

Elijah Knows The True God

PRESCHOOL LESSON PLAN

Theme: There is only one true God.

Scripture: 1 Kings 18:16-40

Memory Verse: The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God. - 1 Kings 18:39

The Children's Sermon

Once upon a time, there was a man named Elijah who was a servant of the real God. One day, he had a big challenge for the people who were not sure which god was real. He wanted to show them the power of the true God. So, he came up with a plan called Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel.

In this contest, Elijah told the people to choose two bulls. The prophets of the fake god, Baal, would take one bull, and Elijah would take the other. They would each prepare the bull for a sacrifice but not set fire to it. Instead, they would pray to their god to send fire from heaven. This way, everyone could see which god was real.

The prophets of Baal tried first. They prayed and shouted all day, but nothing happened. No fire came. Then it was Elijah's turn. But before he prayed, he did something very interesting. He made his challenge even harder. He poured lots of water on his bull and the wood around it, not just once but three times! The water was so much that it filled a trench he had made around the altar. Now, it seemed impossible for the fire to burn everything.

Then he began to pray to the real God, not yelling, just praying. Do you pray to God? Do we have to yell? Do you think He hears us? Elijah said: "Lord God, let these people know that you are the true God and I am your servant. Let them know so they will serve you again."

SUDDENLY, fire came down from heaven; it burned up the meat, the wood, the stones, and even licked up all the water. When the people saw all this, they dropped to their knees afraid and cried out, "The Lord, He is God, the Lord, He is God."

Elijah was happy that God had answered his prayer quickly and that the people knew who the true GOD really was. Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel was a big win for the true God!

Can anyone think of a time you have prayed and God answered your prayer? Would anyone like to pray for someone or something right now?

Now, let's talk more about Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel. Imagine how the people felt seeing fire come down from the sky! They had been confused about which god was real. But after the contest, they knew for sure. The true God had shown His power in an amazing way.

Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel teaches us a few important things. First, it shows us that the true God listens to us when we pray. We don't need to shout or jump around. We can talk to God like we talk to a friend, and He hears us.

Second, the contest shows that sometimes God does big things to show us He's with us. But remember, God doesn't always use fire from the sky to answer our prayers.

Sometimes His answers are quiet and happen in ways we might not expect. It's like when you lose something, and after asking God for help, you suddenly remember where it is. That's God answering your prayer too!

Also, Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel teaches us about being brave. Elijah was the only one against many prophets of Baal, but he wasn't scared because he knew God was with him. We can be brave like Elijah when we're facing something scary because we know God is with us too.

And, the contest helps us understand that it's important to make good choices. The people had to choose which god to follow. Today, we also make choices every day. Choosing to follow the true God and to be kind, honest, and loving are some of the best choices we can make.

Lastly, Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel is a reminder that sometimes we need to be patient. Elijah waited all day for his turn, but he trusted God's timing. When we pray, we also need to be patient and trust that God knows the best time to answer our prayers.

So, what can we do to be more like Elijah? We can pray, trust God, be brave, make good choices, and be patient. And just like the people who saw the fire come down, we can remember to say, "The Lord, He is God" and thank Him for being with us always.

Would anyone like to share a story about a time you trusted God and He helped you? Or maybe you have a prayer you'd like to say now for yourself or someone else. Let's take a moment to talk to God together, just like Elijah did.

Remember, Elijah's Contest on Mount Carmel wasn't just a one-time event in a storybook. It's a lesson for us about God's power, love, and the importance of choosing to follow Him. Let's keep that lesson in our hearts and live every day knowing that the Lord, He is God.

Bible Memory Verse

The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God. - 1 Kings 18:39

You Will Need:

- Construction paper
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers of fire, water, or other Bible story related items

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large, easy-to-hold shapes. Hearts or simple crosses work well.
- Write 'The Lord, he is God' on each paper shape in advance, or if children are able, leave it blank for them to write.

Do This:

1. Give each child a prepared shape and markers or crayons. Explain that they will decorate their shape while thinking about how God showed He is the only true God in the story of Elijah on Mount Carmel.
2. Encourage children to decorate around the words 'The Lord, he is God' with the markers, crayons, and stickers. They can draw fire to represent how God sent fire from heaven, or water to remember how wet the altar was before the fire came.

3. Once everyone has finished decorating, gather the children in a circle. Ask them to hold up their artwork and say the memory verse together. This helps reinforce the lesson that there is only one true God, just like in the story of Elijah.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Blue construction paper (to represent the sky)
- Cotton balls (to represent clouds)
- Small paper plates (one per child)
- Glue sticks
- Stickers or markers to decorate
- A simple picture book about Elijah and the prophets of Baal (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the blue construction paper into pieces that can fit onto the paper plates.
- Arrange the table with the materials: plates, glue sticks, cotton balls, blue paper, and decorating supplies.

Do this:

1. Begin by telling a simplified version of the story from 1 Kings 18:16-40, focusing on how Elijah trusted the one true God to show His power. If you have a picture book, you can use it to help tell the story.
2. Give each child a paper plate and ask them to glue the blue construction paper onto it to make a "sky."
3. Next, have the children use cotton balls to create clouds on their sky. While they work, remind them that God sent fire from the sky to show He is the only true God.

4. Encourage the children to decorate the border of their plate with stickers or markers to make it special. As they decorate, reinforce the theme that there is only one true God who loves and cares for us.

5. Conclude by gathering the children and their crafts for a short prayer, thanking God for being the one true God who listens and answers prayers.

Snack Activity: One True God Mountain Treats

You'll Need:

- Rice cakes
- Cream cheese or peanut butter
- Blueberries
- Small pretzel sticks
- A plastic knife for spreading

Get Ready: Gather all your materials on a clean table where each child can reach them easily.

Do this:

1. Tell the children the story of Elijah on Mount Carmel from 1 Kings 18:16-40, emphasizing how Elijah showed there is only one true God. Explain that they will be making a special snack to remind them of the story.
2. Give each child a rice cake. This will be their 'mountain'. Spread cream cheese or peanut butter on the rice cake to make it look like the mountain is covered in something special. This represents God's presence covering the mountain.
3. Let the children place blueberries on top of the cream cheese or peanut butter to represent the people who witnessed the miracle. Then, insert small pretzel sticks around the rice cake to symbolize the altar that Elijah rebuilt.

4. As they enjoy their snack, remind them that just like God showed He was the one true God on Mount Carmel, He is still the only true God we worship today.

Game Activity: Find the One True God

You'll Need:

- Pictures of clouds, fire, and a big heart
- Blue tape
- Music player

Get Ready: Before the game, tape pictures of clouds and fire randomly on the floor around your play area, and place the big heart picture in the center. Make sure there's enough space for children to safely move around. Prepare a music playlist with lively songs.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that in the story from 1 Kings 18, God showed He is the one true God by sending fire from the sky. Today, they're going to find the one true God (the big heart) among other things (clouds and fire).
2. Start the music, and have the children hop or walk from picture to picture. When the music stops, they should find a picture to stand on.
3. After a few rounds, stop the music and guide all the children to stand on the big heart together. Explain that just like they all came together at the heart, we all come together to love and worship the one true God.

Prayer Activity: God is the One True God

You'll Need:

- A simple picture or illustration of a mountain
- Flame stickers or small pieces of red and orange paper
- Glue sticks

Get Ready: Before the class, prepare a simple illustration of Mount Carmel on a large piece of paper or cardboard. This will serve as a visual aid for the story from 1 Kings 18:16-40. Cut out flame shapes from the red and orange paper, or have flame stickers ready.

Do this:

1. Gather the children around the illustration of Mount Carmel and tell them the story of how Elijah proved that God is the one true God by praying for fire to come down from heaven. Emphasize that unlike the prophets of Baal, Elijah's prayer was answered because he prayed to the one true God.
2. Give each child a flame sticker or a piece of red and orange paper. Help them apply glue to their flame and then place it on the Mount Carmel illustration. As they do this, encourage them to say a simple prayer acknowledging that God is the one true God.
3. Close the activity by leading the children in a short prayer, thanking God for being the only true God who listens and answers our prayers. Remind them that just like Elijah, we can always talk to God through prayer because He is real and loves us.