



THE STORY *continues...*

*Join us each week as God weaves His Story into the fabric
of our daily lives.*

Chapter 15 God's Messengers

Listen to *The Story*

Read **Chapter 15** of *The Story* this week.

Remember where our story left off: "Israel splits in two. The northern kingdom keeps the name 'Israel,' but they don't look or act anything like the nation that God wants them to be. Their kings are corrupt, and the people can't decide which god to worship.

So God—the real God—sends messengers like Elijah and Elisha to get their attention. Israel's kings don't exactly roll out the welcome mat ..."

~ The Teen Edition

Learn *The Story*

*Look for ways in which God's story and your story
connect this week.*

The prophet Elijah felt all alone at times. His perspective did not take into account how God shows up. God was present when Elijah needed a mighty miracle. God was present when Elijah was desperate to survive. God was present when Elijah's life was in danger. God was present in gentle whisper. God was present in the thousands Elijah discovered who had remained faithful to following God. God was present in partnering Elijah with Elisha. God was ever-present, all over the story of Elijah—just as God is ever-present with us.

Many of us at Trinity have written or shared God-sightings with each other during Vacation Bible School (VBS).

Where do you get glimpses of God this week?

...in a miracle?

...in provisions?

...in quiet solitude?

...in His Word?

...in people you have yet to know?

...in people that God has already placed in your life?

Love *The Story*

Intentionally take a step forward in faith.

God spoke to Elijah reminding him that he was not alone in many ways. Be God's voice to someone in your world. Be "on someone's rope." Send a text, email, make a phone call, mail a card to let someone know they are not alone, that God is walking with them and so are you. This can be for a time of celebration, a time of struggle, or just an ordinary plain day.

Luther's Explanation

The kingdom is divided and God's people are not behaving as they should. They are worshipping Baals which are false, pagan Gods. But still, God sends messengers (prophets, people who speak the words of God to the people) to remind the people that they should repent – God will always welcome them back. Two of these messengers, Elijah and Elisha are prophets of action who stand as examples of trust in and faithfulness to the Lord even in the face of terrible odds and great difficulties. Elijah and Elisha call Israel – and call us – to recognize the power of the one true God to deliver and to save. And they set the stage for another prophet of action who worked miracles and worked salvation to show us his Father.



Martin Luther wrote: "The examples of all times teach that the Word of truth and the true forms of worship are despised by the common people... Perverse teachers are most ready to teach, and the common people are most eager to listen. In this manner, the Word and the true forms of worship become lost." *Luther's Works*, Vol 2, p. 243.

Who are the false teachers to whom you might be tempted to listen? Think about that when you are praying the petition of the Lord's Prayer, *Lead us not into temptation*. And remember, God will always welcome you back.

PROMISE

This week, cling to God's promise for you:
"I will speak through you; My voice will be heard."

The EXTRA Mile



Create a God sighting: a Post-it wall or wallpaper for your computer screen.

Rich Mullins personified Elijah's simultaneous struggles in life and confidence in God in his song "[Elijah](#)."