

God's Power Works Through Elijah and Elisha

Lesson 10a — Elijah Works for God

Lesson 10b — Fire and Rain From Heaven

Lesson 10c — A Double Portion

Lesson 10d — Elisha Works for God

Lesson 10e — Chariots of Fire

OVERVIEW

The power of God is one of the main and underlying themes of the whole Bible, and it is a subject that merits an in-depth study, even at the primary level. It is important for the children to realize the scope of God's might, and that this power was not just something limited to Biblical history. It is a vital, moving force in the world today, and especially in the lives of true Christians.

The first of our three units focuses on the power of God working through the prophets. At this period of history, the kingdom of Israel was divided because King Solomon had turned away from the Lord and led the nation deep into idol-worship. Periodically, succeeding kings

from both the north and south continued these evil ways, disobeying God.

As a result, God chose special men and women to be prophets. Some were called to perform just one simple, yet important job. Others, like Elijah, and Elisha, were called to a lifetime of service for God. These men were not out to make friends or demonstrate their power in the kingdom. Rather, they demonstrated God's power, telling God's messages to the people even at the risk of their own lives. Their faithfulness and close communion with God is evidenced by the miracles recorded — unmistakable proof of the power of God working in them and through them.

GAMES FOR REVIEW

On flash cards write words that pertain from all the lessons. Hold up the cards one at a time and let your group tell you which story it makes them think of. For pre-schoolers, use simple line drawings.

Examples:

no rain	brook
ravens	bread and flesh
widow	meal and oil
Baal	fire
trench of water	mantle
River Jordan	double portion
chariots and horses	whirlwind
two sons	pot of oil
vessels	axe
chariots of fire	blindness

Divide the children into two teams. Write questions with

differing degrees of difficulty on flash cards, with point values ranging from 1 to 5 depending on how hard the question is. Read the first question to one team, telling them of the point value. If anyone on that team can answer it correctly they get the points. If they miss the question the other team gets a chance to answer it and receives that many points plus one. Whether the second team gets it right or wrong they get a chance at the next question.

CONTEST IDEAS

On 3"x5" cards, write questions about places, people, and events in the lives of Elijah and Elisha. Write answers on the reverse side. Choose a caller to read the questions. The first person who thinks he knows the answer stands. If the player answers correctly, he gets the card. The player with the most cards wins.

Cut a large number of "Happy Buttons" from construc-

tion paper, each Happy Button having a smiling face drawn on it. Explain to your group that each child will receive a Happy Button for different kinds of good behavior. One may be received for attendance, bringing a friend, reciting a memory verse, or other achievements. You can also give buttons for helpful acts, being a good listener, etc. However, you will also take buttons back for improper behavior. At the end of the unit, children may use their accumulated Happy Buttons to exchange for small gifts or prizes. (Designate a value for each gift with the number of Happy Buttons needed to redeem it.)

BULLETIN BOARDS

Divide your board into five sections. In each section illustrate a lesson from this quarter.

Across the top of your board, put the words "God's Power" in large letters. Along the bottom, put the words "Working Through Us." Give each child a piece of paper to roll into a pencil-shaped cylinder. Tape each tube to hold it together. Have each child draw and cut out a picture of himself and tape this on the tube. Be sure that the "self-portraits" are of a size so the tube sticks out on top and bottom. Attach these to the center

of your board with the tops of the tubes almost touching the words, "God's Power."

CHART IDEAS

Give each child a copy of the lesson cube (see Patterns). On each Sunday, they should draw in the appropriate box something about the day's lesson. On the final Sunday, the shape can be cut out, folded on the dotted lines, and pasted together. This will make a cube, which can be used to review the five lessons.

Have each student make a fan representing the five lessons of the unit (see Patterns). On the first four Sundays, let them draw a picture in one of the fan sections representing the story for that day. On the fifth Sunday, let them draw their picture in the circle. Then cut out the two sections and glue them back to back, with a popsicle stick in the center to use for a handle.

UNIT SUPPORT MATERIAL

- Elijah and Elisha — Biblegram (for flannel boards), Child Evangelism Fellowship
- Stories About Elijah and Elisha — Pict-o-graph, Standard Publishing
- Bible Story Cartoons — "Elisha and Elijah" — Book No. 12, Standard Publishing

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