

# Old Testament

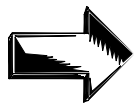
## Elisha and the woman 2 Kings 4:8-37

### Younger Verse

Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:31

### Older Verse

Do to others as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:31



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 had someone do something kind for you? When someone does something nice to you, it makes you feel good and you want to do something kind in return. Let's see what happens when a woman is nice to Elisha.

### 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.*

Elisha traveled around telling people about God. He must have gone back and forth through a little village called Shunem. In the town was an important woman who was also very rich. She began to notice Elisha passing by very often. When he passed by, she would ask Elisha to eat with her family. She was very kind and helpful to Elisha. She knew he was a man who loved God. She wanted to help him.

One day, the woman got an idea. She asked her husband to build a small room on their roof for Elisha. Elisha could stay with them and have his own private room when he traveled to different towns.

The family built the room and put a bed, table, chair and lamp in the room for him. Elisha enjoyed having a special place to stay when he came to town.

One day when Elisha was in his little room he thought about the woman's kindness. He asked her how he could help her. She told him that she had everything that she needed. Elisha's friend told him that she did not have any children.

Elisha asked the woman to come to his door. He told her that she would have a child in the next year. The woman was shocked and excited. She had wanted a child for so long.

Just as Elisha said, God helped the woman have a little baby boy the next year. He

### Lesson Goals

**Show how the woman turned to God when she was in pain**  
**Explain how God answers prayer**  
**Share how the kindness of helping others comes back to you**

grew up and helped his mother and father.

One day the boy ran to his father in the fields. He was holding his head yelling “My head, my head!” His father had him taken to his mother inside the house. She held him all morning. He died in her arms around noon.

The woman knew that Elisha was a special man of God. She put the boy’s body on Elisha’s bed and asked her husband for a donkey. She traveled quickly by donkey to find Elisha. She knew that he would be at God’s mountain. (Teachers, this was probably a 25 mile journey!)

As she was approaching, Elisha’s friend noticed her and Elisha asked him to find out why she was coming to see him. She told him that everything was OK but kept traveling to see Elisha to talk to him about what happened.

When she saw him, she fell down at his feet and sobbed. Elisha knew something horrible had happened. He asked his friend to take his stick and travel to her house and lay the stick on the boy’s face. The woman would not leave Elisha, so he traveled back with her.

The road to her town seemed so far especially when she knew that the boy needed Elisha’s help. On the way, Elisha’s friend met them, sharing that the boy was still dead.

When Elisha got to the home, he immediately went up to his room and stretched out and prayed for the boy. The boy’s body got warm. Elisha got up and walked back and forth. He was praying to God for help. Then he stretched out over the boy again and a miracle happened! The boy sneezed 7 times and opened his eyes! The boy was alive! She was so thankful to God and to Elisha for help.

We can see how prayer was important in today’s lesson. God answered a prayer for a child and He helped the child come back to life. God does not always answer prayers this way. What we need to remember is that God listens and hears our prayers. He will always do what is best to help us. That may mean that He answers with a “yes.” It may also mean that God says “no.” When we pray, we must trust God and know that He will do what is best.

In this lesson, the woman made room in her house for Elisha. Do we make room in our heart for God? God does not want a small little closet in our heart, He wants all of us. God did a special miracle to help us just like he helped the boy. He raised Jesus from the dead. Three days after He died on a cross, Jesus came back to life! Jesus did something for us that only He could do. He died on the cross for all the bad things WE have done. If we trust Him and ask Him to come into our lives, we can go to heaven and be with God forever one day. What a miracle. If you want to know how you can ask Jesus into your heart, ask us about it.

**Learning Activities**

Try activities to help the kids learn and apply the lesson.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Share how the woman lived out this verse in today’s lesson. Talk about how we can be kind to others.

**Prayer Time**

Thank God for hearing our prayers. Ask Him to help with needs that you have. Thank Him for listening and caring for us.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Clean up loose papers etc. Share snacks together or give as they leave the room.

Planning for Lesson 64  
A little girl helps Naaman  
2 Kings 5:1-15a

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Elisha and the woman

Back and forth Elisha traveled on a little road. One day a good woman noticed him and invited him to dinner with her family. She was very kind to Elisha. She knew that he was a messenger for God. He went from place to place telling people what God said.

To help Elisha, the woman built a little room for him. It was a perfect place for him to stay when he passed through town. It had a bed, table, chair and lamp. Elisha thanked the woman for her kindness. He even told her that she would have a baby soon. She was so excited. She could not believe God's kindness to her.

Just as promised, she had a baby boy. He grew up and helped his mother and father. One day something awful happened. His head began to hurt. He ran to his father yelling, "my head, my head!" His mother held him in her arms and he died. She laid him on Elisha's bed. She hopped on a donkey and headed straight to see Elisha. She knew that God could help her boy.

When Elisha got to the home, he immediately went up to his room and stretched out and prayed for the boy. The boy's body got warm. Elisha got up and walked back and forth. He was praying to God for help. Then he stretched out over the boy again and a miracle happened! The boy sneezed 7 times (count to 7) and opened his eyes! The boy was alive! She was so thankful to God and to Elisha for help.

We can pray and ask God for help too. He listens and wants to help us.

Sing, "God is so good." Talk about ways that God has been good to us.

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Elisha and the woman

Make puppets by attaching sticks to the back of the pictures. Use the puppets to act out the story.

Prayer is an important part of today's lesson. Take time praying for needs today. Talk about ways that God answers prayers (yes, maybe/wait, no). Share examples for your life of how God answered your prayers.

Bring a ball and call it the "Kindness Ball." As the kids bounce the ball to someone, they have to share a way that they can be kind to others. Be sure everyone has a chance to play.

The woman in today's lesson was not kind to Elisha so that she would receive something in return. She was kind because she knew it was the best thing to do to help others. She lived out our verse today of "do to others as we would like them to do for us." Sure enough, the kindness that she shared with Elisha, came back to her! God wants us to be kind to others, not to receive something, but because we must obey Him.

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