

Old Testament

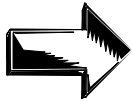
Elijah and the Ravens 1 Kings 17:1-6

Younger Verse

My God will help with all your needs. Philippians 4:19

Older Verse

My God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19



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

All of us have ordered something from a person at a fast food restaurant. Most of the time, a nice person brings you a bag of food that is tasty and delicious. What would you think if an animal brought you something to eat? Would you eat it? Let's see what happens to Elijah.

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.*

After King Solomon died, the new king of Israel was named Ahab. He was a very mean man. He worshiped other things and not God. He even led the whole country to worship other idols.

God sent Elijah to give King Ahab a message. Elijah was a messenger for God. He told people what God said. Elijah told King Ahab that God told him to pray that the land would not have dew or rain for a long time. It would only rain if Elijah prayed and asked God to make it rain.

All the water in the rivers and lakes dried up. It was like a desert in the country. God knew the king would be angry with Elijah for letting this happen. So, God sent Elijah to the valley to hide by a stream of water. Elijah knew that if the people found him, they would try to kill him because there was no water in the land.

Welcome Time

**God will help with all your needs
We must obey God and do as He asks**

God provided for Elijah in an unusual way. Elijah did not go out and get food while he was hiding. Instead, God had some black birds, called ravens, bring food to Elijah to eat.

Every morning and evening the ravens brought Elijah meat and bread to eat. God provided for Elijah's needs and took care of him during that time.

God promises to help us with our needs too. He will listen to our prayers and help with our problems. He cares for us.

God shows us how much He cares for us by something wonderful He did for us. He knew that we had a big problem and we needed a way to solve it. We all have sinned (done wrong) and that has caused our lives to be dirty and imperfect. It has separated us from God. God loved us so much that He found a way to help us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to take away our dirty sin and make us clean. Jesus did this by dying on the cross to pay for all our wrongs. Three days later, Jesus came back to life! God did a miracle to help us. If we believe in Jesus and trust Him in our hearts, He will clean out our dirty hearts and stay with us forever. Would you like to know how Jesus can stay with you forever? We can talk about it together.

Learning Activities

Help the kids see how much God cares and provides for them.

Memory Verse Activities

Cut out "bread" shaped pieces of paper and print each word of the verse on one side. Turn the "bread" pieces over so that the words do not show. Let the kids pick the "bread" shapes to complete the verse.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us with our needs. Thank Him that He listens and cares for us.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring a "bread" type snack to remind the kids of the lesson.

Planning for Lesson 56
Elijah helps a woman
1 Kings 17:7-24

Preschool Lesson
For
Elijah and the Ravens

A long time ago, there lived a man named Elijah who loved God. Elijah gave people messages from God. At that time, there was a mean king named Ahab who ruled the country. He told the people to worship other things and not worship God. This made God very sad. (Make a sad face)

Elijah told the wicked king that God would not let it rain in this land until Elijah prayed for it to rain again.

It did not rain for a long, long time. All the rivers and lakes dried up, and there was no water for the plants to grow. Everything dried up (pretend like you are a leaf drying up).

All of the rivers dried up and the whole land turned brown. The people began to get very thirsty. (Make a sound like you are panting for water)

God told Elijah to walk to a valley to hide from the king. So, Elijah walked and walked until he found the valley and a little river of water! The water tasted so delicious! (Make slurping sounds)

Elijah was all alone in the middle of the desert with no food to eat. Soon, his tummy started to rumble and growl.

Suddenly, some black birds called ravens brought Elijah meat and bread in their beaks. They flew down by the river and landed next to Elijah. Then, they opened their beaks and gave Elijah the bread and meat. Elijah told God thank you for sending the birds with food.

Every morning and evening, the birds came with food for Elijah. God took care of Elijah and helped him with his needs.

God gave Elijah what he needed, and he'll give us what we need, too. Let's pray and thank God for taking care of us.

Hands-On Activities
For
Elijah and the Ravens

Make a Raven kite. See the attached page.

Make “Heavenly Bread” by frosting cake (angel food or pound cake) with icing or cool whip. Then sprinkle with chocolate chips, sprinkles, nuts etc.

Play a fun game to illustrate how God takes care of us. Bring inflated balloons and have the kids choose a partner. Ask the kids to stand back to back and hook arms. Now place a balloon in between their backs. Explain that the goal of the game is to take balloons from others while protecting their own balloon. If they get a balloon from someone else, they must add it to the balloon (s) in between their backs! Have fun and get back together and share how God takes care of us and protects us from harm, just like He protected Elijah.

Have a relay race. Bring a zipper bag and croutons. Place croutons in a bowl and have the kids line up to be “ravens.” Each person must run to the bowl, get a crouton, run back and place it in the zipper bag. The winner is the group that fills the zipper bag. A variation is the have the kids fly like a raven to get the crouton!

Make a bird “raven” out of a paper plate and attach a crouton or piece of bread to its beak. Talk about how God provided food for Elijah when he was in need.

Eat crackers and gummy worms (who knows what the ravens brought!) as a snack to remind the kids of the lesson.

Cut a bird out of paper as you are telling the story. It’s a great way to keep the kids’ attention and let them see the end result of a BIRD!
