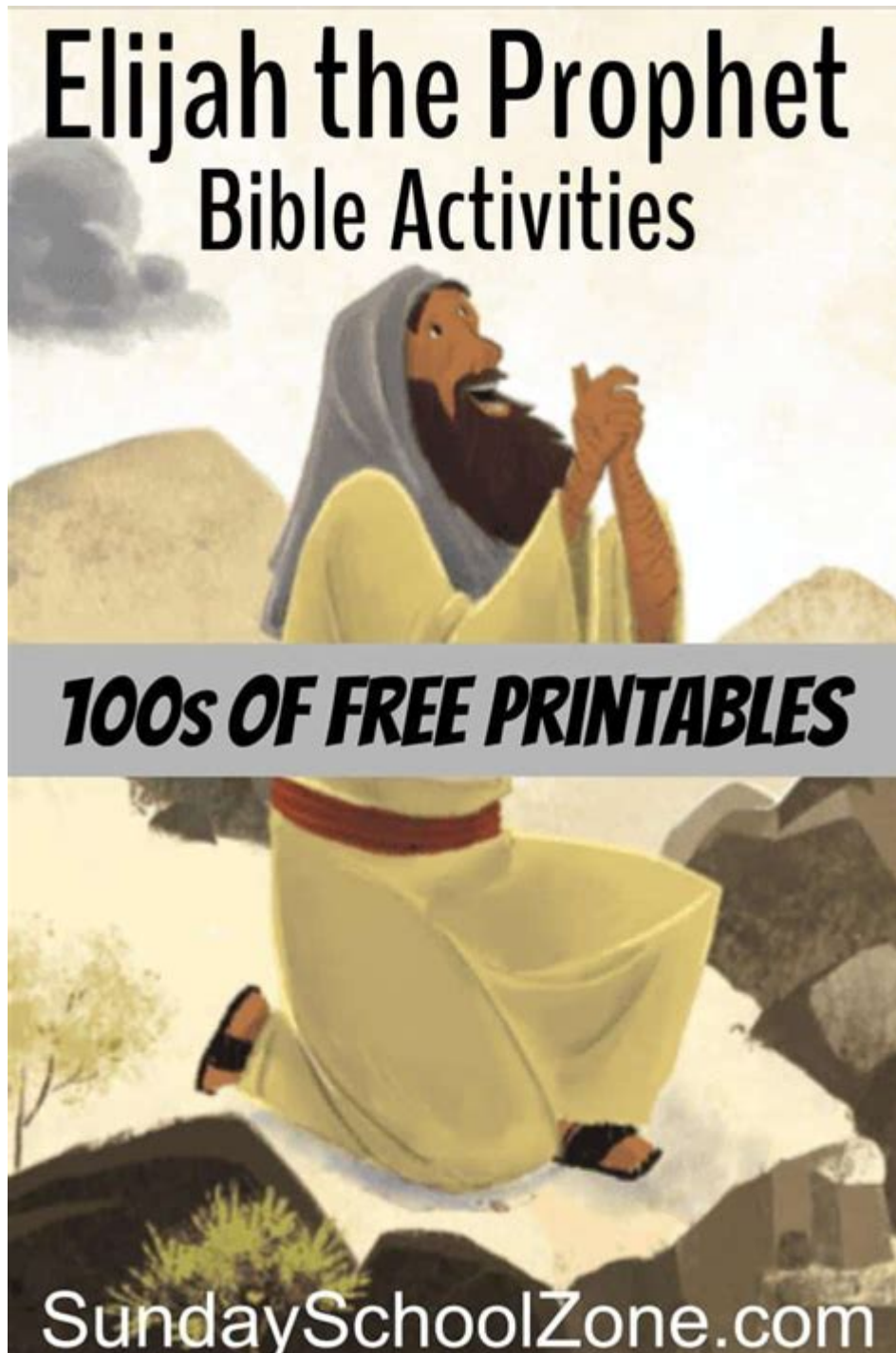


Elijah Prophet Children Sunday School Lesson



elijah prophet children sunday school lesson

elijah prophet children sunday school lesson offers a powerful opportunity to teach children about faith, obedience, and God's provision. This comprehensive guide explores various facets of

Elijah's life, making him relatable and inspiring for young learners. We will delve into his unwavering faith in challenging times, his encounters with prophets of Baal, his miraculous experiences, and the ultimate lesson of God's enduring presence. Prepare to discover engaging activities, discussion points, and craft ideas that will bring the story of Elijah the prophet to life in your Sunday school class, fostering a deeper understanding of biblical truths for children.

- The Life and Times of Elijah the Prophet
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- Engaging Activities for Teaching Elijah
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The Life and Times of Elijah the Prophet for Children

Elijah was a pivotal figure in ancient Israel, a prophet who stood bold against a tide of idolatry and spiritual decay. His story is one of immense faith, divine intervention, and unwavering commitment to the one true God. For children, understanding Elijah's challenges and triumphs can be a powerful lesson in standing firm in their beliefs, even when faced with opposition. We will explore his dramatic pronouncements, his miraculous sustenance, and his fiery encounters, presenting these biblical narratives in a way that resonates with young minds and hearts.

Introducing Elijah: A Man of Courage

Begin by introducing Elijah as a prophet sent by God to the wicked King Ahab and the people of Israel who had turned to worshiping the idol Baal. Emphasize that Elijah was not afraid to speak God's truth, even when it was unpopular or dangerous. This sets the stage for understanding his bravery and the importance of speaking up for what is right, a valuable lesson for children in any setting.

Elijah and the Drought: God's Provision

One of the most striking stories from Elijah's life is the drought he prophesied. Explain to the children

that because of Israel's disobedience, God withheld rain. During this drought, Elijah himself was miraculously fed by ravens at the Brook Cherith. This miraculous provision highlights God's ability to care for those who are faithful, a comforting truth for children facing their own challenges.

The Widow of Zarephath: Faith in Action

The story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath is a beautiful illustration of faith and obedience. God instructed Elijah to go to Zarephath, where he met a poor widow who had only a little flour and oil left for her and her son. Elijah asked her to share her meager meal with him, promising that God would replenish her stores. Her act of faith, trusting God and Elijah's word, resulted in an unending supply of flour and oil, teaching children about the rewards of obedience and generosity.

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel

This is perhaps Elijah's most famous confrontation. On Mount Carmel, Elijah challenged the 450 prophets of Baal to a contest to see whose God could send fire from heaven to consume their sacrifices. The prophets of Baal prayed and danced all day, but nothing happened. Elijah then prayed a simple prayer, and fire from the Lord descended, consuming his sacrifice. This event powerfully demonstrated God's might and truth, a profound lesson for children about the true power of God.

Elijah's Flight and God's Comfort

After his victory on Mount Carmel, Elijah was threatened by Jezebel. Fearing for his life, he fled into the wilderness. Even a mighty prophet can experience fear and despair. In his exhaustion, an angel of the Lord brought him food and drink, and he slept. Later, God spoke to Elijah in a gentle whisper, revealing Himself not in the wind, thunder, or fire, but in that quiet voice. This part of the story teaches children that God is with us even in our fear and that He communicates with us in many ways, often in quiet moments.

Key Themes in the Elijah Prophet Sunday School Lesson

The narrative of Elijah the prophet is rich with themes that are profoundly relevant to children's spiritual development. Focusing on these core messages can help children internalize the lessons and apply them to their own lives. These themes provide a strong foundation for understanding faith, obedience, and God's unfailing love.

Unwavering Faith in Difficult Times

Elijah's life is a testament to enduring faith even when circumstances seemed bleak. He stood alone against a nation steeped in idolatry. This teaches children that faith isn't just for easy times; it's essential when facing challenges, doubts, or when their beliefs are different from those around them. It's about trusting God even when they don't understand or when things are scary.

Obedience to God's Word

From listening to God's instructions at the Brook Cherith to trusting the widow's faith, Elijah's life demonstrates the power of obedience. Children learn that when they obey God, even when it's hard, God can use them in amazing ways and bless them. This theme emphasizes that obedience is an act of love and trust in God's plan.

God's Provision and Care

The miraculous sustenance provided to Elijah by the ravens and the widow of Zarephath highlights God's faithful provision. This reassures children that God cares for their needs, both physical and spiritual. They can trust that God will provide for them as they follow Him, just as He provided for Elijah.

The Power of Prayer

Elijah's prayer on Mount Carmel, which brought fire from heaven, showcases the immense power of prayer. Children can learn that their prayers matter to God and that He listens and answers. This encourages them to develop a personal prayer life, communicating their needs, thanks, and requests to God.

God's Presence in Quietness

After the dramatic events on Mount Carmel, God spoke to Elijah in a "still, small voice." This teaches children that God is not always found in loud, sensational events but often in quiet moments of reflection and listening. It encourages them to seek God in their daily lives, in quiet times of prayer and reflection.

Engaging Activities for Teaching Elijah

Making the story of Elijah come alive for children requires creative and interactive teaching methods.

These activities are designed to reinforce the key themes and make the learning experience enjoyable and memorable. Incorporating a variety of approaches will cater to different learning styles and keep the children engaged throughout the lesson.

Storytelling with Props

Use simple props like a brown cloth for the drought, a small bowl and a toy bird for the ravens, and some flour and oil containers for the widow's story. Act out scenes or have children participate in the storytelling. Visual aids and dramatic representation can significantly enhance comprehension and retention.

Role-Playing Elijah's Encounters

Assign roles to children: Elijah, prophets of Baal, Ahab, the widow, and her son. Let them act out key scenes, such as Elijah confronting Ahab, the miracle of the widow's meal, or the contest on Mount Carmel. This hands-on approach fosters active learning and helps children connect with the characters and events.

"Fire from Heaven" Experiment (Demonstration)

While not literal fire, a safe demonstration can illustrate the concept. Use a baking soda and vinegar reaction in a small container, perhaps with a bit of red food coloring, to represent the fire. Explain that God's power is amazing and can do things we can't imagine. This visual analogy helps explain the miraculous nature of Elijah's experience.

"Feeding the Ravens" Activity

Provide children with bread or crackers and have them "feed" a picture or stuffed toy raven. Discuss how God provided for Elijah even in his difficult situation. This simple act can reinforce the theme of God's provision and how He meets our needs, even in unexpected ways.

"Still, Small Voice" Listening Game

Have children close their eyes and be very quiet. Whisper simple instructions or Bible verses to them. Discuss how Elijah heard God in a quiet voice. This activity helps children understand the importance of being still and listening for God's voice in their lives.

Craft Ideas Inspired by Elijah's Story

Creative crafts provide a tangible way for children to process and remember the lessons learned from Elijah's life. These crafts are designed to be simple, engaging, and directly related to the biblical narratives, reinforcing the spiritual messages in a fun and memorable way.

Elijah's Fiery Chariot Craft

Children can create a "fiery chariot" using construction paper, paint, and glitter. They can cut out a chariot shape and decorate it with reds, oranges, and yellows to represent fire. This craft can tie into the eventual ascension of Elijah, symbolizing God's powerful and direct involvement in his life.

Widow's Jar of Flour and Oil Craft

Using small jars or containers, children can decorate them to represent the widow's unending supply. They can fill them with craft sand or glitter to symbolize flour and oil. This craft serves as a visual reminder of God's faithful provision and the blessing that comes from obedience.

"Ravens Feeding Elijah" Silhouette Craft

Provide black construction paper for ravens and brown paper for Elijah. Children can cut out simple shapes of ravens flying towards a silhouetted Elijah figure. They can glue these onto a blue background representing the sky. This craft emphasizes God's provision through unexpected means.

Mount Carmel Altar Craft

Children can construct a simple altar using small blocks or cardboard boxes. They can then decorate it with stones or paper to represent the altar Elijah rebuilt. This can be used to discuss Elijah's prayer and God's miraculous response, highlighting the importance of worshipping the true God.

"Still, Small Voice" Wind Chimes

Create simple wind chimes using small bells, beads, and string attached to a cardboard base. Discuss how God spoke to Elijah in a quiet voice. As the wind chimes gently ring, they can serve as a reminder to listen for God's voice in their lives. This craft connects a sensory experience with a spiritual concept.

Discussion Questions to Deepen Understanding

Thought-provoking questions are crucial for helping children process the stories of Elijah and apply them to their own lives. These questions encourage critical thinking, reflection, and a deeper understanding of the biblical messages. Facilitate an open discussion where children feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and insights.

- Why was Elijah brave enough to stand up to King Ahab and the prophets of Baal?
- How did God show Elijah that He cared for him during the drought?
- What did the widow do that showed her faith in God?
- What happened on Mount Carmel, and what does it teach us about God?
- What does it mean to hear God's "still, small voice"? When can you listen for God's voice?
- What is your favorite part of Elijah's story, and why?
- When have you felt afraid, and how did God help you or how can He help you?
- How can we be faithful like Elijah even when our friends or classmates aren't?

Connecting Elijah's Lessons to Children's Lives

The stories of Elijah the prophet are not just ancient history; they contain timeless truths that are directly applicable to the lives of children today. By drawing these connections, the lessons become more relevant and impactful, encouraging children to live out their faith actively.

Being Brave for What's Right

Discuss situations where children might need to be brave, like standing up to a bully, refusing to participate in something wrong, or speaking truthfully when it's difficult. Relate this to Elijah's courage in confronting the prophets of Baal and proclaiming God's truth.

Trusting God for Needs

Help children identify areas where they might worry about their needs, whether it's a test at school, a family problem, or wanting a new toy. Encourage them to pray about these needs and trust God for provision, just as Elijah trusted God for food and shelter.

The Importance of Obedience

Talk about obeying parents, teachers, and God's commands. Explain that obedience isn't just following rules but an act of love and trust. Use the widow's example to show how obedience can lead to blessings.

Listening for God's Voice

Encourage children to take quiet time each day to read their Bible, pray, and listen for God's guidance. Help them understand that God speaks through His Word, through other believers, and sometimes through a quiet feeling or thought.

Faith in Action

Challenge children to think about how they can show their faith through their actions. This could be sharing with a friend, helping someone in need, or being kind when others are not. Connect this to Elijah's actions, which were always rooted in his faith.

The Significance of Elijah in the Bible

Elijah's impact on biblical history and theology is profound. Understanding his role within the broader context of Scripture enriches the children's lesson and provides a deeper appreciation for God's plan of salvation. His legacy extends far beyond his earthly ministry.

A Prophet of Revival

Elijah is remembered as a key figure in restoring true worship in Israel. He challenged the widespread idolatry and called the people back to God. His ministry marked a turning point, emphasizing the importance of spiritual revival and faithfulness.

Foreshadowing Jesus Christ

In the New Testament, Elijah is often linked to John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus. Jesus Himself spoke of Elijah's return. This connection highlights Elijah's role in the unfolding plan of God and his significance in pointing towards the Messiah.

His Ascension and the Promise of Return

Elijah was the only Old Testament prophet taken directly to heaven in a chariot of fire, without experiencing death. This unique event foreshadows the ascension of Jesus and offers hope for the future, including prophecies about his eventual return.

Making the Elijah Prophet Sunday School Lesson Memorable

To ensure the Elijah prophet Sunday school lesson leaves a lasting impression, it's important to focus on creating an engaging and impactful experience. The goal is to embed the biblical truths in the children's minds and hearts through a combination of storytelling, creative activities, and meaningful reflection.

Consistent Reinforcement

Revisit key stories and themes from Elijah's life in subsequent lessons. This consistent reinforcement helps solidify the teachings and allows children to build upon their understanding. Connecting Elijah's stories to other biblical narratives can also strengthen their impact.

Personal Testimony and Application

Encourage children to share how they have seen God provide for them or how they have been brave in their own lives. Facilitate discussions that link Elijah's experiences to their personal faith journey, making the lessons relatable and actionable.

By incorporating these elements, the Elijah prophet Sunday school lesson can become a powerful catalyst for spiritual growth, teaching children about faith, obedience, and the incredible power of God in a way that is both educational and inspiring.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some key lessons children can learn from Elijah's life in Sunday School?

Children can learn about Elijah's bravery in standing up for God, the importance of prayer and listening to God's voice, God's power to provide, and that even prophets sometimes feel discouraged but God is always with them.

How can I make Elijah's encounter with the prophets of Baal engaging for young children?

Use dramatic storytelling, act out the scene with different voices, have children help build a 'sacrifice' (using blocks or drawings), and emphasize the contrast between Elijah's faith and the idols' inability to respond. You can also use visual aids like puppets or simple costumes.

What are some age-appropriate activities for a Sunday School lesson on Elijah?

Craft activities could include making 'fire from heaven' with red and yellow paper, creating 'widow's jars' with craft supplies, or drawing pictures of Elijah being fed by ravens. Games could involve a 'listen for God's voice' activity or a relay race representing Elijah's journey.

How can I explain Elijah's flight to Mount Horeb and the still, small voice to children?

Explain that sometimes when we are scared or sad, we might want to run away. Elijah was feeling this way. Then, describe how God didn't shout but spoke softly, teaching us that God can speak to us in quiet moments through our hearts or the Bible.

What is the significance of Elijah's meeting with the widow of Zarephath for children?

This story highlights God's faithfulness and provision, even in difficult times. It teaches children that when they trust and obey God, He can provide for their needs, just as He did for Elijah and the widow.

How can I connect Elijah's chariot of fire to a modern-day concept for children?

You can talk about how Elijah was taken to heaven in a special way. This can be related to the idea of God having a special plan and caring for His faithful servants. You could also use the imagery of a fast 'ride' to represent being carried away by God's power.

What are the main themes from Elijah's life that resonate with children today?

Themes like standing up for what's right even when it's hard, the power of prayer, trusting God to provide, and knowing that God is always with us, even when we feel alone, are very relevant to children's lives and challenges.

How can I address Elijah's discouragement and God's comfort in a Sunday School setting?

Acknowledge that even strong people like Elijah sometimes feel sad or want to give up. Emphasize that God didn't scold Elijah but lovingly provided him with food and rest, showing that God comforts

us when we are down and helps us get back up.

What are some good Bible verses about Elijah that are suitable for children's Sunday School lessons?

1 Kings 17:16 ('And the jar of flour was not emptied, neither the jar of oil filled, according to the word of the Lord which he spoke by Elijah. '), 1 Kings 18:36-37 ('And when it was time for the offering to be presented, Elijah the prophet approached and said, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back."'), and 1 Kings 19:11-12 ('And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind came a gentle whisper.') are excellent choices.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to an Elijah the Prophet children's Sunday School lesson:

1. *Elijah's Fiery Call*: This book likely tells the story of Elijah's dramatic confrontation with the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. It would focus on his courage in standing up for God, even when facing overwhelming opposition. The narrative would highlight God's power and Elijah's unwavering faith in answering his prayer with fire. It's a story about boldness and trusting in the one true God.
2. *The Widow's Oil and the Prophet's Bread*: This title points to Elijah's time with the widow of Zarephath. The story would emphasize Elijah's obedience to God's command and God's miraculous provision through the widow's seemingly empty stores. It would teach children about faith, generosity, and how God can multiply even the smallest offerings. The lessons would center on trusting God during difficult times.
3. *Running from Jezebel's Wrath*: This book likely covers Elijah's escape after his victory on Mount Carmel, when Jezebel threatened his life. It would explore themes of fear, discouragement, and Elijah's desire to give up. The story would also showcase God's gentle care for Elijah, providing him with food and rest in the wilderness. It's a story about facing fear and God's sustaining presence.
4. *A Whisper on the Mountain*: This title suggests the account of Elijah encountering God on Mount Horeb. The book would delve into Elijah's emotional state and his perception of God's presence. It would emphasize that God often speaks not in the dramatic, but in the quiet, still voice. Children can learn about listening for God's gentle guidance in their own lives.
5. *The Chariot of Fire in the Sky*: This title directly references the ascension of Elijah into heaven in a fiery chariot. The narrative would likely describe the wonder and awe of this event, showing Elijah's special relationship with God. It would highlight that faithful servants are taken to be with God. This book would inspire awe and a desire for faithfulness.
6. *Elisha, Elijah's Faithful Friend*: This book would focus on the relationship between Elijah and his successor, Elisha. It would illustrate the importance of mentorship and passing on spiritual legacy. The story would highlight Elisha's dedication to Elijah and his request for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. It's a lesson on loyalty and the continuation of God's work.

7. *The Ravens and the Bread of Heaven*: This title refers to the time when ravens brought food to Elijah in the Wadi Cherith. It would emphasize God's miraculous provision and Elijah's obedience to go to a specific place. The story would showcase how God can use unexpected means to care for His prophets. Children would learn about trusting God's plans, even when they seem unusual.

8. *When the Sky Opened and Shut*: This title likely encapsulates the events where Elijah declared drought and then prayed for rain. It would highlight Elijah's authority as a prophet speaking for God. The book would demonstrate God's control over creation and His response to the prayers of the faithful. It's a powerful lesson on God's sovereignty and the impact of prayer.

9. *Miracles with a Mighty Prophet*: This book would be an overview of several of Elijah's key miracles, such as raising the widow's son. It would showcase Elijah as a powerful instrument of God's grace and healing. The stories would illustrate God's compassion and His ability to intervene in human lives. Children would be inspired by the tangible ways God demonstrated His power through Elijah.

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