

September 14-15, 2019

4th-5th Lesson

Unit 13, Session 3

Elijah and Elisha

2 Kings 2

Story Point: God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet.



Open your Bible and read aloud 2 Kings 2, or tell the story from the following Bible story script.

God told the prophet Elijah (ih LIGH juh) **to find a man named Elisha** (ih LIGH shuh). **Elisha would be a prophet to Israel after Elijah.** So **Elijah** obeyed God. He **found Elisha** plowing a field, **and Elisha followed Elijah and served him.**

When the time came for the Lord to take Elijah up to heaven, Elijah and Elisha traveled to Gilgal. At Gilgal, **Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The LORD is sending me to Bethel."** But Elisha said, **"As long as you are alive, I will not leave you."** So they went together to Bethel. At Bethel, **Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The LORD is sending me to Jericho."** But Elisha said, **"As long as you are alive, I will not leave you."** So they went together to Jericho.

At Jericho, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The LORD is sending me to the Jordan River." But Elisha said, **"As long as you are alive, I will not leave you."** So they went together to the Jordan River. A crowd of prophets watched Elijah and Elisha as they stood by the river. **Elijah rolled up his cloak and hit the water with it. The river parted, and they crossed to the other side.**

Elijah asked, "Is there anything I can do for

you before I go?"

Elisha said, "I want a double portion of the spirit that you have."

Elijah said, "If you see me go, you will have it."

Suddenly, a chariot of fire with horses of fire appeared and drove between them. Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.

Elisha watched as Elijah went away. Then he picked up Elijah's cloak and went back to the river. He hit the water, and it parted for him to cross to the other side just as it had for Elijah.

The crowd of prophets was there watching, and they saw that **the spirit that was with Elijah was now with Elisha.** The prophets searched for Elijah, but they could not find him since God had taken him up to heaven.

Christ Connection: God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet. Years later, Jesus told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit. God gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can share the gospel with the world.



INTRODUCE the Story

WELCOME TIME

[Intro Music](#)

Play intro music and greet each kid as he or she arrives. Help new kids connect to your group. Prompt kids to share about a time that someone made a big promise to them. Did that person keep the promise? How did that make them feel?

Large Group

[Video: Countdown](#)

Large Group Game: Office Chair-iots

Supplies: 2 Office Chairs that roll, 2 cones, masking tape

Set up one traffic cone at the back of the room. Use tape to mark a starting line at the front of the room. Choose two teams - one adult male Small Group Leader + three boys and one adult female Small Group Leader + three girls. Roll out the office chair. Instruct everyone that the adults will take turns pushing one kid (sitting in the chair) across the room, around the cone (carefully!) and back to the starting line. Once they return, the first kid hops out and the second kid hops in for his/her ride etc...

Instruct the teams that they will be timed with a stopwatch and whichever team completes all three laps (meaning all three of their kids) in the fastest time is the winner.

SAY • What a fun game! In Bible times, chariots were a popular way to get around, especially for those who were wealthy or powerful. Today we will hear about a time Elijah rode in the back of an incredible kind of chariot. Where might a special chariot carry someone? We'll find out soon.

Worship

[SFX: Game Music](#)

Sing "Let Revolution Start" and "Wave Walker".

[Song: Let Revolution Start](#)

[Song: Wave walker](#)



TEACH the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Following God's great display of power at Mount Carmel, God instructed Elijah to anoint a man named Elisha as prophet after him. Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Watch Video

[Video: Elijah and Elisha](#)

- What does this story teach us about God?

[CG: Question 1](#)

God is powerful! God took Elijah into heaven in a whirlwind. He allowed Elisha to see Elijah taken away, and Elisha received power through God's spirit. The prophets in the crowd saw God's power through Elisha just as they had seen in Elijah.

- How did Elisha know God's spirit was with him?

[CG: Question 2](#)

After Elijah went away, Elisha picked up Elijah's cloak and went back to the Jordan River. He hit the water, and it parted for him to cross to the other side just as it had for Elijah. **The parted water was a sign that Elisha had received power from God.**

CHRIST CONNECTION

God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet. Years later, Jesus told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit. God gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can share the gospel with the world.



Big Picture Question

CG: Big Picture Question

How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

PRAY

Dear God, You are in control of everything! You don't need us, but You allow us to be part of Your plan because You love us. Thank You for Your love today and forever. Amen.

THE GOSPEL: GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.



GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



APPLY the Story

Big Picture Question

How many gods are there?

There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

All throughout the Bible, God shows us that He is in control and is the only real God. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet.

- Do you think there are prophets today?
- Who in your own life has taught you God's Word? What can you share with others?

Distribute Bibles. Guide kids to open their Bibles to 2 Kings 2. Choose a volunteer to read aloud 2 Kings 2:11. Emphasize that when God took Elijah up to heaven, Elijah's responsibilities were passed to Elisha to continue God's work among His people. Choose another volunteer to read aloud 2 Kings 2:11 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. What was significant about the Jordan River parting for Elijah and Elisha?

Prompt kids to recall other instances of waters parting in the Bible. (the Red Sea, the Jordan River) Emphasize that these miracles showed God's presence and power with His people. God's power was in Elijah and also with Elisha when God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 2 Pet. 1:3.)

2. What mission does God call all believers to?

Lead kids to discuss our mission as followers of Jesus—to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus calls us to tell others the good news so they may repent, believe, and have life with Him forever. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 20:21.)

3. Why is the Holy Spirit important to us?

Help kids understand that the Holy Spirit is a gift from God to believers. The Spirit will never leave us. Through the Spirit, God empowers us to carry on His mission of sharing the gospel with the world. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 15:13.)



APPLY the Story

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Supplies: Bibles, classroom object

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to Isaiah 42:8. Lead the kids to read the key passage together. Give one kid an object. She should say the first word of the key passage and pass the object to her left. The next player will say the next word, pass the object, and so on until kids say the entire key passage.

PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God that He allows us to be part of the mission of spreading God's message, the good news about Jesus.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY: Pick Up and Leave Off

Supplies: Paper 1 per kid, pencils

Instruct the kids to find partners. One kid will start the game by doing the first bit of a task, singing the first bit of a song, or drawing the first bit of a picture. After 30 seconds, the partners will switch. The second kid will finish what the first kid started. Play multiple rounds, rotating partners and alternating who starts and who finishes. Provide the kids with guidance by telling them which song to sing, what to start drawing, or what task to begin (such as creating a secret handshake or describing the perfect day). Tell the kids when to switch.

SAY • God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet. Elisha spent some time following Elijah and learning from him. Elisha was ready to take over as God's messenger because of the power God gave him and the time he spent learning from Elijah. KidCity is a place where we can learn about Jesus and His love for us. God wants us to share His love with others and teach them what it looks like to love and obey God. Who can you share the love of Jesus with this week?