

Adventures with GOD!

ELIJAH AND THE PROPHETS OF BAAL (C.2.FALL.3)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 18:18-39
Key Verse	Philippians 4:6
Key Concept	God is almighty and answers my prayers.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal. 2. Explain the work of Elijah, the miracles and the problem in today's story. 3. Explain the importance of prayer in God's plan for his people.

Life Application

God is the Almighty. God can do everything. But God wants us to speak intimately with Him and He expects us to live by faith. God works through the prayers of his people. Prayer is very important in the lives of Christians. Today's story shows how God acted in Elijah's life as Elijah prayed to God. This lesson will encourage children to pray for specific needs, knowing that God wants us to pray with faith (trust).

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	Paper or fabric, markers, crayons, Bible	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Illustrations or Figures	10 minutes
Game	Instructions	10 minutes
Activity	Booklets, Bible	10 minutes
Craft	Paper, crayons, pencils, scissors	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 18:18-39) two times and ask 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: It is important that each week you hang pictures, phrases, verses, figures on the walls to help children focus on the most important lessons of the class. For example, today you can cut many hands praying (model is attached) and put them on every wall. Also cut out the words of the key verse and hang them somewhere visible at eye level so children can see them when seated.

Activity: Read these verses (or the children can read them): Luke 18:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:17 and Philippians 4:6. Then provide them with materials to make some flags using their own phrases (such as "pray without ceasing", "God Hears My Prayer", "Pray continually") and praying hands. The flags can be made of cardstock paper, cardboard or cloth. When finished, hang the flags from the ceiling of the classroom or extend a clothesline across the wall and hang them there.

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Bible Exploration: Before starting to tell the story, explain that they have to pay attention to the details of the story, because then they will play a game to review the story. Tell the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:18-39), in your own words. Use illustrations. The version of the Good News Bible has some. Ask reflective questions like, "I wonder what Elijah felt as he challenged the other prophets?" "I wonder what the other prophets were thinking when they saw Elijah's prayer answered?"

Game: "Zonk" (instructions on page 6).

Activity: Keep making the brochures "Classified Information". Today's verses are:

Tasks: 1 Kings 18:19

Miracle: 1 Kings 18:33-39

Problem: 1 Kings 18:18

Craft: Give a copy of the illustration of the altar for them to cut to color, write the key verse on the back of it and then save it with the other symbols to be used in the mobile.

Prayer: Use the time to talk about prayer and the blessing and responsibility it is to pray. Explain to the children that God answers our prayers in different ways. Sometimes we know the answer to our prayers immediately. Sometimes it may seem as if God does not answer our prayers right away or in the way we expected. God wants us to come with faith and trust as we present our needs before him. God can do more than we can even imagine. Pray together thanking God for the power in prayer! Ask the children what specific needs they want to pray to God about. Again, provide an environment where children feel confident in sharing their requests with others

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?

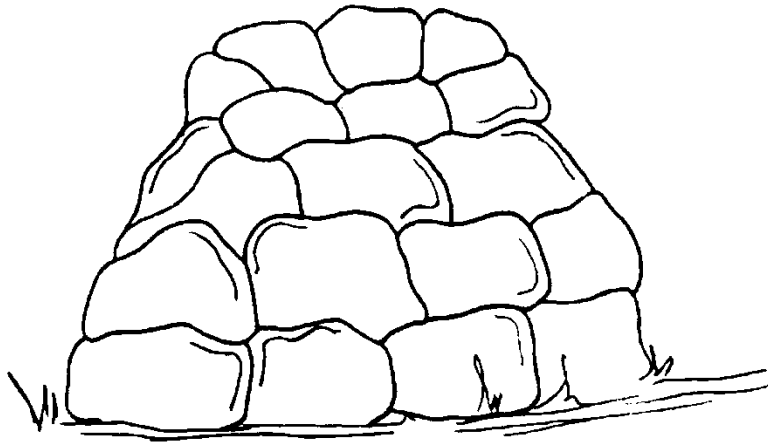
Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded,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

Praying hands and an altar



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Game

Zonk - Elijah and the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18:18-39)

Preparation: Cut circles Zonk (attached). As seen, most of the circles have a certain number of points written on the back. Other circles have the word "Zonk" written on them, which means the player loses his or her turn and all points earned in that round.

How to play:

1. Put all the circles on a table or on the floor with the score or the word "Zonk" upside down.
2. Use the questions below or ask additional questions based on the story of Elijah. You can play this game with individual players or in teams. Either the player or the team should give the answer. If the participant or team responds well, they can turn the card over to see how many points they receive. Then, they can make the decision to continue answering questions or to stop.
3. If one of the cards that turn says the word "Zonk" the player or team loses all points earned in that round and lose their turn to another participant or team.
4. The team or person that points more points wins the game.

Questions

1. How many prophets of Baal and Asherah were there? (450 of Baal and 400 of Asherah)
2. What did they put on the altar? (A bull)
3. How long did they invoke Baal? (From morning until noon)
4. Who was Baal? (An idol, a false god)
5. What did Elijah do while they invoked Baal? (Mocked them)
6. What did Elijah say about Baal? (Maybe he is busy, or on vacation or sleeping)
7. Who said, 'Maybe he's asleep and we have to wake him up'? (Elijah)
8. What else did the prophets of Baal do to get their gods' attention? (Cut themselves with swords and spears)
9. What did Elijah put around the altar? (A trench)
10. How many liters of grain fit into the ditch? (20)
11. How many buckets of water were emptied on the altar and the wood? (4)
12. How many times did they? (3)
13. Who Does Elijah offer his sacrifice to? (God, Jehovah)
14. What happened when Elijah prayed to God? (Fire fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the dust and the water in the ditch)

Note: You can add more questions. Even ask things from the previous class as a refresher.

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Patterns for game Zonk

Create numerous circles like the ones below. Give a number of points to each of them and on others of them write the word "Zonk" which means you lose all points.

