



All-Knowing – Lesson 2

4K and 5K

Divine Attribute: God is All-Knowing

Heart Response: Listen to him

Memory Verse: Hebrews 1:1

“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets...”

Points of Emphasis:

1. God knows everything.
2. God spoke his message through the prophets.
3. God teaches us to obey when we listen to him.
4. God is holy and knows we need to be rescued from our sin.

Personal Preparation:

It is important for us to understand that God knows everything. He created us, he called us into a relationship with himself, and he knows and desires what is best for us. He understands our hearts better than we do. We often do our own thing, judging ourselves by those around us and concluding that we are doing fine. But, when we compare ourselves to the amazing holiness, purity, and righteousness of God, we see ourselves as broken and sinful—needing to find mercy, needing to turn from our own ways, seeking forgiveness, and longing to turn back to God. That’s what he wants for us. That’s why he sent his Son to be our Shepherd and Savior.

In this unit, we see the same message from God to his people repeated time and again through the prophets. Through Isaiah, God reveals his holiness to his people and calls them to turn from their sin and follow him. Through Elijah, God reveals his power in order to call his people to turn from loving and trusting in idols to loving and trusting in him. Through Daniel, God sent a message to the Israelites to turn from trusting in themselves and their own ways back to following him and his ways. Turn, turn, turn—that is what it means to repent. And then, through Isaiah again, God

sends the message of a Rescuer for his broken and sinful people—a “turning” point for all people; the embodiment of his mercy and message—the Messiah. Ask Jesus to help you and the children listen to his message and turn from anything holding you back from following him.

CENTER TIME

10-20 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

To help the children transition into class, please use a center format at the beginning of each service. Set up three centers in your classroom to allow children options of activities. Ideas include, but are not limited to:

1. Read books on the floor.
2. Color at the table.
3. Play with blocks on the floor.
4. Play with puzzles at the table.
5. Play with Play-Doh at the table.

OPENING ACTIVITY

10 minutes at the start of service

The following activity is provided to begin engaging the children for the upcoming lesson. As the teacher of your class, you have an important opportunity to come alongside the parents of these children to teach them about God.

Idol Bag

Supplies:

“Idol Bag” with set of clip art (one per bin)

Show the children the paper bag. Take the pictures out one at a time and ask the children what each thing is. Allow time for children to name the pictures. If they do not know what a picture is, please tell them. Explain to the children these are some things that people think are more important than God. **Are any of these things more**

important than God? (No, God is more important than anything else and we should worship God only.)

BIG GROUP TIME

please check your classroom schedule

Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time—to have fun worshipping God together. Give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the teachers up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). Teachers, you are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!

SMALL GROUP TIME

25-30 minutes

Bible Story

Supplies:

Bible

Lesson picture - Elijah at the altar (one per bin)

Rocks (six per bin)

Craft sticks (three per bin)

Bag of orange, red, yellow streamers or tissue paper scraps (one per bin)

Bag of blue tissue paper scraps (one per bin)

Small cups (four per bin – use Dixie cups when available in rooms)

(Open your Bible to 1 Kings 18.) **Before we begin our lesson today, let's say our memory verse. Listen to our memory verse, and then I want you to say it with me. "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets" Hebrews 1:1.** (Say the memory verse and then have the children repeat it with you one-two times before beginning the story.) **Last week, we started learning about prophets. Does anyone remember what a prophet is?** (A prophet is a person who tells people God's message.) **Last week, we learned about the prophet Isaiah. This week, our lesson is about another prophet. This prophet's name is Elijah. Can you say his name with me?** (Elijah.) **Great job!**

Elijah was a prophet during the time when King Ahab was the king of Israel. Can you say King

Ahab? (King Ahab.) **King Ahab does not worship God. He worships an idol called Baal** ("bey-uh l" or "beyl"). **An idol is something that people worship that is not the true God. King Ahab has led the people into worshipping idols. God wants people to worship him only.**

God has not sent rain for a long time. The plants are beginning to die and there is not much food or water for the people or their animals. God does this to remind the people that he is the only true God and that they should follow him only.

The Lord tells Elijah "Go and present yourself to King Ahab. Tell him that I will soon send rain!" So Elijah tells King Ahab, "If you want it to rain again, King Ahab, bring all the prophets of Baal to Mount Carmel for a contest."

King Ahab agrees, and all the prophets of Baal and the people of Israel come to Mount Carmel for the contest. Elijah tells the people to bring enough stones and wood to build two altars—one to God and one to Baal. He also tells them to bring animals for the sacrifices. Then Elijah says, "Pray to your god and I'll pray to the Lord. The god who answers by sending fire down is the one and only God."

Then Elijah tells the prophets of Baal to build their altar and prepare their sacrifice. The people do what Elijah asks. They pray all day to Baal, but there is NO ANSWER! They pray loudly in case Baal is sleeping or on a trip, but they get NO ANSWER!

Then Elijah takes 12 stones and builds an altar to God. He puts wood on the altar and prepares the sacrifice. (Use the rocks and sticks to make a small altar in front of the children.) **Next Elijah says, "Bring four large pots of water and pour it on the altar and the sacrifice."** (Have the children help count as you pretend to pour the cups of blue tissue paper "pots of water" on the altar.) **The people do it.** (Pour cup one.) **ONE! Then Elijah says, "Do it again!"** (Pour cup two.) **Two! So they do it again! Then he says, "Do it a third time!"** (Pour cup three.) **Three! When they do it the third time, water covers the altar, the sacrifice, and fills the ditch around the altar.**

Then Elijah prays to God, “God, show all these people that you are the **TRUE GOD** and I am your servant and have done all these things at your word. Turn the hearts of these people back to you, God!” Then, God answers Elijah’s prayer and sends fire down on the altar! (Put the orange, red, and yellow streamers or tissue paper over the altar and the “water.”) **The fire burns up the sacrifice, the wood, and the stones; it even dries up all the water in the ditch. When the people see this, they know that the God of Israel is the TRUE GOD; the people worship God!** (You can show the children the lesson picture now.)

God is all-knowing, and he told Elijah what to do and what to say to show the people that he is the **TRUE God** and they should worship him only. Elijah listened to God and did what he asked. God does know everything, and we need to listen and obey what he says.

We sometimes make other things more important than God, just like the Israelite people did. Sometimes, our friends try and tell us things that are not true and pull us away from what God wants. But we need to listen to God and obey his words because he is the one and only God who knows everything.

Prayer

Prayer time may not be appropriate immediately following story time. If this is the case, we ask that you be intentional about praying spontaneously or formally with the children at other times during class.

Dear God, thank you for being the one true God. There is nothing more important than you. Please help us choose to listen to you and do what you ask. Amen.

One True God – Making An Altar

Supplies:

Worksheet – “One True God” side (one per child)

Mini craft sticks (three per child)

Bag of orange, red, yellow tissue paper scraps from lesson (one per bin)

Crayons

Glue sticks

Have children color the rocks on the altar cardstock and then glue the craft sticks to the top of the altar. (Note: Have the children spread the glue stick onto the craft stick and press it onto the cardstock for a count of five. This will help it to stick better.) Remind them how Elijah poured water onto the altar. Have them color blue water around the altar. Then, remind them of how God sent fire to the altar and have the children glue red, yellow, and, orange tissue paper on top of the altar to remind them how the God of Israel is the one true God. (Tear tissue paper into smaller pieces if needed.) You will use the backside of this worksheet in the last activity.

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn’t matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

SNACK & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

last 30 minutes

Please wash the children’s hands before snack time and say a prayer thanking God for the food. As they are eating their snack, please take time to go over the review questions.

Review Questions

1. **Who was the prophet we learned about today?** (Elijah.)
2. **What did King Ahab worship?** (An idol called Baal.)
3. **What happened when the people prayed to Baal?** (Nothing.)
4. **What did Elijah tell the people to pour on the altar he built?** (Water.)
5. **What happened when Elijah prayed to God?** (God sent fire and burned the sacrifice.)
6. **Who/what does God want us to worship?** (Only him.)

Listen and Obey

Have the children stand up and spread out. Tell the children that you will tell them three things they can do and they will need to listen and do what you say. Then say things like turn around, clap your hands, and sit down. Stand up, stomp your feet, and touch your toes. Remind them to listen carefully so they can do what you say.

Worship God Only

Supplies

Worksheet – “Worship God Only” side (one per child)

Crayons

Talk to the kids about how we can make some of these things (food, TV, money, home, family, pets, toys, sports) idols. Explain that these things aren’t necessarily bad, but that we need to remember they are not more important than God and spending time with him through prayer, worship, and reading the Bible; loving and obeying him; etc. Have the children put an X over things that we sometimes put before God and remind them always to put God first!

