

Adventures with GOD!

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH (C.2.FALL.2)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 17:7-24
Key Verse	Mark 10:27
Key Concept	Everything is possible with God! For Him nothing is impossible. God works miracles in my life.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell things they have learned from the life of Elijah. 2. Give testimony that "all things are possible with God" by retelling the story of Elijah and the widow. 3. Make a list of things impossible for humans, but not impossible for God.

Life Application

We have to realize the unmatched power of our God. He can do it all! Daily we see miracles with our own eyes without realizing they are miracles! Today's story tells us about extraordinary miracles, and gives examples of things that God is doing in the world today. Children will learn to see the everyday miracles of God: the birth of a child, the sun and moon, the fruit of a tree, being cured of a disease, having an accident and surviving and many other things. This week the children will make a list of requests to God, remembering that nothing is impossible for God.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	Papers, pencils	10 minutes
Dialogue	See instructions	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Art, bible	20 minutes
Activity	Brochures, pencils, Bible	15 minutes
Craft	Paper, scissors, crayons	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their Adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find My GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do so first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out-stretched, palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the biblical reference for the day (1 Kings 17:7-24) two times and ask the children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the story?

Atmosphere: The focus of today's lesson is that nothing is impossible with God. Decorate the classroom with illustrations or pictures of miracles or difficult situations. If you have time find images in magazines or old newspapers of impossible situations for humans, such as divorce, war, natural disasters such as droughts, earthquakes, floods and incurable diseases such as AIDS, cancer, etc. Make a large collage and entitle it: "There is nothing impossible for God!" Ask the children to add to the collage with situations that seem impossible to fix, but that we can present before God, knowing that there is nothing impossible for him. Whenever children see these words the concept will be reinforced in their hearts. Invite them to sing songs that express the theme, and as they sing, they can roam around the classroom looking at the posters and artwork on the walls.

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Activity and Dialogue: Give a copy of "Getting to know Elijah". Everyone must work individually. After they have completed their research, open dialogue time based on the information they found. Whenever possible reinforce the idea that nothing is impossible with God.

Bible Exploration: Review the story from last week (1 Kings 17:8-16) and then read 1 Kings 17:7-24. Again, ask the children to identify the problem and the miracle that is found in these verses. What does the woman need? What miracle(s) does Elijah perform? What do you think the woman felt when God supplied the flour and oil and then when God healed her son? What would her reaction have been? How do you feel when you read this story?

Activity: Today they can keep adding information to their booklets, "Classified Information". The information is found in these verses:

Task: 1 Kings 17:9

Miracles: 1 Kings 17:14-16, 1 Kings 17:19-23

Problems: 1 Kings 17:12, 1 Kings 17:7

Craft: Cut out and color the symbol of the jar as a reminder of today's story. Write the key Bible verse on the back of the symbol. Store this symbol in a folder as it will be used later in the construction of the mobile.

Prayer: The focus of prayer is gratitude because nothing is impossible with God. Sometimes we get discouraged by problems and feel we cannot do anything. But the great thing in all of this is to remember that there is someone on our side who can do everything to provide for our greatest needs. Our trust and faith must be in God. Praise God for the daily miracles that God performs. Ask the children what requests they have and want to present before God. Pray together. Continue to promote an environment where children share the deeper things of life.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story)

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead)

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O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week)

W: Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

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Worksheet – GETTING TO KNOW ELIJAH

1. In the verses below you will find some interesting details about Elijah and his life (If you are working as a team, each person must have their own sheet. If you prefer, verses can be distributed among participants). Read each verse and write down what you learn about Elijah from that verse. Share your answers with your classmates if you are working with a team. You must fill in all spaces.

- 1 Kings 17:5
- 1 Kings 17:24
- 1 Kings 18:46
- 1 Kings 19:3
- 2 Kings 1:8
- 2 Kings 2:11
- Mark 9:2-5
- James 5:17

2. Why was Elijah called to be a prophet in Israel?

(See 1 Kings 19:10)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

(This verse helps us understand why it was so difficult for Elijah to be a prophet in Israel).

3. You will be given a worksheet with a circle drawn on it; color in the circle with color that represents the prophet Elijah to you. Then explain why you chose this color.

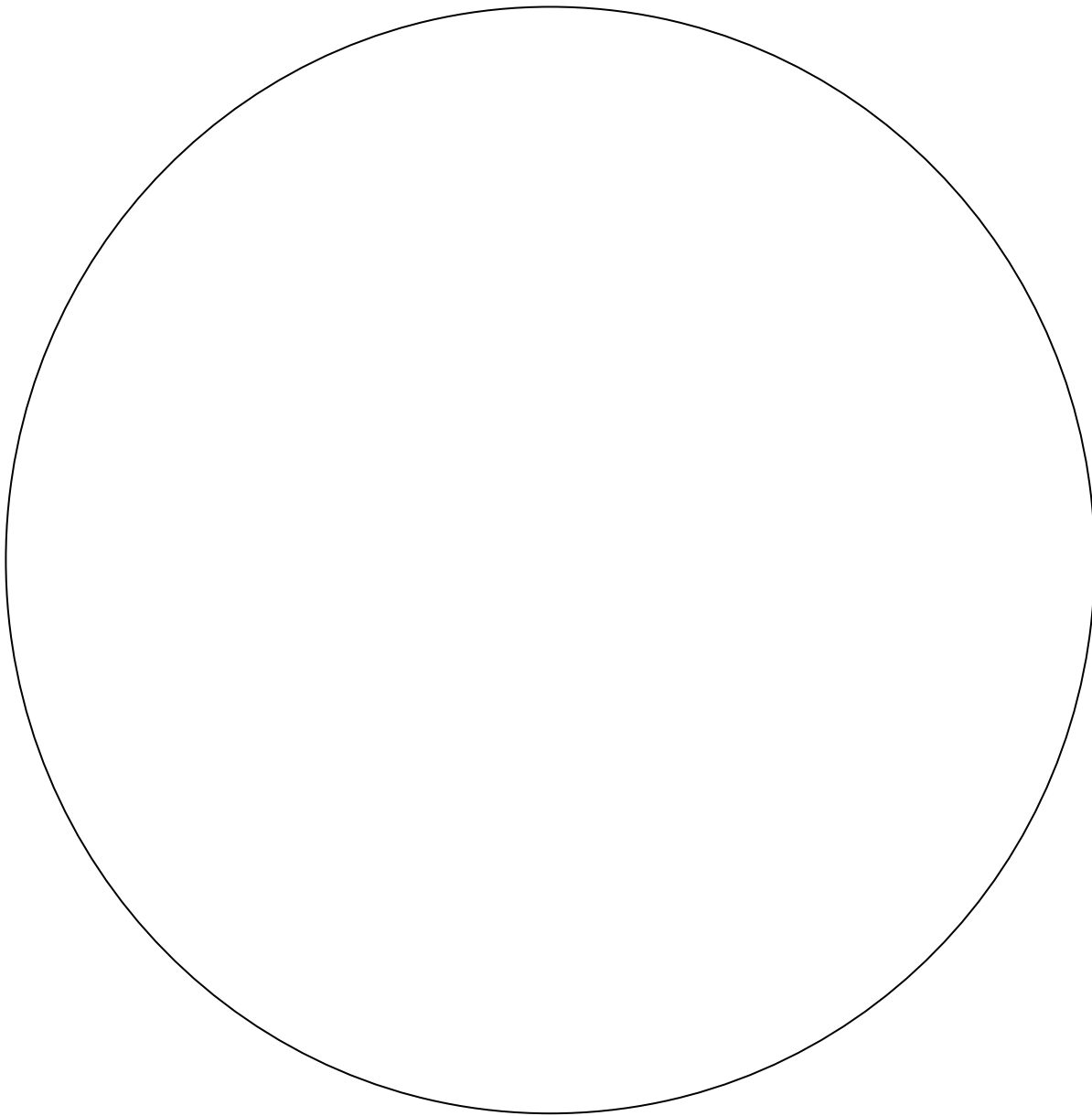
4. Draw (on the back of this sheet) something that shows an aspect of the personality of Elijah.

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Pattern

Circle for worksheet

Fill the circle with the color that for you represents the prophet Elijah. Then explain why you chose that color.



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Worksheet

Answers: GETTING TO KNOW ELIJAH

Children can answer in their own words; the activity is to think for themselves.

1.

1 Kings 17:5, Elijah did what the Lord said.

1 Kings 17:24, Elijah was a man of God who spoke the truth, truth in the word of God.

1 Kings 18:46-The power of God was on Elijah.

1 Kings 19:30-Elijah was afraid (as a human he naturally felt fear in times of danger).

2 Kings 1:8, Elijah was a man wearing a shaggy coat and a leather belt. He was a Tishbite.

2 Kings 2:11, Elijah was taken to heaven in fiery chariot.

Mark 9:2-5, Elijah appeared with Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration.

James 5:17 Elijah was a man like us and prayed with fervor.

2.

1) Israel had rejected God's covenant.

2) Israel had collapsed the altars of God.

3) Israel had killed the prophets of God.

3. Any color is acceptable.

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Illustration
Elijah with the widow



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Pattern for Mobile
JAR

