

ELIJAH CONFRONTED AHAB

1 KINGS 18-19



CHRIST CONNECTION: God is the only true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Know the LORD is God. There is no other! 1 Kings 8:60

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- King Ahab and many of the Israelites prayed to a pretend god instead of the one true God.
- Elijah loved God and wanted King Ahab to see who the real God is.
- God sent fire from the sky. The people said, “The LORD is God!”

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: King Ahab and many of the Israelites prayed to a pretend god named Baal. Elijah lived in Israel, and he loved God. Elijah told the king, “Let’s see who the real God is. If the LORD is God, follow Him; if Baal is God, follow him. We will both build an altar and pray. The God who sends fire is the real God.” The people shouted all day with no answer. Then Elijah had people pour water on the altar. Elijah prayed, God sent fire from the sky! The people said, “The LORD is God!” King Ahab was mad. God sent Elijah to a mountain to be safe. There was a wind, an earthquake, and fire—but God was not in those things. Elijah heard a whisper. God said, “Elijah, some people still love Me. Go help them.” Elijah obeyed God.



LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to 1 Kings 18. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” Offer age-appropriate instruments (drums, maracas, bells) for the babies to use while you sing:

“Know the LORD is God.
Know the LORD is God.
There is no other.
Know the LORD is God.”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says, ‘Know the LORD is God. There is no other!’ Is there any other God? No! God is the one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins. ”

2 TOUCH THE HEART

Draw a heart on each paper, and slide papers into sheet protectors. Tape the papers to the ground just out of babies’ reach or across the room. Encourage the babies to reach for or crawl to the heart and touch it. Ask each baby, “Who does God love?” Say, “God loves ____” filling in the blank with each baby’s name. Review the gospel gems as the babies touch the hearts.

SAY “ Elijah loved God and wanted King Ahab to see who the real God is. Does God love you? Yes, He does! God is the only one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins. ”

3 TALK TO GOD

Sit babies in leaders’ laps or in horseshoe-shaped pillows in a circle on the floor. Display the Bible Story Picture Poster and review the gospel gems. Pray for and thank God for each baby by name. Encourage the babies to fold their hands together as they pray.

SAY “ King Ahab told the people to pray to a pretend god. Do we pray to a pretend God? No! God is the only one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins. ”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card. Repeat the Christ Connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 18. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card, and guide toddlers to say it. Pray for the toddlers.

2 CREATE FIERY ART

Provide a sheet of paper for each toddler with God sent fire from the sky. The people said, "The LORD is God!" written on them. Encourage the toddlers to create "fire" by gluing brown or gray pom-poms to make the "stones" for the fire and then red, orange, and yellow tissue paper squares above the stones. Display the Bible Story Picture Poster, and review the story.

SAY "What did God send from the sky? God sent fire from the sky. The people said, 'The LORD is God.' God is the one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins."

3 EXPLORE WATER

Place a large plastic bin filled with water on a towel. Offer toy spoons, shovels, cups, colanders, and so forth for toddlers to use to explore the water. Encourage the toddlers to make the water fall like rain. Display the Bible Story Picture Poster for the toddlers to explore.

SAY "Elijah had the people pour water on the altar. Did that stop God? No! What did God send? Yes! God sent the fire from heaven. God is the one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins."

4 WHISPER THE MESSAGE

Invite the toddlers to sit in a circle. Whisper the phrase, "The LORD is God." Ask the toddlers if they heard what you said. Invite the toddlers to whisper the message, "The LORD is God" to their friend. Provide each toddler with an opportunity to practice whispering. Repeat as time allows, adding different phrases to repeat, such as "Know that the LORD is God"; "Elijah obeyed God"; and so forth. Use these phrases as a way to review the Bible story.

SAY "In our story today, there was a wind, an earthquake, and fire. Was God in any of those things? No, but Elijah heard a whisper. Whose voice did Elijah hear in the whisper? Yes, God's!"

5 PLAY WITH A SHEET

Lay a large bed sheet on the ground. Invite all toddlers to grab an edge of the sheet. Say, "Earthquake" and encourage the toddlers to shake the sheet, imitating an earthquake. Say, "Wind" and encourage the toddlers to sway back and forth with the sheet. Say, "Fire" and encourage the toddlers to mimic a fire by moving around quickly in a circle while holding the edges of the sheet. Retell the Bible story, stopping at times and saying the specific words.

SAY "Elijah looked for God in the wind, in an earthquake, and in fire. Did Elijah find God there? No! Elijah heard God in a whisper. God is the one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins."

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1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: BUILD WITH BLOCKS

Gather toddlers in groups and offer them a set of building blocks. Encourage the toddlers to work together to build an altar. As they build, read the Bible story, and display the Bible Story Picture Poster. Invite the toddlers to display their altars. If desired, provide gray construction paper for toddlers to crumple and use as rocks and red, orange, and yellow tissue paper for around the altar.

SAY “ King Ahab and Elijah both built an altar to pray. King Ahab was praying to a pretend god. Should we pray to a pretend god? No! Elijah was praying to the one true God. God sent fire from heaven when Elijah prayed. God is the one true God who sent Jesus to die for our sins. ”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Offer musical instruments to the toddlers as you sing the key passage song. Sing to the tune of The Farmer in the Dell: “ Know the LORD is God. / Know the LORD is God. / There is no other. / Know the LORD is God.”

SAY “ Who is the LORD? Yes, the LORD is God! Our key passage phrase says, ‘Know the LORD is God. There is no other!’ ”

3 PRAY TOGETHER

Write the words What am I praying for? on sheets of paper (one per toddler). Provide crayons for the toddlers to draw a picture of something they are praying for. Write out the words under each toddler’s drawing. Gather the toddlers and pray out loud for each request.

SAY “ Who do we pray to? We pray to the one true God. Our key passage phrase says, ‘Know the LORD is God. There is no other.’ ”

4 BUILD A FIRE

Provide brown paper bags along with red, yellow, and orange tissue paper pieces. Guide toddlers to tear the tissue paper into strips and place them in their bags with the “flames” sticking out of the top of the bags. Provide the Key Passage Phrase Card for each toddler and place it in the bags along with the “fire.” Allow toddlers to use crayons to color their bags or their Key Passage Phrase Cards as time permits. Review the Bible story as the toddlers build their fires.

SAY “ When Elijah prayed, what did God send? Yes, God sent fire from the sky! Can we pray to God? Yes, God is the only true God, and He hears our prayers. ”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ Connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.