



God Speaks to Elijah

Lesson Aim: To learn some of the ways
God speaks to us.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The God of Power

THE WORD

Bible Story: 1 Kings 19:11-13, 16

What He Has Done: God whispered to Elijah and told him to find Elisha.

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 John 14:15-27. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for faithfully pursuing us. Fill the children with Your Holy Spirit so they might recognize Your voice and turn their hearts toward You. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

Improving your classroom management. Always read the lesson in advance and have a plan for class time. Arrive early and make sure you have everything you need for the lesson. Be ready to welcome children as they arrive. If you have forgotten something, improvise or send a volunteer to get what you need. Don't be afraid to change things up to meet the needs of the children in your classroom.



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of an ear
		Coloring Center: God's Special Helper	Coloring pages of Elijah, crayons
		Play-Dough Center: What's that Sound?	Play-dough, cookie cutters (animals, vehicles, and things that make sounds)
		Story Center: God Speaks Through His Word	Children's picture book of Bible stories
		Music Center: God Speaks to Me	God of Wonders Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen"
	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 35
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: 1 Kings 19:11-13, 16	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 19:12-13 Visuals: Picture of the Bible story, three objects that make noise (bells, musical instrument, squeaky toy, rattle, etc.), bag
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Elijah's Ears	Sturdy paper, crayons or markers, tape or glue
		Game: Listening Ears	"Elijah's Ears" crafts
		Game: Wind, Quake, Fire	Sturdy wood box or step, orange and red crepe paper or ribbon, cloak (piece of cloth)
		Snack: Shh! Listen!	Any snack that makes no noise when eaten (marshmallows, pudding, gelatin, etc.)
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 7, Lesson 35
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: 1 Kings 19:11-13, 16	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 about listening to 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 an ear. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of an ear help you remember Elijah listened to 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'S SPECIAL HELPER

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of Elijah, crayons

DO

Children color while talking about Elijah.

TALK ABOUT

The man in the picture is Elijah. God chose Elijah to be His special helper and to share His words with the people. Elijah listened and obeyed when God told him what to do. God asks us to be His special helpers, too. Who could you share God's words with? (Children respond.) What can you tell people about God? (Children respond.)

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters (animals, vehicles, and things that make sounds)

DO

Children play a game as an introduction to today's story.

TALK ABOUT

Lay several of the cookie cutter shapes on the table. Without indicating which one you have chosen, choose one of the shapes that makes a sound. Ask the children which shape makes that sound. For example, if you choose a dog shape, **"Which shape makes the sound, 'Woof! Woof!'"** Allow children to guess until they get it right. Say, **"You did a great job listening to the sound I made and guessing it was a dog."** Allow the children to take turns being the one to pick one of the shapes for the other children to guess.

In our story today, God tells Elijah to go to the top of a mountain and wait for Him. Elijah listened and obeyed. We can be like Elijah and listen and obey, too!

This center may be extended while the children are playing with the play-dough and cookie cutters by asking them to make an object that makes sound and imitating that sound.

THE WELCOME *continued...*

STORY CENTER: GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

SUPPLIES

Children's picture book of Bible stories

DO

Look at a children's picture book of Bible stories while talking about how God speaks through His Word.

TALK ABOUT

Let's look at a book of Bible stories together. Who do we learn about in the Bible? (God, Jesus.)
Every story in the Bible is true. God gave us the Bible so we could learn about who He is and what He has done. What is your favorite Bible story? (Children respond.) Spend time looking through the Bible storybook with the children. **What does the Bible tell us about God?** (He loves us, He is always with us, He created the world, He sent people like Elijah to teach us about Him, etc.)

MUSIC CENTER: GOD SPEAKS TO ME

SUPPLIES

God of Wonders Unit 8 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Will Listen"

DO

Play "I Will Listen" while leading the children in the motions.

TALK ABOUT

When God speaks to us, we may not hear Him with our ears, but there are many ways He can speak to us. We just need to be ready to listen. Let's sing a song about that.

**God speaks to me through every rainbow that I see.
He speaks to me through Bible stories that I read.
He speaks to me through everyone who cares for me.
And I will listen to the Lord.**

Form circle with arms overhead.
Hold hands open as if holding Bible.
Hug yourself.
Cup hand to ear.

**I will listen to what God the Lord will say. (3x.)
I will listen to the Lord.**

Point to self. Cup hand to ear. Point up.

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.



God is always with us and He always hears our prayers. Let's pray to Him right now. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for who You are and what You have done. Thank You for always being with us. We love You. Amen.**



Sing: "I Am with You."

When God speaks to us, we may not hear Him with our ears. When a mighty wind blows, it's as if He is telling us He is the powerful God who made the wind. When someone gives us a big hug, it's as if God is telling us how much He loves us. When we hear God's Word in a Bible story, it's as if He is telling us who He is and what He has done. Let's give our offering to the God who speaks to us in many ways. Sing: "I Will Listen" while collecting the offering.



In today's story, Elijah listened to God speak to him in a soft whisper. Let's see if Delbert and Lello have heard that story. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 7, Lesson 35.



Elijah had to be still and listen for what God was telling him. Let's be very still as we sing this next song. Think about how good it is to know He is God and that He is with us right now. Sing: "Be Still and Know."



Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse. Say the Bible Memory Verse with the motions.

**"Be still,
and know
that I am God."**

Psalm 46:10

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

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

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

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.



Elijah listens for the voice of the Lord

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at 1 Kings 19:12-13, picture of the Bible story, three objects that make noise (bells, musical instrument, squeaky toy, rattle, etc.), bag

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.

Place the three objects in the bag so the children cannot see them. **Good morning boys and girls! I'm so glad to see you today. Let's play a game. In this bag, I have three objects that make noise. Let's see if you can listen and guess what's in the bag.** Inside the bag, make noise with one of the objects until children guess what it is. When they guess correctly, show them the object. Repeat this with the other two items.

You did a great job listening. In our story today, Elijah listens and hears God speak to him. God can speak to us through our Bible story. Let's listen. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to 1 Kings 19:12-13.



WATCH THE WORD: 1 KINGS 19:11-13, 16

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.

- **"Stand on the mountain, Elijah," God said,**
- **"For right by you, I will go."**
- **Then, a mighty wind blew all around.**
- **Was the Lord in the wind? No!**

- **An earthquake shook the ground to and fro.**
- **Was the Lord in the earthquake? No!**
- **After the earthquake, came a fire.**
- **Was the Lord in the fire? No!**

- **Then, from a cave came a whisper**
- **That told Elijah what to do.**
- **The Lord whispered, "Go find Elisha.**
- **He will be My helper, just like you."**

Where did Elijah hear God? (In a whisper.) When God speaks to us, we may not hear Him with our ears, but God does speak to us. We hear Him through His words in the Bible, through His creation, through a friend who shows us kindness, through our parents who love us, and many other places. We just need to be ready to listen and obey.



We can listen for the Lord

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: ELIJAH'S EARS

Purpose: To remind the children that God whispered His message to Elijah.

Supplies: Sturdy paper, crayons or markers, tape or glue

Prepare: From sturdy paper, cut out two oversized ear shapes. Cut a 1-inch wide strip of paper long enough to wrap around a child's head. On the paper strip, print:

**God whispered to Elijah.
1 Kings 19:11-13, 16**

Optional: You may choose to add stickers or other craft decorations to the paper strip. When considering craft decorations for younger children, it is best to avoid anything that could be a choking hazard. Some craft decorations that work well for this age are stickers, stampers, sturdy paper, tissue paper, wrapping paper, ribbon, yarn, pom-poms, cotton balls, felt, foam shapes, small feathers, non-toxic glitter paint, or watercolor paints.

Directions:

1. Children color the ears and the paper strip.
2. Wrap the paper strip around the child's head, overlap the ends, and secure with tape.
3. Remove the paper strip from the child's head and attach the ears to opposite sides of the strip.
4. Show the children how to put on their "Elijah's Ears" and listen for God like Elijah did.

Craft Discussion:

- **Elijah knew God speaks to us in many ways. Sometimes, God speaks through big, powerful miracles like when He sent fire from heaven or when He parted the Jordan River. Other times, God speaks to us in peaceful, quiet ways like through a beautiful rainbow or a sunny day.**
- **Who listened for God? (Elijah.)**
- **When Elijah went to the mountain, did God speak to him through the powerful wind? (No.) Did God speak through the mighty earthquake? (No.) Did God speak through the fire? (No.) How did God speak to Elijah? (In a gentle whisper.)**
- **Can you be like Elijah and listen for God? (Yes.)**
- **We can listen for God with our ears, our hearts, and our minds.**

Teacher Tip: The children's crafts are needed for the first game.
Be sure to write their names on their crafts.

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: LISTENING EARS

Purpose: Children will practice listening.

Supplies: "Elijah's Ears" crafts

Let's practice using our listening ears. Be very quiet. If you hear me whisper your name, I want you to whisper, "I will listen." Let's whisper it once together before we start.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle and put on their "Elijah's Ears."
2. Whisper the name of one of the children.
3. That child whispers, **"I will listen."**
4. Repeat until you have whispered every child's name.

You are very good listeners, just like Elijah!

GAME: WIND, QUAKE, FIRE

Purpose: Children will pretend to be Elijah listening for God's voice.

Supplies: Sturdy wood box or step, orange and red crepe paper or ribbon, cloak (piece of cloth)

Let's act out today's story. When I ask you, "Will you listen for God?" I want you to say, "I will listen."

Directions:

1. Choose one child to be Elijah.
2. Elijah puts on the cloak and stands on the box, pretending to be on the mountain. Be sure the child is safe by holding his or her hand.
3. The remaining children stand in a circle around Elijah.
4. **Will you listen for God?** The children answer by saying, **"I will listen."**
5. **First, came the wind. Pretend you are standing in the big wind with Elijah!** Children sway and make swishing noises, as if they are in the wind. **Was God in the wind?** (No!)
6. **Will you listen for God?** The children answer by saying, **"I will listen."**
7. **Next, came the earthquake. Pretend you are standing in the big earthquake with Elijah!** Children shake and stumble, as if they are in an earthquake. **Was God in the earthquake?** (No!)
8. **Will you listen for God?** The children answer by saying, **"I will listen."**
9. **Then, came the fire.** Choose a few children to place orange and red crepe paper or ribbon on the ground around Elijah. **Was God in the fire?** (No!)
10. **Will you listen for God?** The children answer by saying, **"I will listen."**
11. **How did God talk to Elijah?** (He whispered.)
12. In a whisper, say to Elijah, **"Elijah, find Elisha."**
13. Elijah picks another child to be Elisha by giving the cloak to that child.
14. Allow that child to be the next Elijah and play again.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: SHH! LISTEN!

Purpose: Children will eat a quiet snack as they discuss listening for God.

Snack Suggestion: Any snack that makes no noise when eaten (marshmallows, pudding, gelatin, etc.)

Let's have a quiet snack so we can listen while we eat.

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.
 - **Who listened for God in our story?** (Elijah.)
 - **God spoke to Elijah in a whisper. Is that the only way God can speak to us?** (No.)
 - **One way God speaks to us is through His words in the Bible. What should you do when someone is reading to you from the Bible?** (Listen.)



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 19:11-13, 16

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.

- **"Stand on the mountain, Elijah," God said,** (Point far away.)
- **"For right by you I will go."** (Place hand over eyes as if looking in the distance.)
- **Then, a mighty wind blew all around.** (Waves arms like trees in the winds.)
- **Was the Lord in the wind? No!** (Shake head and shout, "No!")

- **An earthquake shook the ground to and fro.** (Sway back and forth.)
- **Was the Lord in the earthquake? No!** (Shake head and shout, "No!")
- **After the earthquake, came a fire.** (Wiggle fingers like flames.)
- **Was the Lord in the fire? No!** (Shake head and shout, "No!")

- **Then, from a cave came a whisper** (Cup hand around ear, as if listening.)
- **That told Elijah what to do.** (Raise index finger, as if giving directions.)
- **The Lord whispered, "Go find Elisha.** (Cup hands around mouth to whisper.)
- **He will be My helper, just like you."** (Point to others.)



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 about listening to God.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 7, Lesson 35: God Speaks to Elijah

PONDER! God told Elijah to listen for Him (1 Kings 19:11-13, 16). How did God speak to Elijah? (In a whisper.)

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for speaking to Elijah. Help us listen for You in powerful ways and in quiet ways. Amen."

PLAY! Take a walk outdoors. As you walk, point out your favorite things in nature and talk about what God's creation tells us about Him. Share your favorite Bible stories with each other. What do these stories tell you about God? God speaks to us in so many ways!

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.