

Lesson 94

God Calls Elisha

Elisha left his home to follow Elijah and to become a prophet of God.

Studying God's Word

Lesson Time

Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

Have the students assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, and any items you prepared for this lesson.

Prayer

This prayer time is designed to help the students begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to encourage them to pray.

We start our Bible lesson with prayer. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there.

Today let's say prayers of supplication and ask God to help us.

I'll start. Dear God, would you please . . . (insert personal prayer here).

Pass a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—around the circle, giving all the students an opportunity to pray, or choose a volunteer to stand beside you and pray.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll answer our Bible Truth questions.

I love you prayers—Adoration
I'm sorry prayers—Confession
I'm thankful prayers—Thanksgiving
Please prayers—Supplication

Bible Truths

These four questions will be repeated each week to help the students learn foundational truths.

Is there more than one true God? No. There is only one true God.
Who deserves our praise and worship? Only God.
What word means God cannot sin and hates all sin? Holy.
God must punish sin because he is what? Just.

Bible Treasure Hunt

Before Bible Treasure Hunt, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Each week before class, hide your Bible somewhere in the room. Use different methods each week to keep the students excited about finding the Bible. For example, you might set a timer, play music while the students search, tell students when they are getting warmer and colder, or choose a student to hide the Bible and let you or classmates find it.

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. God's Word is true, and we can always trust what it says. It's like a great treasure that tells us about who God is and what he has done for us. But where is this treasure? You will have to help me with that. We're going to go on a Bible Treasure Hunt. Somewhere in this room, I've hidden the Bible. When I say, "Go," you will need to look for it. Whoever finds the Bible must bring it back to their seat and hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about today! Explain the method you chose for today. Ready? Set! Go!

K-1st Lesson continues next.

Pre-K Lesson

K-1st Lesson

Pre-K Lesson

Review

Refer to Elijah (#25) on the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. We've been learning about one of the great Old Testament prophets, Elijah. God called Elijah to bring his messages to the people of Israel.

Refer to Lesson 92 Flip Chart. When King Ahab and his wife, Queen Jezebel, brought Baal worship to Israel, Elijah challenged the false prophets on Mount Carmel.

How did God show his power over Baal in the contest on Mount Carmel? He sent fire from heaven to consume Elijah's sacrifice, the altar, and even the water around the altar.

The people of Israel saw that the Lord was the true God, and the prophets of Baal were destroyed. But Queen Jezebel was very angry.

What did she threaten to do to Elijah? Kill him.

Refer to Lesson 93 Flip Chart. Elijah ran for his life. He was very sad that things hadn't changed in Israel. God encouraged Elijah then told him to find a man named Elisha and anoint him to be the next prophet in his place.

Elisha Becomes a Prophet

When Elijah found Elisha working in his field, he tossed his cloak on Elisha's back as a sign that God was calling him to leave his home and learn from Elijah. For about 20 years they worked and traveled together as the prophet Elijah taught Elisha many things.

One day they went to the Jordan River. Elijah rolled up his cloak and struck the water with it, and God caused the river to split so the men could cross over on dry ground.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Suddenly chariots and horses of fire appeared and moved between Elijah and Elisha. Then a whirlwind, like a tornado, picked up Elijah and took him up to heaven.

Elisha was very sad to see his good friend go. But he picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen and went back to the Jordan River.

Elisha hit the water. What do you think happened next? Allow guesses.

The water parted again so Elisha could walk across. This miracle was a sign that God had chosen Elisha to take Elijah's place. Elijah was gone, but God still had work for Elisha to do.

God Helps the Widow

God performed miracles through his prophet Elisha to help people in need and to show people who the true God is. Let's look at two of those miracles. The first miracle was for a family who needed help—and it had to do with olive oil!

Have olive oil and olives/pictures ready to show.

Show the olive oil. Olive oil is made by pressing and squeezing olives. Show picture of olives or jar of olives, if available. You may want to allow students to taste olives.

Today, we use olive oil a lot in cooking. But oil back in Bible times was used for many things, like lighting lamps, cooking, and making medicine and perfume.

Have copies of the Widow's Oil Skit printed and props ready.

Widow's Oil Skit(Based on 2 Kings 4:1–7)

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's look at the miracle God did using oil. It's found in 2 Kings, chapter 4. Have the student bring up the Bible and turn to the sticky note. Show the students where 2 Kings is in the Bible.

I need five volunteers to act out what happened. Follow the directions in the Widow's Oil Skit to set up the scene and perform the skit, then continue the lesson.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Let's see if you can answer some questions about this miracle we saw in the skit.

The poor widow had to pay some money. But if she couldn't, the law said the creditor, who wanted his money, could take her sons to work as his slaves.

Whom did the widow go to for help? Elisha.

What did Elisha tell her to borrow from her neighbors? Jars, bowls, pots.

What miracle did God do when the widow poured oil into the pots and jars? He kept her bottle from emptying as she filled up all the borrowed pots and jars with oil.

God provided for this widow by giving her as much oil as she needed to sell—all from her one little jar! Isn't that amazing?

God Revives the Boy

Elisha's next miracle was also for a woman. This lady was married and wealthy. She knew Elisha was God's prophet, so she made him a special guest room where he could stay whenever he came to her town.

Elisha and his servant, Gehazi, were really glad for this safe and comfortable place to stay. Elisha asked Gehazi, "What nice thing could we do for this woman to show our thankfulness?"

Gehazi answered, "She has no son, and her husband is old." Elisha prayed and asked God to give the woman a son. And sure enough, the next year, she had a baby boy.

The woman was overjoyed to be a mother and watch her son grow. But one day, something terrible happened! When the boy was out in the field with his father, he cried out, "Oh, my head, my head!"

Something was wrong! His father told a servant to take the boy to his mother, but there was nothing she could do. Her son sat on her lap for a little while, and then he died!

The woman laid her dead son on the bed in Elisha's room and went straight to Elisha. When Elisha heard about the boy, he gave his servant Gehazi instructions to heal the boy. Gehazi obeyed, but nothing happened! Was the boy gone for good? Or would God perform another miracle?

Elisha went into the room and closed the door behind him. Then Elisha prayed. He knew God was the only one who could help him. Elisha stretched himself over the child, and the boy's skin started to feel warm again!

2 Kings 4:35

We'll read what Elisha did next in 2 Kings 4:35. Read the verse.

What happened the second time Elisha stretched out over the boy? The boy sneezed seven times and then woke up/came back to life!

The woman was so happy. God showed his mighty power over death by using Elisha to bring this boy back to life!

Only our omnipotent (all-powerful) God could do miracles like the ones we talked about today. God was with Elisha, and he used his miracles to show people that he is the only true God.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game below.

K-1st Lesson

Review

Refer to Elijah (#25) on the Exodus to Malachi Timeline. We've been learning about one of the great Old Testament prophets, Elijah. God called Elijah to bring his messages to the people of Israel.

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What did she threaten to do to Elijah? Kill him.

Refer to Lesson 93 Flip Chart. Elijah ran for his life. He was very sad that things hadn't changed in Israel. God encouraged Elijah then told him to find a man named Elisha and anoint him to be the next prophet in his place.

Elisha Becomes a Prophet

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Today, we'll read in 2 Kings about Elisha and how he became the next prophet, and we'll look at some miracles God did through him.

Elijah found Elisha working in his field. When Elijah walked by, he tossed his cloak on Elisha's back. Elisha understood that this was a sign that God was calling him to leave his home and follow Elijah and learn from him. Elijah taught and trained Elisha for about 20 years as they worked and traveled together.

One day, Elijah and Elisha went to the Jordan River. When they came to the water, Elijah rolled up his cloak and struck the water with it. God caused the river to split so the men could cross over on dry ground.

2 Kings 2:11

Listen to what happened next. Have the student bring up the Bible and turn to the sticky note. Read the verse.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. As they were walking and talking, what suddenly appeared? Chariots and horses of fire.

Right! God sent chariots and horses of fire that came between the two men.

And how was Elijah taken up into heaven? In a whirlwind.

Wow! First came fiery horses and chariots, then came a whirlwind, like a tornado or windy storm that took Elijah away.

Elisha was very sad to see his good friend go. But he picked up Elijah's cloak that had fallen and went back to the Jordan River.

What do you think Elisha did with Elijah's cloak when he came to the river? Allow discussion.

Elisha struck the water. And what do you think happened next? Allow guesses.

The water parted again so Elisha could walk across. This miracle was a sign that God had chosen Elisha to take Elijah's place. Elijah was gone, but God still had work for Elisha to do.

God Helps the Widow

God performed miracles through his prophet Elisha to help people in need and to bring glory to God so people would know who the true God is. Let's look at a couple of those miracles. The first one was for a family in a terrible situation—and it had to do with olive oil!

Have olive oil and olives/pictures ready to show.

Show the olive oil. Olive oil is made by pressing and squeezing olives. Show picture of olives or jar of olives, if available. You may want to allow students to taste olives.

Today, we use olive oil a lot in cooking. But oil back in Bible times was really important. People used it in many ways: for lighting lamps; for cooking; for making medicine, perfume, and skin treatments; and as anointing oil.

Have copies of the Widow's Oil Skit printed and props ready.

Widow's Oil Skit(Based on 2 Kings 4:1–7)

Let's look at the miracle God did using oil. I need five volunteers to act out this event. Follow the directions in the Widow's Oil Skit to set up the scene and perform the skit, then continue with the lesson.

Refer to the Flip Chart. Let's see if you can answer some questions about this miracle we saw in the skit.

What was the widow's problem? She owed money but didn't have enough to pay the creditor.

The poor widow had to pay some money. But if she couldn't, the law said the creditor, the man who wanted his money, could take her sons to work as his slaves.

What did Elisha tell her to borrow? Jars, bowls, and pots from her neighbors. What was the widow told to do with the one small jar of oil in her house? Pour oil from her jar into the jars she borrowed.

What miracle did God do when the widow followed Elisha's instructions? He kept her bottle from emptying as she filled up all the borrowed jars with oil. What did the widow do with all the oil? Sold it to pay her debt and buy food for her family.

God provided for this widow in her time of need. He took care of her problem by giving her as much oil as she needed—all from her one little jar! Isn't that amazing?

God Revives the Boy

Elisha's next miracle was also for a woman. This lady was married and wealthy. She knew Elisha was God's prophet, so she made him a special guest room where he could stay whenever he came to her town.

Elisha and his servant, Gehazi, were really glad for this safe and comfortable place to stay. Elisha asked Gehazi, "What nice thing could we do for her to show our thankfulness?"

Gehazi answered, "She has no son, and her husband is old." So, Elisha prayed and asked God to give this woman a son. And sure enough, the next year, her baby boy was born just as Elisha had prayed.

Well, the woman was overjoyed to finally be a mother and watch her son grow. But one day, something terrible happened! When the boy was out in the field with his father, he cried out, "Oh, my head, my head!"

Something was wrong! His father told a servant to take the boy to his mother, but there was nothing she could do. Her son sat on her lap for a little while, and then he died! This was terrible! Her son was a gift from God. Why would God give her a son just to take him away so soon?

But, the woman didn't panic. Instead, she laid her dead son on the bed in Elisha's room and went straight to Elisha. When Elisha heard about the boy, he gave his servant Gehazi instructions to heal the boy. Gehazi obeyed, but nothing happened! Was the boy gone for good? Or would God perform another miracle?

2 Kings 4:33–35

We'll read what happened next in 2 Kings 4. Read the verses.

What was the first thing Elisha did after he shut the door? Verse 33.
Prayed.

What happened to the boy's flesh, or skin, the first time Elisha lay on the child? Verse 34. The flesh of the child became warm.

And what happened the second time Elisha stretched out over the boy? Verse 35. The boy sneezed seven times and then woke up/came back to life!

The woman was so happy that she bowed at Elisha's feet in thanks-giving. God showed his mighty power over death by using Elisha to bring this boy back to life!

Only our omnipotent (all-powerful) God could do miracles like the ones we talked about today. God was with Elisha, and he used his miracles to show people that he was the only true God.

Continue with the Lesson Review Game.

Lesson Review

We all learn best with review and repetition! We encourage you to play a lesson review game.

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