



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 7, Lesson 34

Elisha and the Chariots of Fire

Lesson Aim: To know we are surrounded by God's protection.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What are you afraid of?

GAME: Who's in the Chariot?

THE WORSHIP THE GOD OF POWER

Read Worship Scripture: Psalm 91:11.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD ELISHA AND THE CHARIOTS OF FIRE

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God chose Elisha to be Elijah's successor.

Point to Elisha (Circa 845-800 B.C.). **Today, we will hear of another time when Elisha saw chariots of fire. He warned the King of Israel each time the King of Aram (modern day Syria) planned to attack. The King of Aram sent his army to Dothan to capture Elisha.** Point to Dothan. **Check out what happened when the enemy surrounded the city.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: 2 Kings 6:15-20. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: 2 Kings 6:16. Pray. Read 2 Kings 6:15-20.

THE WAY GOD PROTECTS YOU

What did the servant see when he went outside that morning? (The army for Aram surrounding the city.) **The servant's eyes were open, but he was only looking at what the enemy was doing. What did Elisha's servant see when God opened his eyes in a way that he could see what God was doing?** (He saw God's horses and chariots of fire.) **Elisha's prayer was about opening his servant's "spirit eyes" to see the invisible things God was doing to protect them.**

Why did Elisha ask God to blind the enemy? (So, he could lead them to Samaria where they would be outnumbered by Israelites.) **Psalm 91:11 tells us God's angels guard us, too. What reminds you that God is**

with you? What worries you or causes you to be afraid? Let's brainstorm ways God might be protecting us in each of these situations. Lead a discussion of ways God protects our thoughts, sends angels to guard us, removes problems without us doing anything, gives us boldness or wisdom, comforts us, etc. **How might it calm your fears to picture the chariots of fire protecting you as they did Elisha?**

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Elisha encouraged his servant by saying, "Don't be afraid. Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." God does not want us to worry or be afraid. He wants our hearts to be at peace. Check out what Jesus said to encourage believers. Reveal John 16:33. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Did Jesus say we would never have troubles? (No.) **God does not always protect us in the way we hope or expect, but no matter what is happening in our lives, we still belong to Him, the one true God, forever. He commands His angels to guard us. No one can take away the life we have forever with Him, now on earth or later in heaven. Why might knowing you belong to the one true God give you a peaceful heart even when you face danger or hard times?**

Do you know someone who is worried or afraid? How might today's story give them courage? Let's take 7 seconds of silence to ask God to open their "spirit eyes" so they know God is with them. There are believers around the world who may fear for their survival just as Elisha's servant did. Soldiers, homeless families, those who are very ill, and many others need to know God is with them. During our Golden Bowl prayer, let's ask God to open their "spirit eyes," too.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Toy eyeglasses or googly eyes
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: God's horses and chariots of fire around Elisha and his servant
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Protected Candy

GAME: Blind Trust

CRAFT: Hidden Chariot Light Box

DISCUSSION: What Happened Next?

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Picture God's Power, Unscramble the Verse

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW