

PursueGODkids.org

Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're learning about a prophet named Elijah. Remember, prophets were like God's messengers. Elijah served as a prophet during the reign of King Ahab. Under this king, Israel was struggling and the people had forgotten about God and started worshipping false gods. So, God spoke through Elijah and gave him the following instructions. Elijah was to tell the king to gather all the people and their false gods and meet him at the top of a mountain called Mt. Carmel. They were going to have a competition to see who worshipped the real God. Both groups were going to prepare an altar with wood with an animal placed on the wood. Then, each would call out to their god to light the fire. So, the other prophets went first. They yelled and screamed to their god but nothing happened. Then, Elijah took his turn. But, he added another step. He poured water all over the wood! Then, he called out to the true God and God lit the altar with fire. All the people were in awe and realized that Elijah's God was the real God.

Big Idea

You have to decide to follow the real God

Key Question

Why can it be hard to follow God?

Memory Verse

1 Kings 18:21 "How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him!"

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Share a time you had a hard time making a decision about something. Why was it hard to decide?** (Tip: Maybe you were afraid to make the wrong decision or that you'd miss out if you chose one thing over another. Elijah challenged the people to decide if they would choose a fake god over the real 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: **Sometimes following God can feel lonely.** (Back in Elijah's day, people ignored God and did whatever they wanted. That's true today. Your friends might do things that you know are wrong but it might look fun. You might be alone in choosing not to do those things. But, like Elijah proved, it's always better to stay on God's team and choose to follow him every day!))
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why can it feel lonely to follow God? Have you ever felt like it's hard to follow God? **4-5th** Why do you think Elijah had people pour lots of water on his altar before praying? Do you think he wondered if God would come through for him?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Proverbs 3:5-8. Why shouldn't we trust our abilities over God? What happens when we listen to God?** (Answer: We aren't smarter than God. He knows everything and he created everything, including us. So, he knows what's best for us, even more than we do. When we obey God, he will lead us and show us the right way to go. His way is always best!)
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: BUILD THE STORY LESSON REVIEW GAME

Instructions:

- Before playing, place the pictures from the Mt. Carmel story template (page 5) in a bowl/basket. As a class, work together to answer the questions below. After answering each question, have kids take turns taping the story items up on the board. Then work as a class to get the items in the correct order to tell the story of Elijah and Mt. Carmel.

• **Order:** Elijah, mountain, wood, megaphone, water, fire, Amazed, Worshipped

Questions:

1. What's the name of the prophet we learned about today? (Elijah)

2. What was the job of a prophet? (speak for God)
3. What were the people doing wrong? (worshipping other gods/forgot about God)
4. Where did Elijah tell the people to go for the competition? (Mt. Carmel)
5. What did Elijah tell the people to do on the mountain? (build an altar with wood)
6. What happened when the people cried out to their gods? (nothing, no fire)
7. What did Elijah do to his altar before calling out to God? (poured water all over the wood)
8. What happened when Elijah called on God? (fire came)

Supplies needed: Mt. Carmel Story Template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 set per class), Tape

OPTION 2: ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Elijah template (page 6) and a large paper plate.
- Have the kids color the stones and then glue them to the bottom of the plate. Then have them color the wood and have them glue the wood on top of the stones.
- Then give the kids some yellow, orange and red tissue paper. Have them tear them into smaller pieces and glue on top of the wood to make it look like fire. Then, glue the Title and memory verse at the top of the plate.

Supplies needed: Elijah template (pg. 6, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Large paper plates (1 per kid), Crayons, Glue, Red, Orange and Yellow tissue paper.

Q8

BIBLE STORYLINE

Elijah

PursueGODkids.org

Only you can make up your mind to follow the one true God.

Key Points:

- Elijah was a prophet of God at a time when _____ prophets were really popular.
- Elijah challenged the false prophets to a _____ to see whose God was real.
- Elijah _____ the contest proving who the real God is.
- Only you can make up your mind to follow the one true _____.

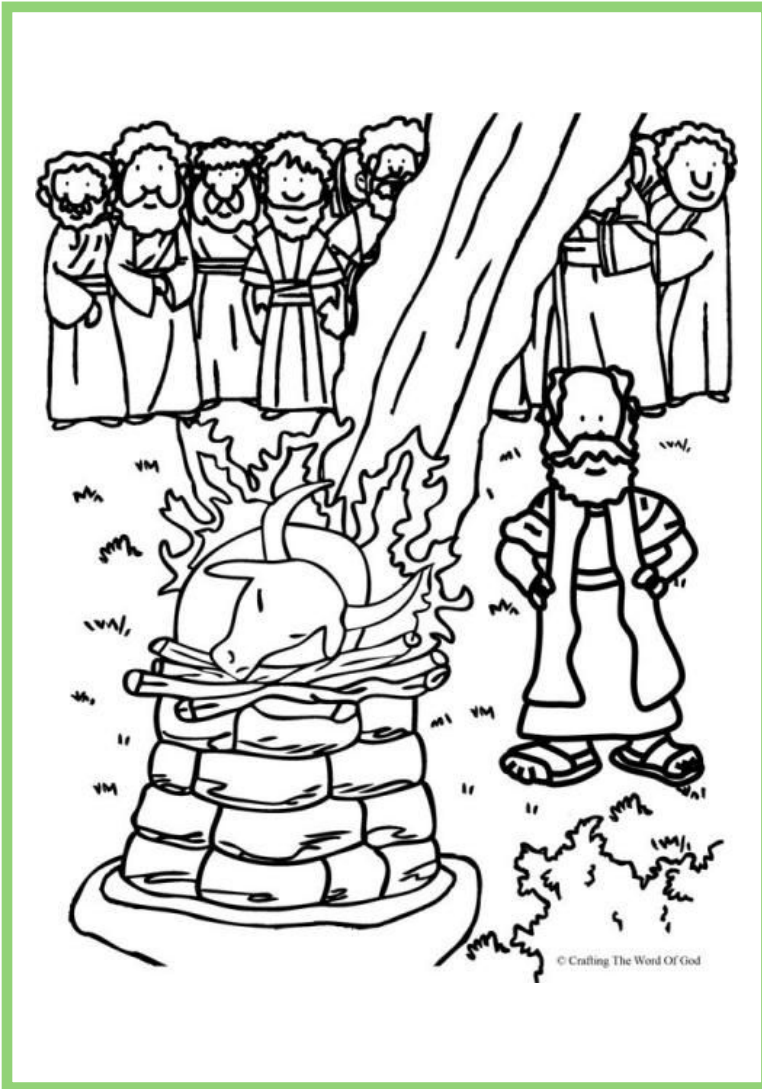
Memory Verse:

1 Kings 18:21 “How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him!”

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Share a time you had a hard time making a decision about something. Why was it hard to decide?*
3. *What prophet did we learn about today? What was a prophet's job?*
4. *What crazy thing did Elijah do to prove God was the real God?*
5. *Read Proverbs 3:5-8. Why shouldn't we trust our abilities over God? What happens when we listen to God?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture and solve the puzzle.



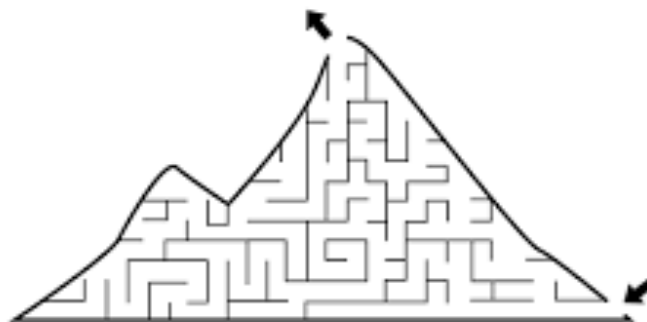
Big Idea

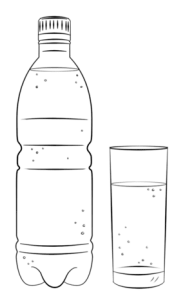
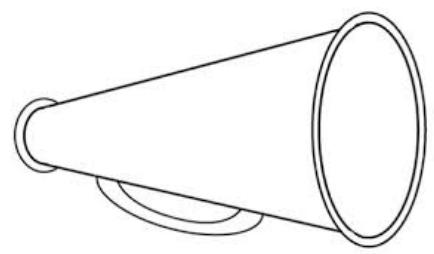
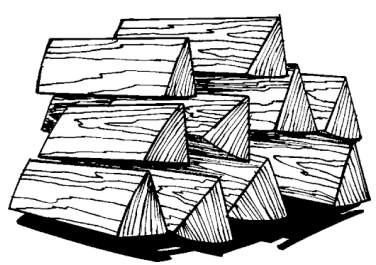
Key Question

Memory Verse

1 Kings 18:___ "How much longer will you _____, hobbling between _____ opinions? If the _____ is God, _____ him!"

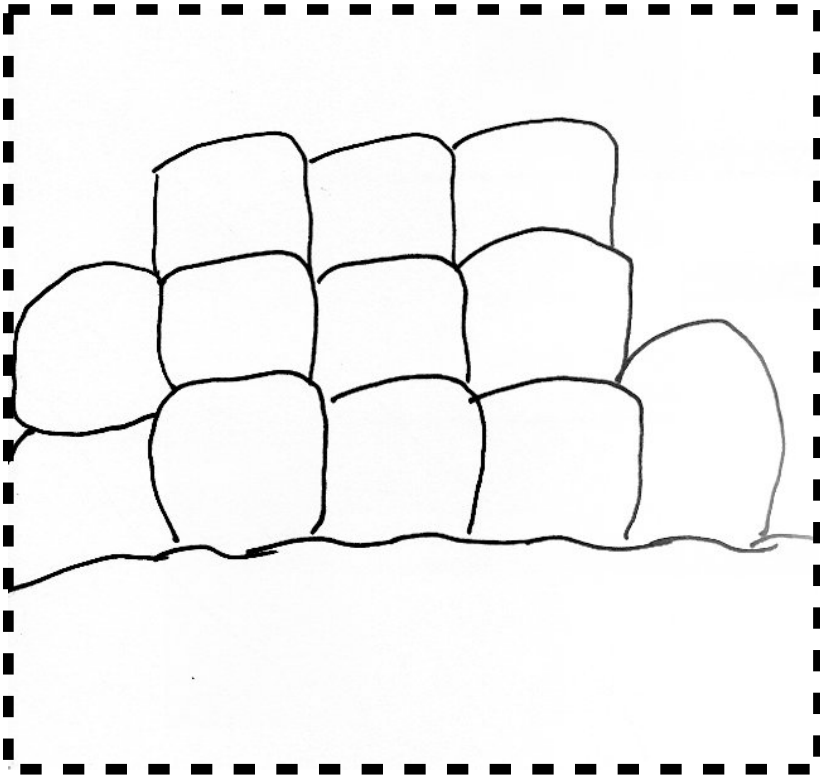
Mountain Maze



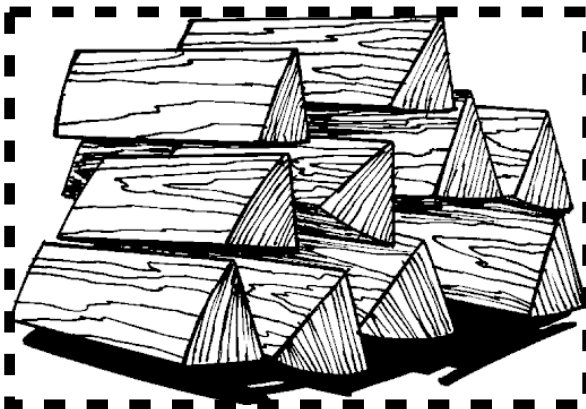


PEOPLE WERE
AMAZED!

THE PEOPLE
WORSHIPPED THE
REAL GOD!



ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL



1 Kings 18:21 "How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him!"