



THE STORY @ HOME

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

Lesson #2-7
1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

LAST WEEK

We learned that God chose David, a shepherd boy, to become king. It was an unexpected choice. However, God elevates the humble David. David loved God. David's gifts were given to him so that he could make the world a better place.

THIS WEEK: 11/1 & 11/5

King Ahab has the people worship Baal. He is confronted by Elijah and a powerful display of the power of the one true God (1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39).

STORY SUMMARY

King Ahab and his wife Jezebel have pressured the people of Israel to follow the false god Baal. Led by God, Elijah challenges the priests of Baal to a prayer competition on the top of Mount Carmel. The priests will pray to Baal and Elijah will pray to the God of Israel to send fire from the sky to burn up an animal sacrifice. Elijah allows the believers in Baal to go first. But no matter how loud the people cry out, their god does not answer. When it is Elijah's turn, he covers his sacrifice with water; yet, when he prays to God, everything on that altar burns. The people of

THE POINT

A good leader leads us back to God.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

How Can We Understand Miracle Stories?

There are many miracles in the Bible. The miracles usually reveal something about God, such as God's power or how much God cares about God's people. Many of the miracles in the Bible include natural miracles. These miracles involve miracles where God demonstrates control over natural elements like earthquakes, water, or fire. Today's story includes a natural miracle where God sends fire from heaven. Another common type of miracle in the Bible is healing. These miracles include Elijah's raising of the widow's son from the dead and Elisha's healing of a man with leprosy. There are many people who perform miracles in the Bible, including Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Elisha, and Jesus.

PRACTICE: WORSHIP

A central focus of this story is worship. The people had begun to worship a false God, and needed to be reminded to turn their focus back to worshipping the God of the Israelites. Sometimes we lose our focus as well, and must be reminded to return to worshipping the one true God. Create a small altar where your

NEXT WEEK

The prophet Hosea speaks God's message, showing God as a loving and anguished parent (Hosea 11:1-9).

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ In what way does this text teach about the theme about God's Way of Leading?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Day 1 —Read 1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

Fire from heaven.

Sometimes fans chant at sporting events the phrase, "We're Number One!" Chant together as a family, but this time change the words to those found in 1 Kings 18, "The Lord alone is God."

Day 2 —Read 1 Kings 18:41-46

The drought ends.

As you read this passage, drink a nice refreshing glass of water.

Day 3 —Read 1 Kings 19:1-8

Elijah on the run.

Walk and walk and walk as you hear this story. End in a cave: a closet, small room, or blanket fort. Talk about running away from things that you fear.

Day 4 —Read 1 Kings 19:9-18

Elijah at Mount Horeb.

Shhh. Listen to the silence. What do you hear God saying to you?

Day 5 —Read 1 Kings 19:19-21

Elijah and Elisha.

Who do you admire enough that you would leave everything and follow?

Day 6 —Read 2 Kings 1:1-8

Elijah and Ahaziah.

When have you had to bring bad news to someone? How did you feel?

Day 7 —Read 2 Kings 1:9-17

More fire from heaven.

Watch a candle flame or a fire in a fireplace as you read this passage. Make a list of things, both good and bad, that fire can do.