

# Adventures with GOD!

## THE CALL OF ELISHA (C.2.FALL.5)

Biblical Reference	1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21
Key Verse	John 12:26
Key Concept	God gives me instructions and asks me to follow him.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compare how the two prophets Elijah and Elisha followed God.</li> <li>2. Tell the story of Elisha's calling.</li> <li>3. Name five ways God is giving instructions for their lives.</li> </ol>

### Life Application

Each person needs to understand the importance of following the provisions of God for his or her life. The difficulty is to know when God is speaking and how to understand God's instructions. Children need to know that there are very specific ways to understand God's commands. Through this lesson the children will learn that God guides us and gives us instructions and asks that we are willing to hear, seek and obey.

### 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	Worksheets	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, blackboard, paper	10 minutes
Activity	Booklet, bible	15 minutes
Dialogue	See instructions	10 minutes
Game	Instructions, cards	15 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 that 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 19:15-16,19-21) 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?

**Activity:** Every child should have the worksheet entitled "Getting to know Elisha". If you prefer can work in groups (3 or 4 in each group). When finished the children can share their answers.

**Bible Exploration:** The story is found in 1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21. The appeal is in the v. 19 and Elisha's response in vv.20-21. (Elisha left his past life completely and gave himself to the service of Elijah, the prophet of God). Use illustrations, drama, actions, whatever it takes for the children to "experience" what Elisha lived. Ask questions about what both men might have experienced as they followed God's instructions.

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**Activity:** Keep working on the booklet "Classified Information". This week we will add the information from these verses:

Tasks: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19

Problems: 1 Kings 19:20

**Dialogue:** Open the dialogue time, spending time talking about God's instructions for our life. Use a white board or sheet of paper to make a list of the different ways through which God sends his instructions:

1. Prayer
2. The Bible
3. Listen to the wise counsel of adult Christians worthy of trust and respect
4. Think; use your mind to find out about their preferences, tastes, talents, spiritual gifts, etc.
5. Do: by walking, investigate, question, help, work, etc... God wants to move us, direct us to do what God has planned for us. He wants to give us instructions, but often cannot because we are "frozen"!

**Activity:** Using the game "Memory" can reinforce the different ways of knowing God's instructions. Please find the instructions in the following pages.

## **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).

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).

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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 Elisha

1. You can find details of the life of Elisha reading the verses below. (If are working in a team everyone can read a verse and then share the details).

- The work of Elisha -1 Kings 19:19
- The father of Elisha -1 Kings 19:19
- Elisha's strength -2 Kings 6:18
- Elisha's appearance -2 Kings 2:23
- How Elisha was seen by others -2 Kings 3:11-12

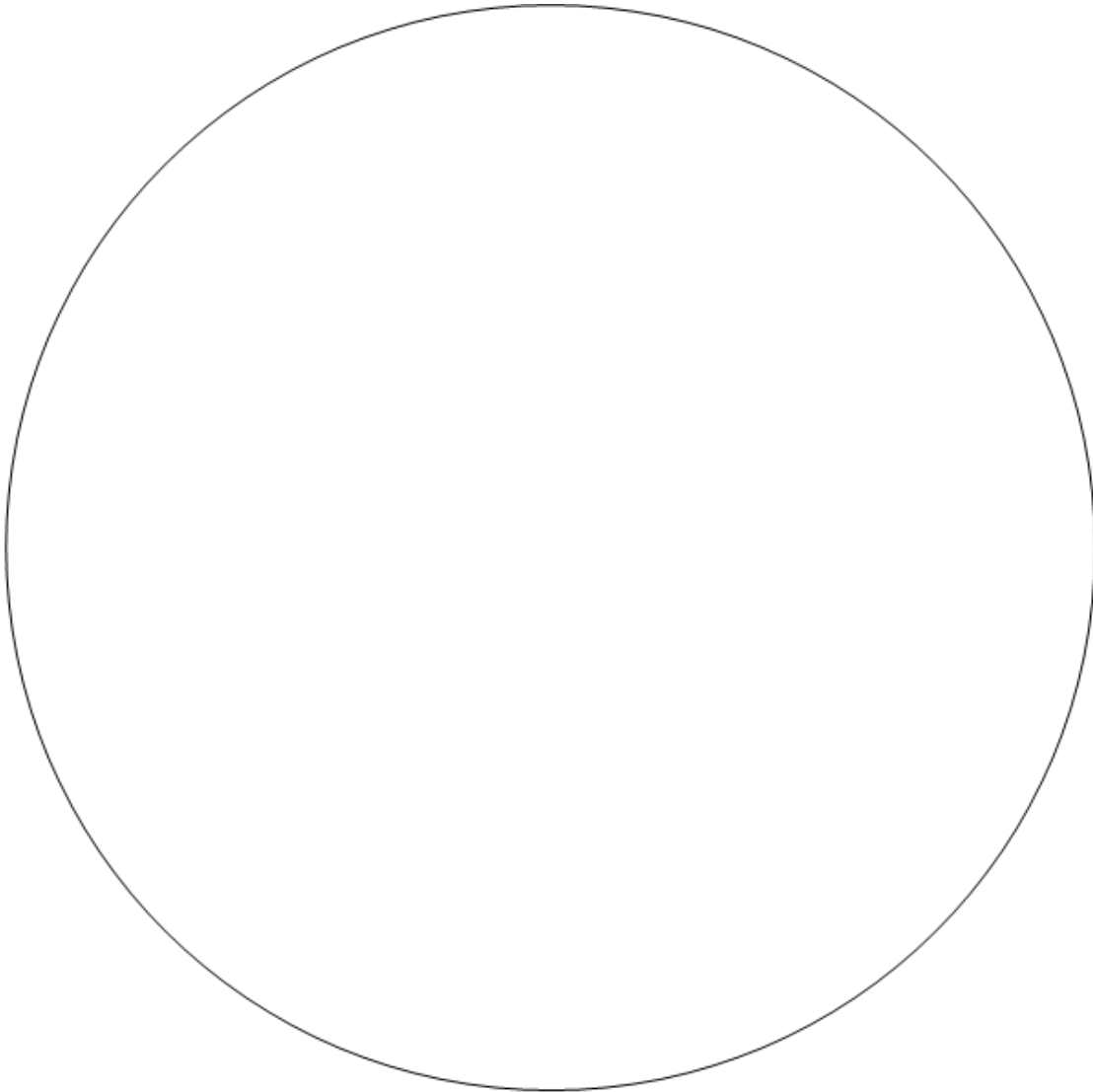
2. Color the circle using the color that represents the life of Elisha to you. Then explain why you chose that color.

3. Draw something that shows the personality of Elisha.

**“Anyone who serves me must follow me. And where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves me” (John 12:26)**

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**Pattern** - Circle for worksheet



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## Worksheet

Answers: Getting to know Elisha

1. Elisha's work – farmer

Elisha's father – Yafni

Elisha's strength – the Lord

Elisha's appearance – bald

How others saw Elisha - a prophet, the word of God was with him

Where Elisha's strength came from and what he could achieve – find the details in the passage

2. Any color is acceptable, let children explain why they used the colors they chose.

3. Have the children share their drawings.

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## Game

### Memory

#### Preparation:

1. Make a game for two children or team. Teams are formed with 2-4 children. Arrange the game so that everyone can play.

2. Put the following sentences (two for each game) on slips of paper or cards of the same size. As they make a match have them talk about whether it is an appropriate way to follow God's ways and follow God's instructions.

- prayer
- read the Bible
- listen to wise counsel
- use their intelligence
- do something for God
- guess the correct number
- do what he wants
- do what others want
- do nothing
- don't think of God
- make a decision tomorrow



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To play the game:

1. Put the cards face down in 4 rows of 6 (on the floor or on a table)
2. In turn each player turns over two cards. If they do not match, the player turns the cards back over, trying to remember where they are. Then someone from the other team does the same.
3. If the cards are equal the player reads the phrase and explains if it's one of the ways to know God's instructions for life or not. If the person answers correctly, the team will win the pair of cards and continue turning over cards until they don't make a match or answer incorrectly.
4. The game continues until they find the 11 pairs of cards. The team with the most pairs wins.