



# 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.

## THE WAY

**Whisper Verse:** "The Lord is the true 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."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Treasure Chest</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of flames
		<b>Whisper Verse</b>	Sign language for "The Lord is the true God."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	<b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Be Still and Know" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "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" "With God All Things Are Possible" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "God Is So Good" "How Great Is Our God" "My God Is So Big"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 34
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> 1 Kings 18:30-39	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 18:38 Visual: Large stone
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Altar of God's Fire	Sturdy paper (gray, white, and orange), 2 toothpicks, crayons or markers, tape or glue
		<b>Game:</b> Elijah's Altar	12 large children's blocks, 4 wood sticks, 4 large cups, blue tissue paper squares, orange and red crepe paper (or ribbon), Bible
		<b>Game:</b> Fire from Heaven	Orange and red crepe streamers (or ribbons)
		<b>Snack:</b> Build a Snack Altar	Miniature marshmallows or other stackable snack, water
		<b>Circle of Prayer</b>	None
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 34 Color This Story: "God Sends Fire to Elijah"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> 1 Kings 18:30-39	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Stop and Be Still!	Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song "Be Still and Know," timer or clock
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Whispered Words	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story that shows God is the one true God

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



The Lord is the true God

## THE 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. Today's Whisper Verse is "The Lord is the true God."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.\***

**SIGN LANGUAGE: "The Lord is the true God."**

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com).)

**Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:**

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>"(The) Lord"</b>    | Extend thumb and index finger of right hand to create an "L" shape. Bring the "L" shape diagonal across the chest from the left shoulder to the right hip as a royal sash.   |
| <b>"(is the) true"</b> | Extend the index finger of the right hand with the remaining fingers curled as a fist. Point the finger upward in front of the lips and then move the finger up and forward from the mouth to create an arc ending with the finger pointing forward, parallel with the ground. |
| <b>"God."</b>          | The right hand begins in front of the face, then is lowered and slightly raised in front of the face with palm facing left and all five fingers together.  |

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

**\*Today's Whisper Verse:** "The Lord is the true God," Jeremiah 10:10. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



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

**It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to the God of Power. God is so powerful that He made heaven and earth and everything in it. He made water and fire, too. He is the only one powerful enough to do those things. The Lord is the true God. That is our Whisper Verse today. Let's try it together.** Review the Whisper Verse together: “The Lord is the true God.” Include sign language.



**In today's story, Elijah made an altar. In Bible times, an altar was a special platform used to give offerings to God. At 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: “How Great Is Our God” or “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. So, Elijah built an altar to give God an offering. He prayed and asked Him to send fire from heaven to light the altar. Elijah only needed to be still and know that His God was the true God, then everyone would see how powerful and mighty the true God is.** Sing: “Be Still and Know.”



**Elijah wanted to prove to the people that God was the true God. Let's see if Delbert and Lello know what Elijah did.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 34.



**When Elijah asked God to send fire from heaven, God did it. All the people who saw this miracle believed the Lord was the true God. There is nothing our God cannot do! Let's sing together about our mighty God.** Sing: “My God Is So Big” or “With God All Things Are Possible.”



God answers Elijah with fire from heaven

## THE WORD

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.

Last time, we learned God sent Elijah to tell the woman and her son that God would give them food. It was a miracle that the flour and oil never ran out. Elijah, the woman, and her son had plenty to eat. In today's story, we will hear of another miracle; God sends fire from heaven to show He is the one true God. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Kings 18:38.

### **WATCH THE WORD: 1 KINGS 18:30-39**

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a large stone. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- **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.**

**Who is the true God? (The Lord.) Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "The Lord is the true God."** Include the sign language or hand motions.



**What did God send to show He is the one true God? (Fire from heaven.) Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read 1 Kings 18:38 from the teacher's Bible.



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 paper (gray, white, and orange), 2 toothpicks, crayons or markers, tape or glue

**Prepare:** On the sturdy white paper, print or draw an outline of an altar. Around the altar, print the outline of a trench filled with water. Across the top of the sturdy white paper print: **"God Sent Fire." 1 Kings 18:30-39.** From sturdy gray paper, cut two sets of six rocks to fit in the altar outline. From the sturdy orange paper, cut flames.

**Optional:** Fold the bottom of the flames to create a tab. Glue the tab to the top of the altar for a three-dimensional effect. An alternate option would be to glue pieces of yellow and orange tissue paper to the altar for fire.

**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. Attach the rocks to the altar.
2. Attach the toothpicks (wood) onto the altar.
3. **Elijah poured water onto the altar.** Color the water in the trench blue.
4. **God sent fire that burned up the whole altar!** Glue the fire to the top of the altar.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **What happened when Elijah asked God to send the fire?** (God sent fire and it burned the altar and all the water.)
- **Who is the true God?** (God.) **God is the only real God!**
- **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **Did the people believe in God when they saw this miracle?** (Yes.)

# 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, 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 paper squares (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.
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:** Orange and red crepe streamers (or ribbons)

**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 play a game with orange and red streamers that look like the fire God sent to burn up the altar!**

### **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. On your signal, the children throw their streamers into the air, then say and sign the Whisper Verse: **"The Lord is the true God."**
5. Play several times. Challenge children to say and sign the verse fast enough to catch their streamers before they hit the ground.

# 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 water.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other 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. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "The Lord is the true God."
  - **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.)



## **CIRCLE OF PRAYER**

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_ (say each name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

**COMPLETED CRAFT:** Take home your "Altar of God's Fire" craft. Tell someone God sent fire from heaven to show He is the one true God.

**PONDER, PRAY & PLAY:** Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards, if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how God showed He is the one true God.**

**COLOR THIS STORY:** "God Sends Fire to Elijah." Discuss the Bible story and play the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Be Still and Know," as the children color.





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 acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **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."** (Whisper Verse sign language.)
- **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: STOP AND 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," timer or clock

**Directions:**

1. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children jump up and down and sing.
2. After a short time, pause the music. Children are to freeze in place.
3. Time the children to see how long they can stay very still. Stop the timer as soon as a child makes an obvious movement.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 several times. Each time, challenge the children to try to stay still a little longer.

Have the children sit down. **You all did a good job being still. It is often easier to think about God when we are still. Let's sit still for a moment and think about God. What do you remember about Him?** (Children respond.)

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: WHISPERED WORDS**

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

**Supplies:** None

Sometimes it is good to be still for a moment and remember what is true. What do you like to think about when you are still? (Children respond.) In the Bible, God says, "Be still and know that I am God." When do you like to be still and think about God? (Children respond.) Let's play a quiet, still game. Listen very carefully to words from the Bible that are whispered to you. Then, whisper the words you hear to the person next to you.

### **Directions:**

1. Children sit very still in a circle.
2. The teacher whispers, "**God said, 'I am with you.'**" into the ear of the first child.
3. That child whispers the phrase to the next child in the circle.
4. Continue around the circle until the last child tells the group what he or she heard to see if the phrase was delivered correctly.
5. The teacher announces the original phrase. (It is likely the phrase will change as it passed along. Laugh together at the way the phrase changes.)
6. Play the game as often as you like. Use one of the phrases below or come up with your own.

Jesus said, "Do not be afraid."

Jesus said, "Do not worry."

Jesus said, "Come, follow Me."

God said, "Be still and know I am God."



## **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!** Read 1 Kings 18:30-39 with your family. In Bible times, the altar was a special platform used to give offerings to God. Talk about the way Elijah built the altar. Why do you think he poured water on it? What happened when Elijah asked God to send fire? Did people see God was the one 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!** Make an altar! Together with your family, cut out 12 paper rock shapes. On each rock, write or draw one way God shows He is the one true God through His power. Tape the rocks together to make an altar and display it on a table or wall. Sing a song to thank God for being the one true God.

### **Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse:**

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