



God Is Preparing Me For More Gifts! From Big Top Lesson 8

LEADERSHIP TRAIT - PURPOSE

Great leaders realize that God has a purpose for their lives, and they actively pursue that purpose.

LEADERSHIP LESSON

Your children will learn that God is preparing us for gifts and abilities He will give us later, when we are ready. Until then, we should train and work hard in preparation for these gifts.

LEADERSHIP STORY

Elijah trains Elisha to replace him. (1 Kings 19:19 - 21, 2 Kings 2:1-14)

WHAT DO I DO?

Have your children read the Leadership Story. Next, have your children watch the Leadership Video and complete the Child Leadership Questions. If you want to do the Optional Family Activity, have the whole family watch the Leadership Video, then lead your family through the Optional Family Activity.

OPTIONAL FAMILY ACTIVITY: GIFT BASKET CHARADES

Elisha spent a lot of time learning how to be a good prophet from Elijah. God had great gifts in store for Elisha, but He didn't give him those gifts until he was ready. Take your family out to your car and announce that you will imagine giving the family car to the youngest family member to drive. Sit him or her in the seat and ask him or her to try to reach the pedals, adjust the mirrors, and see over the steering wheel. Then discuss that the child is not ready to use such a gift. Ask your family what will have to happen before the child can use the car. He or she will need to be taller. He or she will need to learn the rules of the road. He or she will need to learn how to control the car. Then, discuss the things that the children can do now to prepare to use the car in the future. They can eat healthy food to help them grow. They can play with toy cars to learn the rules of the road. They can play games in the car to spot traffic signs and learn to obey them. They can even play driving video games to get a feel for driving. These are things they can do now, that can prepare them for the gift of driving the car, later. Tell your family that they can prepare for the gifts God has for them in the future by obeying God and using the gifts that they have now.

MEMORY VERSE:

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." Philippians 1:6 (NLT)



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Main Point: God is Preparing Me For More Gifts!

Read 1 Kings 19:19 - 21 and 2 Kings 2:1 - 14. When you are finished, watch the Leadership Video. Then, read the items below and write your responses in the space provided.

1. In the circus you see performers do amazing things. What do these people have to do first?
2. These performers were watched by those teaching them and when they were ready, they were given their chance to perform. God has great things in store for us to do. According to Pastor Mike, what must we spend time doing first?
 - A. Learning, growing, and preparing
 - B. Watching TV
 - C. Playing video games
 - D. Going to the circus
3. What was the name of the man in the Bible Story who spent many years preparing to do great things for God?
4. What did Elisha start out as?
5. What is the name of the famous prophet of God who came to see Elisha?



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6. What did Elijah do to Elisha?
 - A. Prayed for him
 - B. Helped him with his farming
 - C. Put his cloak on Elisha's shoulders
 - D. Yelled at him

7. What did it mean when Elijah put his cloak on Elisha's shoulders?
 - A. Elisha would learn from Elijah and take his place as God's prophet
 - B. Elisha was cold
 - C. Elisha should go wash the cloak

8. Elisha left home and trained under Elijah for how long?

9. When it was time for Elisha to take Elijah's place, they walked to the Jordan river. Elijah struck the water with what?

10. What happened when Elijah's cloak struck the water?

11. Elijah then asked Elisha what he could do for him before he was taken away. What did Elisha ask for?
 - A. A large donkey
 - B. A double share of Elijah's spirit and to become his successor
 - C. A large ark
 - D. God's blessings



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12. Elisha was asking to be treated like Elijah's son. He wanted to continue Elijah's work. Elijah told him that only God could give these things. What did Elijah say must happen for Elisha to get his request?

13. Just then a chariot of fire came and Elijah was carried up into heaven in a whirlwind. What fell down to Elisha?

14. Elisha picked up the cloak and went back to the river. When he struck the water with the cloak, what happened?

15. Several other prophets saw this and said that Elijah's spirit now rested on Elisha. After all the years of preparation, Elisha was now a prophet of God. God has great things in store for you. He has gifts and abilities for you that you do not even know about. It is important to spend time preparing now for those gifts. Circle the answers which show what you can do to prepare:
 - A. Go to church
 - B. Eat chocolate
 - C. Play lots of sports
 - D. Study the Bible
 - E. Obey God by doing the things He wants you to.



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16. Make a list of all the things you do during the week. Mark with a star activities that are preparing you for God's gifts. Some examples are going to church, studying the Bible, and obeying God by doing the things He wants you to.

Are you spending your time on those things that are most important? If you only do things to prepare you for God's gifts once or twice a week, you aren't preparing enough! Ask God to help you prioritize those activities that prepare you for the good work He has planned for you. If you are not going to church and reading your Bible regularly, get your parents to help you come up with a plan for doing this. Here are some suggestions that your parents could help you with.

- You could set an alarm to remind you to read your Bible everyday.
- You could mark church activities on the calendar first, before anything else.
- You could have a daily prayer time as a family.

Memory Verse: Ask your parents to help you memorize this verse.

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Main Point: God Is Preparing Me For More Gifts!

1. Spend years of time in preparation.
2. A.
3. Elisha.
4. A farmer.
5. Elijah.
6. C.
7. A.
8. 10 -12 years.
9. His cloak.
10. The river divided and the men walked across on dry land.
11. B.
12. Elisha must see Elijah when he was taken away
13. Elijah's cloak.
14. The water parted.
15. A. D. E.
16. Answers may vary.