



God Sends Fire to Elijah

Lesson Aim: To know God is the one true God.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God of Power

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Kings 18:30-39

What He Has Done: God sent fire from heaven to prove He is God.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

Unit 7: The Prophets and God's Power			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
32	Elijah and the Ravens, 1 Kings 17:1-6	God provided for Elijah's needs during the famine.	To know God has the power to give us what we need.
33	Elijah and the Woman in Zarephath, 1 Kings 17:8-16	God sent Elijah to the woman and her son to tell them God would provide food.	To know we can trust God to keep His promises.
34	God Sends Fire to Elijah, 1 Kings 18:30-39	God sent fire from heaven to prove He is God.	To know God is the one true God.
35	God Speaks to Elijah, 1 Kings 19:11-13, 16	God whispered to Elijah and told him to find Elisha.	To learn some of the ways God speaks to us.
36	Elisha and His Little Room, 2 Kings 4:8-11	God provided a room for Elisha in the woman's house.	To know we should show kindness to God's helpers.
37	Elisha and Naaman, 2 Kings 5:1, 9-10, 14-15	God healed Naaman when he obeyed.	To know we should always obey God.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 91. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for showing us Your power as the one true God. Use this story to open the eyes of the children so they may see Your presence, power, and protection. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Young children are active learners. To encourage learning of the lesson aim and the Bible story, act out the story, play the games, dance to the music, and select activities where they are engaging their senses. Offering more than one type of activity helps to meet the various interests and skills of each child. It also provides the repetition children need to reinforce what they are learning.

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of flames
		Coloring Center: God Sends Fire to Elijah	Coloring pages of Elijah with the altar, tissue paper squares (orange, red, and yellow), glue, crayons
		Play-Dough Center: 12 Stones	Play-dough
		Block Center: Mount Carmel	Blocks
		Activity Center: Water Play	Tub, cups, objects that sink and float, plastic tablecloth
	Up to 5	Prepare for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org. Additional Song Suggestions: "God Is So Good" "What a Mighty God We Serve"	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Be Still and Know" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Blessed Are Those" "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Am with You" "I Will Listen" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises" "With God All Things Are Possible"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 34
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 1 Kings 18:30-39	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 18:38 Visuals: Picture of the Bible story, rock
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Altar of God's Fire	Sturdy white paper, tissue paper (blue and red, orange, or yellow), crayons or markers, tape, glue
		Game: Elijah's Altar	12 large children's blocks, 4 wood sticks, 4 large cups, blue tissue paper squares or crumpled paper, orange and red crepe paper (or ribbon), Bible
		Game: Fire from Heaven	Praise music*, orange and red crepe streamers (or ribbons)
		Snack: Build a Snack Altar	Miniature marshmallows or other stackable snack, water
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 34
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 1 Kings 18:30-39	None
	Up to 10	Game: Be Still!	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know"
	Up to 10	Game: Quiet Time	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story that shows God is the one true God

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The God of Power

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of flames. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of flames help you remember God sent fire from heaven to show He is the one true God.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: GOD SENDS FIRE TO ELIJAH

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Elijah with the altar, tissue paper squares (orange, red, and yellow), glue, crayons

DO

Children color and attach tissue paper squares to the fire in the picture while talking about the story of God sending fire to Elijah.

TALK ABOUT

In our story today, Elijah prays and asks God to send fire from heaven. He wanted to show God's power to His people. Do you think God answered Elijah's prayer? (Children respond.) He did! When the people saw God's power, they were amazed. They fell to the ground and shouted, "The Lord, He is God!" Give each child a few orange, red, and yellow tissue paper squares to attach to the fire in the picture.

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: 12 STONES

SUPPLIES

Play-dough

DO

Children play with the play-dough while learning about today's story. Encourage children to make 12 stones with the play-dough.

TALK ABOUT

In Bible times, the people built altars—special places where they gave their gifts to God. Elijah's altar was made of 12 stones. Let's work together and make 12 stones out of the play-dough. Help the children make 12 stones (balls) out of play-dough. **Let's count the 12 stones as we stack them. Can you count with me?** Count the 12 stones as you stack them. You can extend this activity by finding other objects in the room which the children can stack or count to 12.

THE WELCOME *continued...*

BLOCK CENTER: MOUNT CARMEL

SUPPLIES

Blocks

DO

Children build a mountain out of blocks.

TALK ABOUT

Our story today takes place on top of a mountain. Can you build a mountain out of the blocks? Let's see how tall we can make the mountain.

As the children are working, discuss mountains with them. **Have you ever walked to the top of a mountain or a big hill?** (Children respond.) **Was it difficult?** (Children respond.) **Do you think you would like to live on a mountain?** (Children respond.)

ACTIVITY CENTER: WATER PLAY

SUPPLIES

Tub, cups, objects that sink and float, plastic tablecloth

DO

Place the tablecloth under the tub before filling it part way with water. Place the items you've selected in the tub. Children play with the water center while talking about how God created water.

TALK ABOUT

Did God create water? (Yes.) **God created everything, didn't He?** (Yes.) **God is so powerful that He made heaven and earth and everything in it. What kinds of things do we do with water?** (Drink it, use it to put out fires, help plants grow, swim in it, some animals live in it, etc.) **In our story today, instead of water putting out a fire, we will hear how God sent fire to dry up the water.**

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

"Be still,	Flat hands start at mouth, then both hands move down and end with flat hands facing palms down.
and know	Open hand with palm facing down, the fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I am God."	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
Psalms 46:10	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The God of Power

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

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 "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



The God we pray to is the one true God. Let's pray to Him right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, we praise You for who You are and what You have done. You are the one true God. Amen.**



In today's story, Elijah built an altar. In Bible times, an altar was a special platform used to give offerings to God. In Praise Time, we give our offerings to God by putting them in special baskets. Let's sing about our great God as we give our offering to Him. Sing: "He Is Mighty to Save" while collecting the offering.

Elijah knew the Lord was the true God and he wanted others to know it, too. There is nothing our God cannot do! Let's sing together about our mighty God. Sing: "Sing Praises."



Let's see if Delbert and Lello know what God did to show He is the one true God. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 34.



Elijah prayed and asked God to show the people how powerful He is. When we take time to be still and pray, we will know God's power. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's say it together with the motions. Practice a few times.

"Be still,	Flat hands start at mouth, then both hands move down and end with flat hands facing palms down.
and know	Open hand with palm facing down, the fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I am God."	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
Psalm 46:10	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Sing: "Be Still and Know."

Teacher Tip: Keeping the attention of young children during quieter or slower songs can sometimes be challenging. Prepare the children by talking to them quietly. Find motions that fit the song, such as having the children walk in a circle while holding hands. Change directions when you get to the chorus or add other movements such as stretching your arms high or clapping.



God answers Elijah with fire from heaven

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 18:38, picture of the Bible story, rock

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Who do you pray to when you need help? (God.) Show children the rock. **Why don't you pray to this rock?** (Children respond.) **Can the rock hear your prayers?** (No.) **Can the rock answer your prayers?** (No.) **Only God can hear and answer our prayers.**

In our story today, the people were praying and worshiping things that weren't God. Elijah knew they needed to be reminded of who the one true God was. Let's find out what he did. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Kings 18:38.



WATCH THE WORD: 1 KINGS 18:30-39

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Elijah built an altar,**
- **With 12 stones that he found.**
- **He added wood and dug a ditch,**
- **That went all the way around.**

- **Four jugs of water were poured on top,**
- **That happened three times that day.**
- **When the altar was too wet to burn,**
- **Elijah began to pray.**

- **He prayed for fire from heaven,**
- **And God sent the fire right down.**
- **The people cried, "He is the true God."**
- **And they fell down on the ground.**

What did God send to show His power? (Fire from heaven.) **What did the people say?** ("He is the true God!")



We know God is the one true God

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: ALTAR OF GOD'S FIRE

Purpose: To remind the children that God sent fire from heaven to prove He is God.

Supplies: Sturdy white paper, tissue paper (blue and red, orange, or yellow), crayons or markers, tape, glue

Prepare: Cut 3-4 blue tissue paper squares. Cut 3-4 red, orange, and/or yellow tissue paper squares. On sturdy white paper, print or draw an outline of an altar with 12 stones and wood on top. Around the altar, print or draw the outline of a trench filled with water. Across the middle of the altar, print:

**God sent fire.
1 Kings 18:30-39**

Adaptation for Ages 2-3: This craft has been adapted from the curriculum for ages 4-5. You may choose to simplify this craft by printing the altar on brown or gray paper and eliminating the children coloring the altar in step 1.

Elijah built a special place, called an altar, to give offerings to God. On it, he put twelve stones and some wood, then covered it all with water. It is difficult to burn wood that is wet. Only fire from heaven could burn such a wet altar. Let's build an altar like Elijah did!

Directions:

1. Children color the altar and the water.
2. Children attach 3-4 blue tissue paper squares to the water in the trench.
3. Children attach 3-4 red, orange, or yellow tissue paper squares to the wood on top of the altar.
4. Wrap the altar to make a tube and secure it with tape so it stands.

Craft Discussion:

- **What happened when Elijah asked God to send the fire?** (God sent fire and it burned the altar and all the water.)
- **Did the people believe in God when they saw this miracle?** (Yes.)
- **What did the people say?** ("The Lord, He is God!")

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: ELIJAH'S ALTAR

Purpose: Children will follow Elijah's instructions to rebuild a model of the altar.

Supplies: 12 large children's blocks, 4 wood sticks, 4 large cups, blue tissue paper squares or crumpled paper, orange and red crepe paper (or ribbon), Bible

Prepare: Scatter the blocks around the play area.

Let's pretend we are Elijah's helpers. Elijah wanted to build an altar; a special place to give offerings to God. Let's follow Elijah's directions in the Bible and build an altar right here!

Directions:

1. Assign the following jobs: Stone Stackers, Wood Layers, and Water Pourers.
2. Read 1 Kings 18:30-39, pausing to allow the assigned children to complete the tasks mentioned.
 - (v. 31-32) Stone Stackers: Stack the 12 stones to build the altar.
 - (v. 33) Wood Layers: Place the four wood sticks on top of the altar.
 - (v. 33-35) Water Pourers: Fill cups with blue tissue squares or crumpled paper (water) to pour on the altar three times.
 - (v. 36-39) All the children gather around the altar.
3. **Elijah asked the Lord to send fire to prove he was the one true God. Did God send fire?** (Yes.) Toss orange and red crepe paper on the altar for fire.
4. **There was so much fire, it burned all the wood.** Have the Wood Layers remove the wood.
5. **And, it burned up all the water!** Have the Water Pourers collect the blue tissue squares or crumpled paper.
6. **Everyone knew the Lord was the true God.** Everyone claps and cheers.
7. If you have time, play again, switching the children's roles.

GAME: FIRE FROM HEAVEN

Purpose: Children will realize the Lord is the true God.

Supplies: Praise music*, orange and red crepe streamers (or ribbons)

***Praise music:** Choose songs that talk about God's power, such as Bible Memory Verse Songs "He Is Mighty to Save" and "With God All Things Are Possible" or praise songs such as "What a Mighty God We Serve" and "My God Is So Big."

After Elijah built the altar, he asked the Lord to send fire from heaven to show everyone the Lord is the true God. Did God send fire? (Yes.) Let's worship the one true God as we march, sing, and wave these orange and red streamers that look like the fire God sent to burn up the altar! When the song ends, let's shout, "The Lord, He is God!" together.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Give a piece of orange or red crepe streamer to each child.
3. Children wave their streamers to make them look like flames.
4. Play a song about God's power as children march around the room waving their streamers.
5. When the song ends, shout together, **"The Lord, He is God!"**
6. Play several times.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: BUILD A SNACK ALTAR

Purpose: Children will use marshmallows to build a model of Elijah's altar.

Snack Suggestion: Miniature marshmallows or other stackable snack, water

Give each child 12 marshmallows. **An altar is a special place to give offerings to God. In today's story, who built an altar? (Elijah.) Let's stack our marshmallows to look like Elijah's altar.**

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **What did God send to show He is the only true God?** (Fire from heaven.)
 - **Water keeps fire from burning. Elijah poured water all over the altar. He even dug a trench around the altar for extra water. Only the true God could send a fire that could burn such a wet altar. Did God's fire burn the altar?** (Yes.)
 - **Is the Lord God the true God?** (Yes.)



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Be still,	Flat hands start at mouth, then both hands move down and end with flat hands facing palms down.
and know	Open hand with palm facing down, the fingertips tap the forehead two times.
that I am God."	(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.
Psalm 46:10	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: 1 KINGS 18:30-39

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Elijah built an altar,** (Pretend to hammer.)
- **With 12 stones that he found.** (Hold up an imaginary stone.)
- **He added wood and dug a ditch,** (Pretend to dig.)
- **That went all the way around.** (Stretch out arms wide.)

- **Four jugs of water were poured on top,** (Hold up four fingers.)
- **That happened three times that day.** (Hold up three fingers.)
- **When the altar was too wet to burn,** (Shake head no.)
- **Elijah began to pray.** (Fold hands in prayer.)

- **He prayed for fire from heaven,** (Point to the sky.)
- **And God sent the fire right down.** (Point in downward motion to floor.)
- **The people said, "He is the true God."** (Point to heaven.)
- **And they fell down on the ground.** (Fall to the ground.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

GAME: BE STILL!

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know"

Our Bible Memory Verse says, "Be still and know that I am God." Let's practice being still in this game. When the music stops, I want you to freeze in place. Don't move and don't talk. Just be still until the music begins again.

Directions:

1. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children dance or march around the room.
2. After a short time, pause the music. Children are to freeze in place.
3. Without talking, use your fingers to count to five as you encourage the children to be still.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 several times.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: QUIET TIME

Purpose: Children play this quiet, still game as a fun way to practice stillness and listening.

Supplies: Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know"

In the Bible, God says, "Be still and know that I am God." What are your favorite things about God? (Children respond.) God wants us to take time to be still and remember the things we love about Him. Let's practice doing that right now.

Directions:

1. Invite children to get in a comfortable position by laying their heads on a table or resting on the floor.
2. **It is good to take time to be quiet and think about God. Let's be quiet and think about God while we listen to our Bible Memory Verse Song.** Play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know." Children rest quietly as they listen.



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story that shows God is the one true God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 7, Lesson 34: God Sends Fire to Elijah

PONDER! Today, we learned the God we pray to is the one true God (1 Kings 18:30-39). What did God send to show His power? (Fire from heaven.) What did the people say? ("He is the true God!")

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for being the one true God. Help us praise and worship only You. Amen."

PLAY! Elijah stacked 12 stones to make the altar. Find 12 items (blocks, boxes, or even a snack such as crackers) you can stack. Count them together as you stack them. Sing a song to thank God for being the one true God.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Be still,

Flat hands start at mouth, then both hands move down and end with flat hands facing palms down.

and know

Open hand with palm facing down, the fingertips tap the forehead two times.

that I am God."

(God) The open right hand, fingers together and palm facing left, moves upward and then down the center of the face with fingers facing up.

Psalms 46:10

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.