Mini marshmallows and stick pretzels
- ☐ Air-dry clay, buttons or pebbles, red tissue paper

FOR EVERY LESSON

- ☐ Bible
- ☐ Device with prepped music
- ☐ Copies of downloadable activity page
- ☐ Copies of Enduring Faith Page
- ☐ Supply Box

LAUNCH

Plan your lesson by reading through the options in each section. Choose the activities that will best fit your learners, and mark those boxes to guide you as you teach the lesson.

BEGIN

- ☐ Follow the Order of Opening Worship, use the Lesson Opening, or do both (part of the planning resources in the digital resource center).
- ☐ Sing songs, using music found in the digital resource center or your own favorite songs.

SAY

- ☐ **Hi, children. Every week, we gather here to worship the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Today, we are going to hear about a time in the Bible when God showed that He was the one true God.**
- ☐ Bring a large rock, a cup of water, and a piece of paper. Ask, **What are things that burn?** (paper, wood, etc.) **What are things that don't burn?** (rocks, water, etc.) **Fire is a powerful force. But our God is even more powerful. Let's read our Bible account to find out how God showed His power in the Old Testament.**

PRAY

Dear God, help us to listen to Your Word and learn more about Your love for us because of Jesus. Amen.

LEARN

Show your Bible, and remind the children that all the stories in God's Word are true.

TELL THE BIBLE NARRATIVE

Choose one of the options on the next page to tell the Bible narrative.

DO THIS!

Use one or more of the following activities to talk about the Bible narrative after you've read it.

- ☐ **FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE YOUNGER** Write on paper plates or large pieces of card stock these sound-effects words: *whoa*, *thud*, *whoosh*, and *zap*. Before you begin the narrative, have students practice making the sounds. As you read the narrative and come to a sentence in bold print, ask students which sound effect they should make; or hold up the one you think is appropriate.
- ☐ **FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE OLDER** After you have read the narrative, ask students to imagine how they would make this account into a movie that uses visual special effects. Have them describe each part and how it would look to use those special effects. Go through the sequence of events, asking for specific ideas to match each event. Remind students that in this true narrative, no special effects were used, only God's awesome power.

TALK ABOUT IT

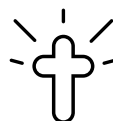
Choose a few questions that best fit the learning level of your group.

- ☐ What happened when the people prayed to the pretend god Baal? Why?
- ☐ How did God show He was the one true God?
- ☐ Many of the people at this time thought they could go back and forth, worshiping both God and Baal, sort of "covering all the bases." Why doesn't this work?

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Guide discussion, using these key points.

- Nothing happened when the priest prayed to the idol Baal, because Baal isn't real. There is just one true God.
- God showed His power through the fire and the burning up of the sacrifice, stones, and even the water.
- There is only one true God; to give any worship to other gods breaks the First Commandment.



CHRIST CONNECTION

God's love for you is just as strong as it was for the people of Israel. God sent His Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins and bring us back to Him.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

STORYTELLING DIRECTIONS: Have children join you in making thumbs up and thumbs down actions.

There was no rain in the land of Israel for three years. Streams dried up. Plants didn't grow. Everyone was hungry and thirsty. Some people remembered to pray to God for help. But most people forgot about God and prayed to a pretend god called Baal. (*Thumbs down*)

Then, God told Elijah, "Go see King Ahab. Tell him I'm going to send rain again." (*Thumbs up*)

Elijah obeyed God right away. When King Ahab saw Elijah coming, he was angry. "You're the one who caused this trouble," he shouted.

"I didn't cause this trouble," Elijah said. "You did. You're the one who prayed to the pretend god Baal. Let's have a contest to see who the one true God is. Tell the people in Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. Tell the people who worship the pretend god Baal to come too."

So, Elijah, King Ahab, and the people met on Mount Carmel. Elijah told them, "You must choose. Will you love God or Baal? Today, we'll find out which is the one true God. We will build two altars. Those of you who love Baal will bring a gift to him and put it on his altar. I will build an altar and bring a gift to give to God. Then, we will pray for fire. The one who sends fire is the one true God."

So that's what they did. The people who worshiped Baal prayed all morning and all afternoon. (*Thumbs down*) But

nothing happened. So they prayed louder and louder. Still no fire came.

Then, it was Elijah's turn. Elijah piled up twelve stones for an altar. He dug a ditch all around the altar. Then, Elijah told some men, "Pour water over this altar to the Lord." The men poured water and poured water and poured water until it ran down and filled the ditch around the altar.

Elijah knelt and prayed, "O Lord, show these people that You are the one true God." Then, God sent fire down! The fire burned the gift. It burned the wood. It burned the stones. It even dried up all the water in the ditch around the altar. (*Thumbs up*)

The people of Israel said, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!" In the distance, dark clouds appeared in the sky. God was sending rain to the people in the land of Israel once more. The one true God sent fire. Now, He was sending rain. (*Thumbs up*)

The people of Israel believed that the Lord is really God. They saw the wonderful way He answered Elijah's prayer. God has done something even more wonderful to show us He is our God. Do you know what? He sent Jesus, His own Son, to be our Savior. God forgives our sins because of what Jesus did for us. (*Thumbs up*) He answers our prayers too. He helps us show love for others.

BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR OLDER CHILDREN

God divided the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel into two kingdoms: Judah in the south and Israel in the north. The worst king in the north was named Ahab. He married a woman named Jezebel. She was a princess from another kingdom and was very, very bad. She taught Ahab to worship her god named Baal, who was really just a false god called an idol. Jezebel killed God's prophets and made the people of Israel worship Baal also.

Just when the Northern Kingdom was as far away from God as it could be, the Lord sent a great prophet named Elijah to bring His people back. God loved His people. Elijah told King Ahab that there would be a terrible drought—no rain—across the land.

Finally, after three-and-a-half years of no rain, God told Elijah to go back to King Ahab and gather the people together at a place called Mount Carmel. They would have a big contest to prove who was the real God—Baal or the Lord God. Elijah was the only prophet of God, but Baal had 450 prophets.

Elijah told the people, "Watch. We will build two altars. Those who love Baal will put a sacrifice on his altar. Those who love the one true God will put a sacrifice on the altar I build. Then, we will each pray for fire. Whichever god answers with fire is the true God."

Baal's prophets built an altar, put wood down on it, and then put a bull on it. Then, they prayed to Baal to set the wood on fire—but nothing happened. They shouted and danced around wildly, but still no fire. They even cut themselves with knives to get Baal's attention but nothing happened—because Baal was not real.

Then, late in the afternoon, Elijah told the people to come near. He set up an altar with twelve large stones—one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. He laid out the wood on the altar, set the bull on the altar, and dug a deep trench around it. He told men to fill four jars full of water and pour them over the meat and the wood. He told them to pour water a second time, and then a third time. The wood was soaking wet and water filled the trenches.

Then, Elijah prayed, "O Lord, show these people that You are the true God." The Lord sent fire down from heaven. It burned up the meat, the wood, the stones, all the water, and even the dirt! The people were amazed and shouted, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

God revealed His power and His love through Elijah.

LIVE

Choose from the following activities and crafts to help connect Bible learning to life.

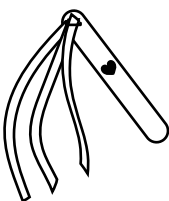
☐ Heart Scavenger Hunt

Hide paper hearts around your room and go on a heart scavenger hunt. After you find the hearts, sit down and talk about loving God with our hearts and loving others. What are ways God helps us to do this? Talk about how only the one true God loves us and can hear and answer our prayers.



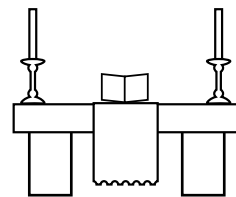
☐ Praise Wavers

Use a marker to draw a heart on the side of a jumbo craft stick. On the opposite side, write child's name, "[Michael] loves Jesus." Cut yellow, orange, and red crepe-paper streamers or ribbon into 12-inch lengths. Staple three to five together, and tape them to the side of the craft stick at the top. Say, **Jesus is God. He loves us and hears our prayers. He died and rose again for us. We love Jesus too. We show we love Him when we worship and praise Him. Let's praise Jesus now.** Sing "Praise Him, Praise Him," and have children use their praise wavers.



☐ In God's House

Take the children to look at your church altar, or show pictures of church altars. Talk about how Elijah built a stone altar and asked God to send fire to show He was the true God. Ask children what they see on your altar. Talk about how the altar reminds us that Jesus gave His life to pay for our sins. Point out the Communion rail around the altar and say, **God gives His gift of forgiveness in the Lord's Supper.** Tell how the pastor leads worship from the altar. Say, **He leads the prayers and tells us God forgives our sins.**



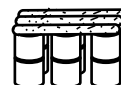
☐ My God Is So Great

Sing the children's song "My God Is So Great," with all the actions—really emphasize the actions. If older students express that they are too old for this time-honored favorite, have them lead the younger ones or have them make up their own stanzas to reflect the events of this narrative.



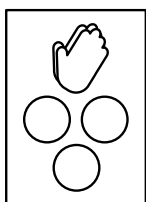
☐ Altar Snack

Give each child twelve mini marshmallows to make Elijah's altar. Have them put stick pretzels on top. Review the story. God showed His power as the true God by answering Elijah's prayer. He answers our prayers too.



☐ God Hears Our Prayers

Trace around each child's hand (fingers closed) on paper to make praying hands. Trace around a small glass to make three circles on the paper. Write "Those who need help" above a circle and ask children to draw people. Write "Friends and Family" above another circle, and have children to draw friends and family. Write "Myself" above the last circle, and have children draw themselves.



☐ Stone Altar

Purchase air-dry clay, or make some yourself (look up "air-dry clay recipe" online). Give each child some clay to roll into an altar shape. Poke pebbles or buttons into it. Set on a paper plate to dry overnight. When dry, glue on tissue-paper flames. Paint with a mixture of tempera paint, water, and white glue. Write a Bible verse on the plate.



LEAVE

SAY

God showed the Israelites His power in a pretty big way. God is still powerful. He always has been and He always will be.

PRAY

Dear Lord God, our all-powerful and all-loving God, thank You for sending the prophet Elijah to share Your Word. Help us to tell others how much You love us. In Your name we pray, Jesus. Amen.