

Old Testament

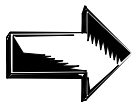
Elijah and the woman 1 Kings 17:7-24

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

Have you ever wanted a bite of something delicious to eat and it was all gone? It's no fun missing out on something good to eat. Let's see what happens when Elijah asks for something good to eat.

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.*

Elijah was a special messenger from God. People knew that Elijah loved God and they trusted him to tell them the truth.

Unfortunately, the king wanted Elijah killed because God had not sent rain in a very, very, long time. The whole country was brown, and it was hard to find water and vegetables to eat because of the hot sun and lack of water.

One day, God told Elijah to go to the town of Zarephath (Zar-a-fath). God told Elijah there was a woman there who would give him food.

When he arrived in the town, he saw a woman gathering sticks. Elijah called out to her for help. He asked her to bring him a drink of water. As she was going to get the water, he called out to her to bring him a piece of bread.

She ran back to Elijah and explained that she only had one meal left for her son and herself. She told him that they had no more flour or oil to make any more bread.

Elijah confidently told her not to be afraid. He knew that God would take care of both of them because He promised Elijah that He would take care of their needs.

Elijah told her to go home and make a loaf of bread for him first. Then, she was to make some bread for herself and her son. He told the woman that the jar of flour and the jug of oil would not run out until it started to rain again.

Lesson Goals

Share how the woman believed in Elijah and trusted him
Explain how we can believe in Jesus
See how God takes care of all our needs

The woman trusted Elijah and did as he said. Sure enough, there was food for Elijah and for her family. Just as Elijah said, God continued to give flour and oil so that it never ran out!

Some time later, the woman's son became very sick. He continued to get worse and worse until he stopped breathing! The woman asked Elijah why this had happened to her.

Elijah carried the son upstairs and cried out to God for help. He stretched his arms over the child three times and asked God to revive the child.

God heard Elijah's prayer and brought the boy back to life. When the woman saw her son alive, she told Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that you speak the truth from God."

Elijah helped that woman and her son know that God was the only true God. She trusted in God and knew that His ways were the best. She saw first hand how God took care of her needs (with flour and water and reviving her son). She could tell others of God's amazing power and love.

The woman really had to trust God to give Elijah the first loaf of bread. Remember, she only had enough flour and oil for one loaf. She believed and saw God do a special miracle for her family.

God helped the woman's son live again. It was a special miracle. Sometimes much later, the son did pass away. God did another miracle similar to this, just for us. Jesus died on a cross and came back to life three days later. What's the difference? Jesus still lives! He is in Heaven with God.

Jesus died and came back to life for a very important reason. He died to pay the price for all the wrong things we have done. When Jesus came back to life, He made a way for us to go to Heaven one day if we believe in Him and trust Him in our hearts. Jesus will clean out all the wrongs that we have done and help us begin to live for Him and do things His way. Would you like to know more about trusting in Jesus? Let's talk about it together.

Learning Activities

Try activities to help the kids see what it means to REALLY trust God like the woman did.

Memory Verse Activities

Have the kids cut out words from magazines to complete the verse (some words may have to be spelled with individual letters). Talk about how God promises to help meet our needs.

Prayer Time

Pray and ask God to help us with needs that we have. Thank Him for listening to our prayers and loving us.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring "bread" type snacks today.

Planning for Lesson 57
Elijah on Mount Carmel
1 Kings 18:16-39

Preschool Lesson
For
Elijah and the woman

Make a “jug” puppet to help tell the story today.

Hi! I’m a little jug. People use to me to store flour or oil. Sometimes I am very full and other times I’m almost empty. Today, I want to tell you a story about a woman and how God helped her.

One day, a woman came and looked in my jug. It was almost empty. There was not much flour either. She looked so sad. There was only enough oil and flour to make a loaf of bread. The woman sighed and whispered that she had no money for any more food or bread.

She told her son that she was going to gather sticks for a fire for the oven to bake the bread. She was not gone very long. Instead of being sad, though, she was humming and smiling. She quickly made the bread and didn’t worry about the food. She also brought a guest into her home.

Instead of giving the bread to her son, she gave it to a special man from God. His name was Elijah. He loved God and told the woman all about how much God loved her.

Elijah munched on the bread and enjoyed it. He must have been very hungry.

Suddenly, an amazing thing happened! My jug was full of oil! I couldn’t believe it. The flour jar was full of flour too!

Elijah told the woman that God would not let the flour or oil run out because she obeyed God and did as Elijah told her.

The woman was so grateful for God’s kindness to her. She loved God and believed in Him.

Thank God for loving us and taking care of us.

Sing a song to the tune of “I’m a little teapot.”

I’m a ju-g full of oil, there’s not much in me I’m about to spoil

The woman turned me and out I came

Believe or not I’m full a-gain.

Hands-On Activities
For
Elijah and the woman

Write questions about the lesson on cut out shapes of jars. See how well the kids listened to the lesson. Retell the story if needed to help them understand and apply it.

Bring supplies to make real tortillas using Mesa flour and oil. (if cooking on a skillet, be very careful with the children) Another option is to use store bought tortillas and cut into shapes using cookie cutters or scissors. Spread peanut butter, butter, or other items on the bread and enjoy!

There is a special baby bottle toy that looks empty when turned upside down and magically fills up when turned upright. Bring this bottle to explain how God filled the oil and flour jugs for the woman.

Bring paper plates to class. Let the kids draw food that they would like to have on their paper plate. Talk about how God took care of the woman and her son.

If you have preschoolers, pretend to have them make “food” for you or the other children. Be sure you take time to pretend to “taste” the food.

Try to cut out the paper jar pattern as you tell the story. It really holds the kids’ attention. After the story, help them make the jars out of paper.

Try the Elijah rap song (from Gospel Light).

Bring unpopped popcorn and popped popcorn. Show the unpopped corn and ask the kids if they think it would feed many people. Then, show the popped corn. Share how a little bit of corn pops to make a lot! Explain how God did a special miracle for the woman to help her little bit of oil and flour go a long, long way.

Bring a small bean bag (or zipper bag with beans inside). Explain that each child will follow directions and balance the bag on their head as they are listening to instructions. Call out the person to walk, crawl, hop, or touch their toes while balancing the bag on their heads. While the person is in motion, they cannot touch the bag with their hands! If the bag falls, another child must help put the bag back on the person’s head. Let the kids take turns calling out directions. When finished, talk about how we needed others to help when the bag fell. Share how they helped meet our need. Help the kids understand how God meets our needs too! (game from Gospel Light)
