



# Elijah on Mount Carmel

**Lesson Aim: To acknowledge God as the one true God.**

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God is:** The God of Power

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** 1 Kings 18:21, 24-32, 36-39

**What He has done:** God sent fire to prove He is the one true God.

**Key Verse:** 1 Kings 18:37-39

## THE WAY

**Christ Connection:** 1 Peter 3:15

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Prepare to meet your God, O Israel. He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is His name." "Seek good, not evil, that you may live.

Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is." Amos 4:12b-13; 5:14

| Unit 7: The Prophets and God's Power |   |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                                      | Bible Story   | What He Has Done  | Lesson Aim   |
| 32                                   | Elijah on Mount Carmel,<br>1 Kings 18:21, 24-32, 36-39                          | God sent fire to prove He is the one true God.                                  | To acknowledge God as the one true God.  |
| 33                                   | Elijah and Elisha,<br>2 Kings 2:1, 7-15   | God chose Elisha to be Elijah's successor when He brought Elijah up to heaven.  | To know God gives us spiritual gifts and mentors to help us accomplish the work He has for us. |
| 34                                   | Elisha and the Chariots of Fire,<br>2 Kings 6:15-20                             | God sent invisible horses and chariots of fire to protect His people.           | To know we are surrounded by God's protection.   |
| 35                                   | The Prophet Joel,<br>Joel 2:1, 13, 25, 28, 32                                   | God sent a message to His people through the prophet Joel.                      | To know God judges our hearts and wants our hearts to turn to Him.                             |
| 36                                   | Jonah and the Ninevites,<br>Jonah 1:4-5, 7, 11-12, 17;<br>3:4, 8-9; 4:1-2, 5-11 | God gave Jonah and the Ninevites each a second chance.                          | To know God gives second chances because He cares about everyone.                              |
| 37                                   | Amos and the Plumb Line,<br>Amos 4:12b-13; 5:11-14;<br>7:7-8                    | God sent Amos with a message of justice and righteous living to the Israelites. | To know the Bible is the standard God gives us for living upright lives.                       |

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 46. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord for all the ways You show everyone that You are God. Just as You did to Elijah, show the children You are their God, an ever-present help in trouble. Amen."

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# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

| Segment     | Minutes  | Activity  | Supplies   |
|-------------|----------|---|--|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 15 | <b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>   | None   |
|             |          | <b>Game:</b> Sticks, Stones, and Water  | 24 small stones, eight sticks, two buckets, two cups, water, floor tape or chalk, optional: large bucket, garbage bag, or tub  |
| THE WORSHIP | Up to 20 | <b>Worship</b><br>Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org | <b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b><br>"Prepare to Meet Your God"<br><b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b><br>"Everyone Who Calls"<br>"I Lift Up My Eyes"<br>"He Is Mighty to Save"<br>"Neither Death nor Life"<br>"Search Me, O God"<br>"To Him Who Sits on the Throne"<br><b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b><br>"How Great Is Our God"<br>"How Great Thou Art"<br><b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b><br>Worship Jamz Series<br>Shout Praises Kids: Hymns |
|             |          | <b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b><br>1 John 5:20  | Bible  |
|             |          | <b>Offering</b>   | Baskets  |
|             |          | <b>Worship Illustration</b>   | Lesson 32 The Love Sub script or storybook   |
|             |          | <b>Read the Word:</b><br>1 Kings 18:21, 24-32, 36-39  | Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters   |
| THE WAY     | Up to 25 | <b>Discuss the Word</b>   | Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters   |
|             |          | <b>Christ Connection:</b><br>1 Peter 3:15   |  |
|             |          | <b>Golden Bowl</b>  |  |
|             | Final 5  | <b>Final Five Minutes</b>   | Treasure Treats—Photo of Mount Carmel, W <sup>3</sup> s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Prepare to Meet Your God," CD player   |
| GOT TIME?   | Up to 10 | <b>Snack:</b> Stack-A-Snack   | Stackable crackers   |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Game:</b> One God, One Flame   | Paper plates (one per child), crayons, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player   |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Craft:</b> True God, True Forgiveness  | Cardboard, 12 small stones per child, glue, scissors, assorted craft supplies (markers, glitter, tissue paper, craft gems, buttons, ribbon, yarn, etc.)  |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b><br>Picture God's Power  | Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase board and marker or chalkboard and chalk, timer  |
|             | Up to 10 | <b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b><br>Unscramble the Verse   | Paper, marker, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, timer  |
|             | Up to 5  | <b>Bible Timeline Review</b>  | Date with story title or name printed on card  |

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.

**Meet & Greet Question: What is the most powerful thing you have ever seen?**

### **GAME: STICKS, STONES, AND WATER**

**Purpose:** Children will be introduced to the story of Elijah by racing to build and soak altars.

**Supplies:** 24 small stones, eight sticks, two buckets, two cups, water, floor tape or chalk, optional: large bucket, garbage bag, or tub

**Prepare:** If possible, play this game outside. If not, protect the play area from water damage by having children build the altar in a large bucket, garbage bag, or tub. Use floor tape or chalk to mark start lines for each team at one end of the play area. At the other end of the play area, mark where each team is to build its altar. Place 12 stones, four sticks, one bucket of water, and one empty cup at each team's start line.

**Today, we will learn about the prophet Elijah. Prophets were people sent by God with special messages or instructions. Elijah built an altar to show the people that the Lord is the one true God. Let's race to build two altars like the one Elijah built. We will use Elijah's directions in the Bible. He stacked 12 stones, added wood, and soaked the altar with water.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Divide children into two teams.
2. Have each team line up behind their start line.
3. On your signal, the first child on each team picks up a stone, runs to the location marked for their altar, places the stone on the mark, runs back to tag the next child on the team, and rejoins the team at the end of the line.
4. Each child in line repeats step 3 until:
  - All 12 stones are placed on the altar.
  - The four sticks are placed on top of the pile of stones.
  - 12 cups of water have been poured on the pile of stones and sticks. Encourage the children on each team to count the cups of water aloud so they can keep track of their team's cups.
5. The first team to complete the altar, wins.

**Do you think we could light one of these altars with fire?** (No, the wood is all wet and won't light.) **In today's story, Elijah soaked his altar with water and then asked the Lord to send fire to light the wood. Let's find out what happened.**

**Limited space?** Children build one altar together. Time the game to see how fast the children can complete the challenge.



The God of Power

## THE WORSHIP

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

**Today, we worship the God of Power. Thousands of years ago, He showed His power to the people on Mount Carmel to prove He is the one true God. He shows His power to us in many different ways.**



**As we give our offering, think about what our all-powerful God will do to help more people know He is the one true God.** Play: "How Great Thou Art" as background music while collecting the offering.

Sing the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Prepare to Meet Your God." You may also choose to sing songs that focus on God as the one true God.



Read 1 John 5:20.



**Let's praise our all-powerful God as the true God who reigns over heaven and earth.** Sing: "To Him Who Sits on the Throne"



Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 32.



God answers Elijah with fire

## THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write their name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we looked into the future as we read from the book of Revelation. We learned Jesus will return one day to judge the world and take believers up to heaven. What are you looking forward to seeing on that day?** (Children respond.)

**Today, we will look into the past, nearly 3,000 years ago, to learn about the prophet Elijah.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point out Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Elijah was the only prophet of God left in Israel during the reign of the evil King Ahab because Ahab's wife Jezebel had the prophets killed. King Ahab led many Israelites to worship false gods named Baal and Asherah. Elijah called everyone to Mount Carmel to show them there is only one true God.** If a map is available, point out Mount Carmel in lower Galilee near the coast of the Mediterranean Sea.



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: 1 Kings 18:21, 24-32, 36-39. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verses: 1 Kings 18:37-39.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**Elijah wanted the people to turn their hearts back to the one true God, so he told King Ahab to gather all the people, the 450 prophets of Baal, and the 400 prophets of Asherah on Mount Carmel. Let's read 1 Kings 18:21 and hear Elijah's question for the people.** Read 1 Kings 18:21.

**Elijah challenged the prophets to build an altar to their gods, but not to light the fire at the altar. Elijah would do the same. Let's see what Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal and Asherah to do next.** Read 1 Kings 18:24-32.

**Then, Elijah had the people fill four large jars with water and pour them over the altar. He told the people to do that three times so the altar would be soaked and the trench around it filled with water. It would be impossible for the wet wood to be set on fire! Listen to what happened when Elijah prayed.** Read 1 Kings 18:36-39.



Knowing the one true God

## THE WAY

**What happened when the prophets asked Baal to light their altar with fire?** (Nothing.) **How long did they keep calling to Baal.** (All day.) **What did Elijah have the people do to make his altar impossible to light with fire?** (Poured four large jars of water on it three times.) **Why do you think Elijah made his altar fireproof?** (So people would know the real God is even more powerful than fire or water.) **What did the people do when the God of Elijah set fire to the altar and burned up all the water in the trench?** (They fell down and cried, “The Lord—He is God! The Lord—He is God!”) **Imagine Elijah saying these words to you: “If the Lord is God, follow Him.” How might remembering this story help you or others to follow the one true God?** (Children respond.)

**God sent fire from heaven to show Himself to Elijah and the people. He shows Himself to us in many ways: through the Bible, His Holy Spirit, and the people who share the stories of what He has done. How has God shown Himself to you?** (Children respond.)

**Just as in Bible times, today many people follow more than one god. Some believe in God yet also put their hope in other things, such as lucky charms or their own plans to become popular, rich, or powerful. Even good things like goals for success can become so important to us that we believe they will give us what we need. What are some things you or your friends might put hope in besides the one true God?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

**Elijah saw the Israelites were tempted to believe in the gods or religions of the people around them. In the same way, today, some of those who follow Jesus are tempted to believe in other religions or put their hope in something besides God. Have you ever wanted to talk with others about their different faith but weren’t sure how to do it?** (Children respond.) **Let’s see what Peter said about this.**



**FIND IT FIRST> Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: 1 Peter 3:15. Let’s see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read 1 Peter 3:15.**

**In our hearts, we are to set apart Jesus as Lord. How does Peter say believers are to answer everyone who asks us about our faith?** (With gentleness and respect.)

**Just as in Bible times, today, there are many faiths and religions. People all over the world have very different beliefs. Some people worship other gods, and some do not believe in any god. Some people are not sure what to believe. What might be some of the reasons people follow other religions?** (Family reasons, cultural traditions, pressure or encouragement from others, wanting acceptance in a culture.) **According to the Bible, God created everyone, including the people of other faiths. How can you faithfully follow Jesus as the one true God and yet be respectful to the people God has created who do not follow Him?** (Serve them, love them, show kindness, listen and respond respectfully.)

# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## **GOLDEN BOWL**

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I'm going to lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.** Read names in Golden Bowl.

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is a photo of Mount Carmel. Let this picture remind you that Mount Carmel is a real place where God sent fire from heaven to prove He is the one true God.

**W<sup>3</sup>:** Take home today's W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W<sup>3</sup> Journal Entry #32. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of God sending fire from heaven to burn the altar. Around the altar, draw the trench filled with flames burning up the water.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Prepare to Meet Your God," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SNACK: STACK-A-SNACK**

**Purpose:** Children will eat a snack while remembering the altar Elijah built on Mount Carmel.

**Snack Suggestion:** Stackable crackers

Serve 12 crackers to each child. **Why did Elijah build the altar?** (So God would send fire to prove He is the one true God.) **Elijah built the altar with 12 stones that stood for the people of Israel.**

**Stack your 12 crackers so they look like Elijah's altar. Try to balance them so they don't fall over. As you build and eat, let's talk about God's power.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Serve the drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"What is one thing God can do that you are not powerful enough to do?"**

### **GAME: ONE GOD, ONE FLAME**

**Purpose:** For children to acknowledge God is the one true God.

**Supplies:** Paper plates (one per child), crayons, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player

**Prepare:** Draw and color flames on the front of one plate. Mix the flame plate in with the blank plates. Scatter the plates face-down on the floor.

**Elijah built an altar so God would send fire to show the people He is the one true God. God answered Elijah with fire so hot that it burned up the altar, the wet wood, and all the water in the trench. God is all-powerful. Let's play a game and think of things we have seen or experienced that show us God's power. As we play the game, listen to the words of our new Bible Memory Verse Song. These verses from the Bible tell some of the many things God does that prove He is the one true God.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song as children walk around the room.
2. When the music stops, each child stands on a plate.
3. On your signal, the children pick up their plates and turn them over. The child with the flame plate gives a reason he or she thinks God is mighty or powerful.
4. Collect and shuffle the plates. Scatter them on the floor face-down and play again.

**Limited Space?** Have children sit in a circle and pass an unlit candle. Whoever is holding the candle when the music stops gives a reason he or she thinks God is mighty or powerful.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: TRUE GOD, TRUE FORGIVENESS**

**Purpose:** Children will decorate a cross to help them remember God is the one true God.

**Supplies:** Cardboard, 12 small stones per child, glue, scissors, assorted craft supplies (markers, glitter, tissue paper, craft gems, buttons, ribbon, yarn, etc.)

**Prepare:** Cut out one cross shape from cardboard for each child.

**How did God prove He is the one true God?** (He sent fire to burn the water-soaked altar and to burn up the water in the trench.) **What did the people who were watching say?** ("The Lord—He is God! The Lord—He is God!") **Years later, as the God of power, Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sins. He had the power to come down from the cross, but He chose to stay so we could be forgiven. The cross is a symbol that reminds us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us and the forgiveness we receive because of it. Let's decorate a cross with same number of stones Elijah used to build the altar.**

### **Directions:**

1. Glue the twelve stones to the front of your cross.
2. Decorate your cross to remind you of today's Bible story.
3. **Take your cross home and put it where you can look at it and remember God is the one true God and that as the God of power, Jesus came to earth and gave His life for us because He loved us so much.**

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Prepare to meet your God, O Israel. He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns down to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is His name." "Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is." Amos 4:12b-13; 5:14

## **GAME: PICTURE GOD'S POWER**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, dry erase board and marker or chalkboard and chalk, timer

**Our Bible Memory Verse describes God's power. What are some of the things these verses say that God does?** (Makes the mountains and the wind, tells His thoughts to us, makes day and night happen, is everywhere on the earth.) **What does the verse say His name is?** (The Lord God Almighty.) **Let's think of more powerful acts of God.**

### **Directions:**

1. Choose one child to draw. Child thinks of one way God is powerful. (He sent Jesus to die on the cross, created trees, created sheep, heals people, gives food, etc.) Younger children can focus on drawing one of God's creations.
2. Set the timer for 60 seconds. (Add more time, if needed.) On your signal, the child draws a simple picture (cross, tree, sheep, person dropping crutches, plate of food, etc.) without talking.
3. The other children try to guess what the picture represents.
  - If a child guesses correctly before the time is up, that child takes the next turn.
  - If no one guesses, the child who was drawing picks the next child to draw.

## **GAME: UNSCRAMBLE THE VERSE**

**Purpose:** Children memorize the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Paper, marker, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse poster, Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, CD player, timer

**Prepare:** Display the Bible Memory Verse poster. Divide the Bible Memory Verse into five or six phrases. Write each phrase on a separate sheet of paper and fold the papers in half so the words are hidden. For non-readers, number the papers in order. For more of a challenge, increase the number of phrases.

### **Directions:**

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Shuffle the folded papers. Give each paper to a different child.
3. Play and sing the Bible Memory Verse Song as children pass the folded papers around the circle.
4. After a short time, pause the music. When the song stops, the children holding the folded papers race to put them in order on the floor in the center of the circle. Time how long it takes. Children may look at the Bible Memory Verse poster for help. Non-readers may use the numbers to help them put the phrases in order.
5. Play again. Each time you play, challenge the children to beat their previous times. Eventually, remove the poster for an added challenge.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Create or purchase a Bible Timeline to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done. Hang your timeline on a wall or other visible location. Point to the Bible Timeline and ask the questions noted below. Prophets & Promises Part 2 segment of the Bible Timeline begins circa 870 B.C.

**Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.) Elijah was Israel's prophet during the reign of evil King Ahab. This king led many Israelites to worship false gods. When prophets of false gods called upon their god Baal to send fire, nothing happened. What happened when Elijah called upon the one true God to send fire from heaven?** (God sent fire and it burned up the altar and all the water in the trench.) **What did this prove to everyone there?** (God is the one true God.)

How to create a Bible Timeline:

1. Print the story title or person's name with historical date (whenever available) on a card.
2. Before each lesson, add that new card to the Bible Timeline.
3. Attach the card to a wall or clothesline in the following order for Prophets & Promises Lessons 32-47:  
Elijah – Malachi: Elijah (Circa 870-845 B.C.) > Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.) > Joel (Circa 830 B.C.) > Jonah (Circa 781 B.C.) > Amos (Circa 760 B.C.) > Isaiah (Circa 710 B.C.) > Micah (Circa 700 B.C.) > Zephaniah (Circa 630 B.C.) > Jeremiah (Circa 626 B.C.) > Habakkuk (Circa 603 B.C.) > Ezekiel (Circa 593 B.C.) > Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Circa 580 B.C.) > Daniel (Circa 580 B.C.) > Haggai and Zechariah (Circa 530 B.C.) > Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.)
4. For Unit 10, add cards labeled 400 Years of Silence (Circa 400-0 B.C.) and The Birth of Jesus (Circa 0 A.D.).

**Teacher Tip:** For a comprehensive list of stories for Genesis through Revelation in timeline form, see [ResourceWell.org](http://ResourceWell.org).