

Old Testament

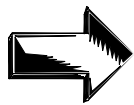
Elisha does a miracle 2 Kings 2:13-15; 19-22

Younger Verse

The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. Hebrews 13:6

Older Verse

We say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:6



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have you ever seen a magic trick? They are fun to watch but there is always a trick to it. In today's lesson, Elisha performed a miracle from God. Let's see what it was.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we saw how Elijah went up to heaven and Elisha became God's messenger to the people. He had traveled with Elijah and listened to how he helped people learn about God and follow in His ways.

When Elijah went to heaven, Elisha was left by himself to travel and share God's message with others. The people in the villages knew that he was a messenger from God.

After Elijah went to heaven, the men of the town of Jericho ran out to Elisha. They had a big problem and they needed help. Elisha listened as they shared how the water of the town had something in it that was hurting the whole town. They did not have good water to drink or good water for the land to grow fruits and vegetables.

Do you remember learning about Jericho? It was a huge city that had a BIG wall around it. God gave His people special directions to march around the city. They obeyed God and on the 7th day, the walls came crumbling down. Everyone in the city was amazed at what God did. God also told the people that if anyone ever rebuilt the city, very tragic things would happen. God wanted the people to see that they must follow and obey Him alone.

Well, during Elijah's time, a man named Hiel rebuilt the city. Just as God said, horrible things happened to his family. He did not love God and neither did the people of the city. Soon the water began to cause problems in the town. When the men heard that Elisha

Lesson Goals

Tell about the water miracle
Share how God can use us to help others know Him.

was nearby, they ran to him for help. They knew that God could help them with this problem.

Elisha asked God for help and asked the men for a brand new bowl. Then he asked them to put salt in the bowl. The men did as Elisha asked. They could not imagine what he was going to do. They probably had tried many things to make the water pure again. This was something that they had never thought of trying.

Next, Elisha went to the water and threw the salt into the water. Then he said, "This is what the Lord says: 'I have healed the water. Never again will it cause death or make the land useless.'"

The people tasted the water and it was delicious! A miracle had happened. The water was clean and pure. God used Elisha to do a special miracle to help the people of the town. He also helped the people see that Elisha was truly God's messenger.

God kept His promise. The water remained pure and clean. The people saw how God was the only One who could help with their needs. He made their polluted water clean.

When we sin, we are dirtying our heart, just like that water was unclean. It poisoned everything and so does our sin. Jesus is like the salt. He can totally change our hearts and make them clean and pure. How? Jesus can do this because He paid the price for our sins when He died on the cross. Then, three days later, Jesus came back to life. Because Jesus is alive, we know that He can clean out our lives and take us to heaven one day if we believe in Him. How do we trust Him? We must ask Jesus to forgive all our sin and ask Him to clean out our hearts. We must tell Him that we believe that He died for our sin and came back to life. If we believe this, Jesus will come into our life and help us do things God's way. He will show us the right things to do and take us to heaven one day. If you want to know more, please talk to us about it.

Even though the people disobeyed God and rebuilt the city, God forgave them and even cleaned up the "mess." In our lives, we sometimes disobey God. When we ask Him for forgiveness, He will forgive our sin. We still have to deal with the consequences for our wrong, but we know that in God's sight, we are totally forgiven. When we ask for God's forgiveness, we are telling Him that we do not want to do the wrong again. We want to do things God's way. He will help us turn around and do things His way.

Learning Activities

Try ideas that will help the kids learn a lesson from the story.

Memory Verse Activities

Talk about things that are frightening. Share how this verse can give us security when we are scared or afraid.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us do right. Thank Him for forgiving us when we do wrong.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring something "salty" to snack on today.

Planning for October 31st
Naaman gets well
2 Kings 5:1-19a

Preschool Lesson
For
Elisha does a miracle

Teachers: Bring water for everyone to taste today!

Do you remember last week? We saw Elijah go up to heaven. His friend Elisha began to be God's messenger after Elijah went to heaven.

As he was walking, some people from the town came to him for help. They had a big problem and they needed help. Elisha listened as they shared how the water of the town had something in it that was hurting the whole town. They did not have good water to drink or good water for the land to grow fruits and vegetables.

Elisha asked God for help and asked the men for a brand new bowl. Then he asked them to put salt in the bowl. The men did as Elisha asked. They could not imagine what he was going to do. They probably had tried many things to make the water pure again. This was something that they had never thought of trying. (Let the kids put salt in the cups of water)

Next, Elisha went to the water and threw the salt into the water. Then he said, "This is what the Lord says: 'I have healed the water. Never again will it cause death or make the land useless.'"

The people tasted the water and it was delicious! A miracle had happened. The water was clean and pure. God used Elisha to do a special miracle to help the people of the town. He also helped the people see that Elisha was truly God's messenger.

God kept His promise. God keeps His promises to us too. He loves us and cares for us. He wants us to love Him and help others love Him too.

Hands-On Activities
For
Elisha does a miracle

Bring “Certs” candy and remind the kids of how it “cleans” your breath. Share how God cleaned the water in Jericho.

Bring water that is tinted blue or bring blue drink to share with the kids today.

Try the blue Applesauce or tint regular applesauce blue and talk about the lesson again.

There are lots of pretzels that are available for snacks. It is a great alternative for sugary treats.

Bring Heart candy from Valentine’s day and reinforce the lesson on God’s love and forgiveness.

Just as God cleaned the water, take time to “Clean” the place where you have Bible study. Make sure it is sparkly clean.

Try different salt activities to go with the lesson. You can write the verse in glue and sprinkle salt on it to stick. Another idea is to taste salt or bring things that need salt added to them. There also are salt/lime or salt/chili flavored candy that kids like.
