

PursueGODkids.org

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're learning about another prophet named Elisha. His name sounds really similar to the prophet we learned about last week, Elijah. One day, God told Elijah that it was time to find a new prophet to take over for him. Elijah was getting older and was tired of dealing with the disobedience of the people. So, God told Elijah to go find Elisha. Elisha was in the fields working when Elijah approached him and put his robe on him. Now, this sounds weird to us but back then Elisha understood what Elijah was doing. By placing his robe on him, he was passing the job of prophet to Elisha. So, Elisha had to make a hard choice. Being a prophet meant leaving his family and friends to go wherever God needed him to go. Elisha chose to be brave. He had one last meal with his family and left with Elijah. We need to be brave for God, too. God may ask us to make risky decisions for him; like standing up for a kid who's being bullied or telling our friends that Jesus died for their sins. Let's be like Elisha and be willing to risk everything to follow Jesus!

Big Idea

God loves it when kids take a risk to follow him

Key Question

What does it mean to give up our own way for God?

Memory Verse

Matthew 16:24 "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way... and follow me."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: What's the riskiest thing you've ever done? (learned how to ride a bike, get on a plane, give a speech)** (Tip: Taking risks can be scary because you don't know how it will turn out. You might get hurt. Elisha took a huge risk to follow God.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Instead of trusting our own thoughts and feelings, we obey the Bible.** (We might think we're smart enough to take care of ourselves and that we don't need God's help. But, that's not true. The Bible calls this attitude sin. Only God knows what's best for us so we need to listen to what he says to us through the Bible and then we need to obey it.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why can't we trust our own way? What book points us towards God's way? **4-5th** Share a time you disobeyed God and went your own way. What happened?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Luke 16:13. Why can't we serve two different things? Why does God deserve to be first in our lives?** (Answer: We can only give our full attention to one thing at a time. So, we can't say we love God the most but then spend all of our time hanging with friends or playing video games. God should be first because he's God. He loves us, he sent Jesus to die for our sins and he has a plan for our lives.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: ELISHA'S OX CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid an Elisha template (page 5) and a brown paper sack.
- Have the kids color the Ox's face brown, the hair yellow, the horns and eyes black and the nose red.
- Then, have the kids place the bag flap side up. Have the kids glue or tape the Ox face to the flap. Then, have them glue "Elisha" and the Memory verse below the flap on the bag.
- As the kids work, read the story of Elisha from 1 Kings 19:19-20. Remind the kids that Elisha made a risky decision to go with Elijah to become a prophet of God. He had to leave his whole life behind. God may ask us to make risky decisions, too, but God will be with us and will help us every step of the way

Supplies needed: Elisha template (pg. 5, precut, 1 set per kid), Brown paper sacks (1 per kid), Crayons, Glue/Tape

OPTION 2: BUILD THE MEMORY VERSE GAME

Instructions:

- Before playing, tape a line on the floor and place a bucket or bowl a few feet in front of the tape (far enough that it poses a challenge, but not impossible to get the bag/ball in the bucket) . Divide the class into 2 teams. Give each team the Memory verse words (page 6-7) in a bowl or basket
- Have the teams switch off having a kid step up to the line to get the ball or beanbag into the bucket. If they do, they get to grab a word out of the bowl and tape it up on the whiteboard. If they miss, they go to the end of the line. Let the other team have a turn. Continue playing until one team gets all their words up on the board and in the right order to say the Memory verse.

Supplies needed: Tape, Memory verse words (pg. 6-7, pre cut, 2 sets per class), 2 Bowls, Bucket, Bean Bag/Small ball

Q8

BIBLE STORYLINE

Elisha

PursueGODkids.org

Elisha took a big risk when he chose to be a prophet!

Key Points:

- _____ invited Elisha to be a prophet.
- Elisha cooked his ox and left everything to follow _____.
- When Elijah was taken into heaven, Elisha took his place as a _____.
- God loves it when kids take a _____ to be his follower.

Memory Verse:

Matthew 16:24 “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way... and follow me.”

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *What's the riskiest thing you've ever done? (learned how to ride a bike, get on a plane, give a speech)*
3. *Who did God tell Elijah to go find? What was Elisha doing when Elijah found him?*
4. *What was the risky decision Elisha had to make to become a prophet?*
5. *Read Luke 16:13. Why can't we serve two different things? Why does God deserve to be first in our lives?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Solve the puzzle and color the picture.

NAME 4 PROPHETS FROM THE OT

1.

2.

3.

4.

Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

Matthew 16:____ "If any of _____
wants to be my _____, you
must _____ up your _____
way... and follow _____."





ELISHA

Matthew 16:24 "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way... and follow me."



IF ANY

FOLLOWER

OF YOU

YOU

WANTS

MUST

TO BE

GIVE UP

MY

YOUR



OWN

FOLLOW

WAY

ME

AND

MATTHEW

16:24