



ELIJAH AND ELISHA



2 KINGS 2

Instructions

The curriculum we use for elementary aged children goes through the Bible chronologically. Currently we are finishing up the book of Deuteronomy. So that your child can continue their journey through the Bible we will be putting together VERY basic Bible lessons for you to do at home. Below you will find a summary of this week's Bible passage. All you have to do is read it with your kids. Then you will see two different sets of discussion questions. One for older kids (3rd-4th grade range) and one for younger kids (Kinder-2nd grade range). Read the discussion questions with your kids. Remember, discussion is not one sided, it's different people talking together. Give your kids the opportunity to think and speak. I pray the Lord speaks to you and your family as you dive into His word together.

Tell the Bible Story

God told the prophet Elijah (ih LIGH juh) to find a man named Elisha (ih LIGH shuh). Elisha would be a prophet to Israel after Elijah. So Elijah obeyed God. He found Elisha plowing a field, and Elisha followed Elijah and served him.

When the time came for the Lord to take Elijah up to heaven, Elijah and Elisha traveled to Gilgal. At Gilgal, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to Bethel.

At Bethel, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to Jericho." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to Jericho.

At Jericho, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to the Jordan River." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to the Jordan River.



A crowd of prophets watched Elijah and Elisha as they stood by the river. Elijah rolled up his cloak and hit the water with it. The river parted, and they crossed to the other side.

Elijah asked, “Is there anything I can do for you before I go?”

Elisha said, “I want a double portion of the spirit that you have.”

Elijah said, “If you see me go, you will have it.”

Suddenly, a chariot of fire with horses of fire appeared and drove between them. Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.

Elisha watched as Elijah went away. Then he picked up Elijah’s cloak and went back to the river. He hit the water, and it parted for him to cross to the other side just as it had for Elijah.

The crowd of prophets was there watching, and they saw that the spirit that was with Elijah was now with Elisha. The prophets searched for Elijah, but they could not find him since God had taken him up to heaven.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet. Years later, Jesus told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit. God gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can share the gospel with the world.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Older

Guide your kids to open their Bibles to 2 Kings 2. Direct your kids’ attention to the lists of kings from the “Kings of Israel and Judah” printable. Keep the lists in view for the remainder of the volume. Remind your kids that Elijah and Elisha were prophets in Israel. Explain that Ahab ruled over Israel for 22 years. Then Ahaziah was king of two years, followed by King Joram. All of these kings were bad; they did not follow God. Remind your kids that after Elijah escaped from Queen Jezebel, God spoke to Elijah and told him to go find Elisha.



Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. What was significant about the Jordan River parting for Elijah and Elisha?

Prompt your kids to recall other instances of waters parting in the Bible. (Moses at the Red Sea, Joshua at the Jordan River) Emphasize that these miracles showed God's presence and power with His people. God's power was in Elijah and also with Elisha when God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet.

2. What mission does God call all believers to?

Lead your kids to discuss our mission as followers of Jesus: to make disciples of all nations by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus calls us to tell others the good news so they may repent, believe, and have life with Him forever.

3. Why is the Holy Spirit important to us?

Help your kids understand that the Holy Spirit is a gift from God to believers. The Spirit will never leave us. Through the Spirit, God empowers us to carry out His mission of sharing the gospel with the world.

SAY:

God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet. When Elijah knew it was time for him to be with God, Elijah and Elisha traveled to Gilgal. From there, they traveled to Bethel. From Bethel, they traveled to Jericho and then to the Jordan River.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Younger

Help your kids find 2 Kings 2. Discuss how Bible divisions help us categorize and understand the different parts of the Bible. Ask Your kids which division 2 Kings is in (Old Testament History) and what that division is about (the history of God's people after entering the promised land).

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. What cities did Elijah and Elisha travel together to?

Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho; 2 Kings 2:1-4

2. How did Elijah and Elisha get across the Jordan river?

Elijah, and later Elisha, parted the river by hitting it with Elijah's cloak; 2 Kings 2:8,14

3. What did Elisha ask for before Elijah went to heaven?

A double portion of the spirit Elijah had, 2 Kings 2:9

4. Why did God use prophets?

Guide your kids to understand that God used prophets to spread His Word and tell the people how to live. Help them see that the prophets called the people to love and obey God and wrote down God's words for His people. Help them see that we no longer have the same kind of prophets because the Bible is complete. The Bible contains all we need to know about God to love and trust Him.

5. Whose power and spirit did Elisha really receive?

Discuss the source of Elijah's power. Remind the kids that the miracles Elijah performed happened by God's power. When Elisha received that power after Elijah, God was now working through Elisha as He had through Elijah.

6. How can we have access to the power of Elijah and Elisha?

Help your kids understand that when we trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit lives within us. He fills us with power and helps us love and obey God.

SAY:

God chose Elisha to continue Elijah's work as a prophet. God's people lived in sin, disobeying God and ignoring His law. They needed prophets to lead them back to God. Jesus is the perfect Prophet. He perfectly showed God's will for us.