



3rd – 5th

September 26-27, 2015

DATE

Elijah

LESSON TITLE

I Kings 18; Phil 4:13

WHERE TO FIND IT

God is the one true God.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (20 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (10 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

The Connect Time game has some possible adaptations noted within the instructions. Ahead of time, plan how you want to play with your team.

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to take their flames!

MAKE SURE EACH KID TAKES HOME A SURVEY POSTCARD (SHOULD BE LOCATED NEAR THE DOOR)

large group heads up

If we're certain that God is truly GOD, we'll act differently. We'll love him, trust him and want to follow him. We'll know that nothing we face is too hard for him. Today, just focus on this story and the miraculous way he revealed himself to hundreds of people. Hopefully, hundreds of kids believe in him today, too!

connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

TWO DIRECTIONS

**Play as a whole group.*

- Have kids stand in a line.
- Tell them they have to start walking whichever direction you tell them.
- Call out directions: forward, backward, left or right
- Begin slowly and let them respond.
- Let a few kids help you if you want. You can have them switch off giving directions. You could also go down the line and have each kid yell out forward, backward, left or right.
- Near the end of your time, get faster...faster...and so fast they can't keep up! You could also have two kids yell directions at the same time.

CONNECT

1. Is it possible to walk two directions at once? Why not?
2. Tell us about a time you had to make a hard choice about which direction to go (like obey your parents or do what you wanted; fail a test or cheat on it; spend time afraid or trust in God; etc.)

Before you go to Large Group, you can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand that God is the one true God and (2) recognize that we can and should follow him.

Why? It's important that kids begin to articulate (or formulate) their belief that God is the one true God, even though they'll begin to attach actions to that belief later.

Tip: This activity would be most effective if you did it *with* them. They may have a variety of answers or responses, and it would be ideal for them to also hear how the story impacts you.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why did Elijah set up a contest between God and Baal? (He knew Ahab believed in Baal, but that Baal was actually a pretend god)
2. What was the contest? (build two altars and see who could bring fire)
3. What happened? (Baal failed; God didn't; people believed in God) Why? (God is real)
4. Why do you think some people worshiped Baal in the first place?
5. What do we worship instead of God? Why? (Consider how worship means we give something love / attention. So if we worry about getting cool stuff or being popular more than following God, we're worshipping money or a particular person. Consider also things that get our attention like our phones, our appearance, etc.)

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Give each kid **a piece of gray paper** and have them wad it into a ball (a rock)
- Build an "altar" in the center of the group (by stacking "rocks")
- Lay out red, orange and yellow quarter sheets of paper. Have each kid take **one piece of paper** (they will need several) and **a marker**.
- Tell them that you will read some statements. They should draw/write their response and throw the "flame" onto the altar. Tell them there's no right or wrong response—just draw or write the very first thing that pops into their heads:
 - God of Elijah, you are awesome!
 - Nothing is impossible for you
 - I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.
 - God, when I don't understand what you're doing, help me to trust.
 - God, let us see more of your incredible power!
- **ASK: How do you want to see God's power this week? (Look at the "fiery" altar and remind kids that God can do anything)**

(Continue on the following page)

***Pray together, and ask God to show his power in each kids' life this week.**

Extra time? Play the Connect Time game again. Or play Pictionary using scenes from the story. You can also review Philippians 4:13 together. Here are the motions:

- **Philippians 4:13** (hold up 4 fingers; then say "thirteen")
- **For I** (point to self)
- **can do everything** (extend palms outward)
- **through Christ,** (point up)
- **who gives me strength.** (flex muscles)

special notes

At the end, kids have a chance to tell God they believe in him today. But if they're not sure yet, they can also talk to God about that. Make sure to set up the response time as a discussion with God, not just a time to repeat "You are God," which is just one suggestion for kids.

presenter tips

Since today's video is longer than usual, it's broken into two parts. Watch it here to prepare to talk to kids about it:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEEw0adshpM>.

script

WELCOME AND INTRO (1 min.)

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. And if it's your first time, I'm really glad you came. Before we get started today, I have some exciting news: you may have heard that Kids' Club has got some brand new awesome songs! **(Click to show the Strong EP image.)** This is what the CD will look like, but we won't be giving out CD's for awhile. If you want to get the songs early, before everybody else, have an adult fill out a survey on our website, CrossroadsKidsClub.net (refer to screen). Then you can download the songs early!

Now, back to what we're talking about today: First of all, the game you played during Connect Time looked like fun...but hard. Why is it impossible to go two directions at once? (Let kids respond.) Yep, that's right. There's just no way to do it. And today, we're going to hear about a guy named Elijah again and how he showed the king, named Ahab, that you can't go in two directions at once.

ELIJAH REVIEW (2 min.)

(Click to show image of Elijah) Now, if you were here last week, you heard about how Elijah and Ahab didn't get along. See, Elijah was God's prophet, which means God spoke to him and he shared it with others. But once, Elijah told King Ahab something the king didn't want to hear. He said that no matter what the king did or how many times he prayed to a pretend god called Baal, it wouldn't rain. Not until *Elijah* asked God for rain.

This made King Ahab so mad that he wanted to *kill* Elijah! God actually told Elijah to run away to the wilderness for awhile. Then, while he was in the wilderness, God took care of him by sending him birds called ravens to deliver bread and meat every morning and every night. And just like Elijah said, there was no rain in Israel.

ELIJAH VS. AHAB (4 min.)

But eventually, Elijah had to go back and talk to Ahab again. He was going to tell him that it



script continued

would rain soon...but he also wanted him to know that God is the one true, real God. That meant it wasn't ok for Ahab to go back and forth, sometimes following God but lots of times worshipping Baal or other pretend gods.

So Elijah came up with a plan to show Ahab and lots of other people that God is the only God. And he told King Ahab and the people what it was. We're going to watch a video of what Elijah does. As you watch, see if you can figure out Elijah's plan:

Video: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal_Part 1

So what was Elijah's plan? (Let kids respond.) Yep, he took all the people up to a mountain. He said they should stop trying to follow two different gods. Why not just follow the one that's real?! Then he said that they would have a contest: God vs. Baal. There would be two bulls set on two different altars. The prophets of Baal (all 450!) would ask Baal to bring fire. Elijah would ask God to bring fire. Whoever really brought fire was the real one. Then they'd know who to follow.

GOD VS. BAAL (5 min.)

Does this contest between God and Baal sound like a good idea? (Let kids respond. Ask them: why?) Well, let's find out what happens! As you watch, see how God proves he's real:

Video: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal_Part 2

God, of course, won that contest! But how did people know that God was real? (Let kids respond.) Yes, he not only started a fire right away, but it was such a big fire that it burned up the bull, the wood, the stones and even the water in the trench! That was an amazing miracle that could only be done by God.

IMAGINE IT (5 min.)

Let's imagine this for a second. Does somebody want to be Elijah? (Choose one kid to come up and be Elijah.) Great, now Elijah believed in God, but everybody else believed in Baal. So all the rest of you believe in Baal. Can all of you guys stand up? (Let kids stand.)

OK, so you guys get to shout for fire. Can you shout? (Let kids shout.) You beg and plead and maybe chant. Maybe you even do a silly dance. Let's try it (**click to play a short clip of dance music**). Hmm, nothing. (**Click to show empty altar.**)

Now you guys all look at Elijah. It's his turn. Elijah, you simply ask God to prove that he is the TRUE God. (Let Elijah say something like, "God, please prove you are the true God." **Then click to show the burning fire.**)

Everybody shouted, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!" Can you guys shout that? (Let kids shout.) Great job! Now everybody can have a seat. (Let kids sit.)

GOD IS REAL (4 min.)

After that, who did the people want to follow? (Let kids say: God.) Yep, why? (Let kids



script continued

respond.) Yes, if we believe God is real and is the one true God, creator of everything, it's silly to follow anything else!

Now, it probably seems really silly to us to pray to a statue instead of God, especially after God proves he's real and powerful. But we actually turn away from God every day and pay attention to other things instead of him. In Connect Time, you talked about some of the choices you've had to make. Does anybody want to share? (Let kids respond. You can give them hints like: obey your parents or do what you wanted to do; fail a test or cheat on it; spend time afraid or trust in God; etc.)

Thanks for sharing. We all face these choices—recently, I've (*share a personal example of a time you've had to make a conscious choice to follow God*). For us, maybe it's not a choice to follow God or a statue...but it's a choice to follow God or do what we *want* to do or what feels most comfortable or easy or what seems most popular.

But guess what, you guys? We can't follow God *and* do exactly what we want. Those are often two different directions! We'll definitely mess up sometimes, but if we believe God is really GOD, powerful enough to control the universe and yet completely in love with us and wanting a relationship with us, we'll keep turning to follow him. That's actually called repenting, which means turning away from a wrong choice and going toward God.

RESPOND AND PRAY (3 min.)

The cool part is, if God can bring a fire to a wet altar, he can do anything! That means that we know he'll *help* us to follow him. Remember our verse for this month Philippians 4:13:

SLIDE: Philippians 4:13: For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

Let's practice it for the last time. Ready?

- **Philippians 4:13** (hold up 4 fingers; then say "thirteen")
- **For I** (point to self)
- **can do everything** (extend palms outward)
- **through Christ**, (point up)
- **who gives me strength**. (flex muscles)

Great job. And since God is real and can do anything, let's tell him that we believe in him and want to follow him. He is the one TRUE God! If you want to declare you believe in him, in your head, just say, "You are God" and ask him for the strength to follow him this week. If you want, you can ask him to help you show others that God is true this week, just like Elijah showed King Ahab and the followers of Baal. Take a minute and talk to God right now. Remember, you can ask *him* questions too! (Give kids a moment of silence to talk to God. Then wrap up for them.)

WORSHIP (6 min.)

Since God is the TRUE God who made the world and everything in it—including us, let's show him love God by singing to him. We'll tell him that there's nothing to fear because we know he's true and he loves us.



script continued

Music Video: You Are
Music Video: Love Beats Fear

**Dismiss kids to small groups.*

PREP needs



connect time supplies

Follow directions game – no supplies needed

small group supplies

Per kid

5 quarter sheets of paper (cut red, orange and yellow paper into fourths)
1 gray piece of paper
1 survey postcard (to be handed out at the door)

Per group

Markers
1 Bible

large group supplies

Bible

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Image: Strong EP
3. Image: Elijah
4. Video: Elijah and the Prophets_Part 1 (Misc folder; :39-3:34 of link below)
5. Video: Elijah and the Prophets_Part 2 (Misc folder; 3:34 to end of this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEEw0adshpM>)
6. Image: altar without fire
7. Video: burning fire:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgKd3FxSSw4>
8. SLIDE: Philippians 4:13: For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.
9. Music Video: You Are (<https://vimeo.com/112963091>)
10. Music Video: Love Beats Fear (<https://vimeo.com/113716523>)

connect questions

Tell me about Elijah.
Want early access to new music? Visit
CrossroadsKidsClub.net.

parent page