

Session 2

Elijah

Children hear the story of Elijah

Scripture: 1 Kings 17

Supplies:

- 1 big bowl and 2 small bowls
- Bread cut into pieces as big as dice and placed in the big bowl
- Rope to put up as a washing line
- 8 paper plates folded in half. You will hang them over the “washing line”. On the front of the plates you will stick the next items and on the inside will be the story.
 1. Picture of a crown
 2. Envelope with these words: The Lord sends a special messenger to King Ahab. It was a prophet by the name of Elijah. Prophet means – special messenger of God.
 3. Nothing on the front, but a bag filled with sand and clue to hide
 4. Picture of a black crow
 5. Picture of a house
 6. Picture of a jug
 7. Red hospital cross
 8. The word WOW
- Numbers 1 to 3 each on a piece of paper, cut out to hang on the “washing line”
- 3 pegs to hang up the numbers
- Copy of “Elijah’s hiding place” – crossword puzzle
- Paper plates for activity
- Decoration and feathers



Welcome

Relay race: Divide children into 2 lines. One team is the “pied crows” and the other team the “black crows”. Put the big bowl with bread on the other side of the room. Give the second child in each line a small empty bowl. Once the leader gives the signal, the first player of each team runs to the big bowl, takes one piece of bread and runs back to their team, puts the bread into the small bowl and runs to the back of the line. The second child passes the small bowl to the next child and runs to get another piece of bread. Repeat for 3 minutes. When the leader gives the signal again, the groups sit down. The team with the most bread wins the game.



Worship

Settle down ritual: Let the children close their eyes. Ask them to just look/focus on the light and dark patterns inside their eyelids. After 10 seconds, say in a calm voice: “God’s light is always shining in the light and dark parts of your life. Ask the Lord to show the dark things in your life to you and help you to take it away.” Wait a few more seconds and then say: “Amen.”



Word

Put up the washing line and add all 8 paper plates, facing the children.

Paper plate 1: Front – Crown

Inside – After Solomon, Ahab became king of Israel. He was a bad king and sinned more than any other king before him.

Paper plate 2: Front – Envelope with these words: The Lord sent a special messenger to King Ahab. It was a prophet by the name of Elijah. Prophet means – special messenger of God.

Inside – A message that God sent to Ahab (take it out and read it to the children)

The Lord said: ‘It will definitely not rain or dew for a few years. The drought will only come to an end when the Lord decides it. Then Elijah will come to you and tell you that the drought has come to an end.’

Paper plate 3: Front – Nothing on the front

Inside – A clue that tells the children where you hid a small bag. Children must now find the bag. There must be sand in the bag and a message. Don’t make the bag too heavy. Once the children find it, send it around for them to feel the inside, some may even feel the piece of paper.

Now take out the message and read it: The water in the rivers dried up and the land looked like a desert. God knew the king was angry with Elijah so God told Elijah where to go and hide. Nobody knew where Elijah hid away.

Paper plate 4: Front – Black crow

Inside – God cared for Elijah in a special way. There was a stream of water to drink from and crows brought meat and bread every morning and night for him to eat.

Paper plate 5: Front – House

Inside – At some point it became so dry that the stream of water dried up and Elijah had no more drinking water. God sent him to a town called Zarephath. There he saw a woman gathering wood and he asked her for something to drink and a piece of bread to eat.

Paper plate 6: Front – Nothing on the front

Inside – A jug with the following words: She explained to him that she only had enough flour and oil left to bake one more bread for her and her son. After that, they would starve of hunger. Elijah told her that she didn’t have to worry, God would provide and the jug would not run empty. The Lord would provide until it rained again. She believed Elijah and baked a bread. After that, the woman and son always had enough to eat – the flour and oil did not run out. The Lord provided just as He had promised through Elijah.

Paper plate 7: Front – Red hospital cross

Inside – The woman’s only son became ill and died, but God cared for them in a special way. Elijah prayed and asked God not to bring disaster over this woman and her son because they helped him. God heard Elijah’s plea and the son started breathing again and revived.

Paper plate 8: Front – The word “WOW”

Inside – The woman then told Elijah: “Now I know you are a man of God and that the Lord really speaks through you!”

Now hang the numbers 1, 2 and 3 on the washing line with the pegs. Let the children count as you hang up the numbers. Tell them that after 3 years... ONE, TWO, THREE... the Lord gave Elijah another assignment.

We are going to learn more about this assignment in our next session.

Give each child an invitation to the next session and remind them to bring it along.

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder how it feels not to know where you will get food today.
2. I wonder what Elijah thought when the crows came with the food in their beaks.
3. I wonder how God cares for you today.
4. I wonder how you thank God.



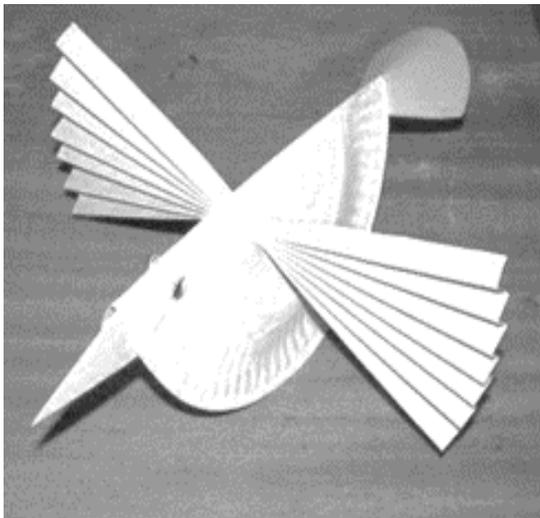
Working and Playing

- Use a paper plate to make a crow. Paste or write the words “God cares for me” inside.
- Crossword puzzle: Elijah’s hiding place

Prayer time: Hand out biscuits or pieces of bread. Children have to hold it. Now give them a chance to pray and thank God for His care. Once everyone is finished with their prayer, they can eat the bread/biscuit.

Closing prayer to end the session

“God chooses you to help people who are suffering, no matter who you are. Go, don’t be afraid. The Lord is with you.”

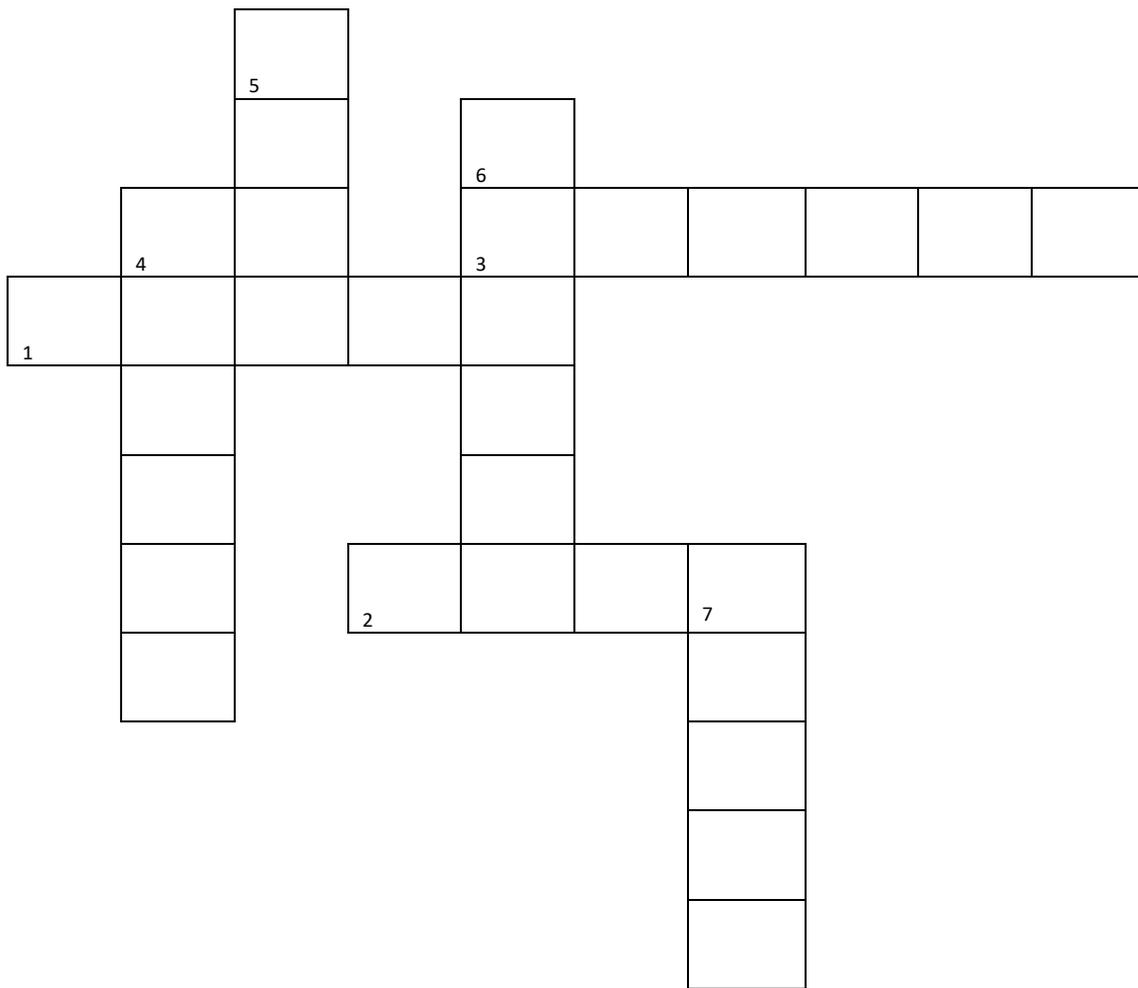


Answers to the crossword puzzle

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			E				K												
	R	A				E	L	I	J	A	H								
W	A	T	E	R															
	V					I													
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	N					A	H	A	B										
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Elijah's hiding place

Use the following Bible verses to help you with the answers: 1 Kings 16: 29 – 33; 17:1 – 6



ACROSS:

1. Elijah drank _____ from the ravine.
2. God protected Elijah against this king.
3. God sent this man to a safe place.

DOWN:

4. What kind of birds brought Elijah food?
5. What food did these birds bring Elijah?
6. To which ravine did God send Elijah?
7. What other kind of food did the birds bring Elijah?

