



LESSON 39 SKIT

Principle: Having faith. Calling out to God.

Bible Character(s): Elijah

Scripture Reference: 1 Kings 19



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, please read through 1 Kings 19.

As you read through Elijah's struggles, think through ways children experience times of failure or disappointment. We will not spend a great deal of time on feelings of depression, but we will discuss how our feelings can change. Remember that Elijah just came off a mountain-top experience. As the drought ended, he had been filled with the Holy Spirit and used by God to show His mighty power over the idols of Baal. Now he is afraid because Queen Jezebel wants him dead. Notice how God mercifully supplies him with food and rest and then gives him direction and help. Think about times in your life when you have been broken and afraid. How did you respond during this time? Did you call on God for help and depend on His strength, or did you try to deal with things by yourself? How was God present through this time of struggle, even if you did not call on Him? Be prepared to discuss these times with your campers. Romans 12:1-2 are powerful verses to pray through as you study this lesson.



BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

1) Run-through/Prayer

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc), assign door greeters, pray, mic check

2) Welcome Cabins

The band member says, "Welcome to Camp Grace!" before the intro song

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

Reverse Hot Potato

Have one camper from each cabin come up to the front. Have them form a circle and sit so that they are side by side. Pass out a variety of-sized/textured balls to as many campers as there are, minus 1. Explain that when the music starts, they will hand the ball to the person on their left. They will continue this until the music stops. The camper without a ball will be out. Continue rounds, taking out a ball each round, until there are 2 campers left. Have these 2 campers sit across from each other for this last round. The camper with a ball when the music stops wins the camp banner.

5) Worship Set

Worship Connector: **Who do you go to when you are having a hard time or struggling with something? We can always go to God because He wants us to call out to Him. Today, we are going to see how Elijah responds to a time of struggle. Elijah tries to run from the struggle, but God meets with him. As we continue to sing, let's spend some time thanking God for knowing each of us personally and for *always* being there for us. We can have faith to follow and call out to God because He is faithful.**

6) Skit

Feeling Like a Failure

ProPresenter:

Slide #1: Step 1 – Keep your eyes on God (trust God). Don't focus on yourself and feel sorry for yourself.

Slide #2: Step 2 – Know that you are not alone. God is always with you.

Slide #3: Step 3 – Know that God has a plan. God has more for you to do. He doesn't want you to live in a cave or hide on Mount Whack-a-Mole. So, instead of hiding, go back the way you came.

Slide #4: Step 4 – Ask God for a friend to help you stay on the right track. He gave Elijah a partner named Elisha.

Characters:

Staff Member #1 (staff member with the problem; hides behind the tree)

Staff Member #2 (cool head, problem solver)

Staff Member #3 (element of comedy, over dramatic)

Props:

3 ficus trees

Flashlight

Tissues

Script:

*****DIM LIGHTS**

(Two staff people place a group of ficus trees on stage that will serve as a place of hiding for Staff

Member #1. One of the staff members will actually be Staff Member #1 and will quietly slip behind the group of trees placed on the stage. The other staff member will exit the stage.)

*****BRING UP LIGHTS**

(Staff Member #2 and Staff Member #3 hike to the stage with backpacks. They should not notice the children in the audience.)

Staff Member #2: This looks like a good place. What do you think?

Staff Member #3: Yep. Works for me. (Takes off backpack.) Hey, there's even a perfect setup for a campfire here. Too bad the fire is not already going. It's pretty cold.

Staff Member #2: We could call out to God for fire like Elijah did when he was going up against the prophets of Baal.

Staff Member #3: That was awesome. Elijah went up against 450 prophets who cried out all day for their god to send fire. Elijah just prayed one simple prayer, and God sent fire that burned up everything there, including the stones and the water.

(Both staff members sit near the fire, facing the audience. Staff Member #2 should have his/her back toward the ficus trees.)

Staff Member #2: That is absolutely one of the coolest stories in the Bible. Elijah had faith that God would show Himself as the one true God, and He did. He did in a big way.

Staff Member #3: What happened after that? What did Elijah do next?

Staff Member #2: Elijah had such great faith in the showdown with the 450 prophets. But then, the queen, Jezebel, sent word to Elijah that she would kill him just like he killed all the prophets of Baal. He became afraid, and he ran for his life.

Staff Member #3: Elijah? Elijah ran for his life.

Staff Member #2: Yep! He was afraid, tired, and depressed.

Staff Member #3: Wow! I wouldn't think Elijah, who had so much faith in God, would ever be afraid of anything. I certainly wouldn't think he would ever be depressed. (Pause) What was that? Did you hear that?

Staff Member #2: Probably a squirrel.

Staff Member #3: No, it's more like, like, whimpering.

Staff Member #2: Yeah, I think I hear it now. It's coming from this direction.

Staff Member #1: (Cry softly.)

Staff Member #3: **Hey! It's right behind you!** (Both staff members jump up and look in the direction of the ficus trees.) **Stand back! I'll go all Jackie Chan on it!** (Gets in karate stance.)

Staff Member #2: **Hold on.** (Walks closer.)

Staff Member #3: **Don't worry. I've got your back.** (Still using karate stance, but backing away.)

Staff Member #2: (Pulls back the branches of the ficus trees and looks through.) **Hey! Are you okay? Come on out of there. We'll help you.**

Staff Member #3: (Backing up even further.) **Careful. You don't want to make a wild animal mad. Not that I'm afraid or anything, I just, well, I just...**

Staff Member #1: (Comes through the trees into the campsite. Staff Member #1 is crying.)

Staff Member #3: (name of Staff Member #1), **what are you doing back there?!**

Staff Member #1: (Whimpers out an inaudible response.)

Staff Member #3: **Did you get that?**

Staff Member #2: **Here - sit with us, and we'll see if we can help you.** (Everyone sits down facing the audience.)

Staff Member #1: (Blows nose and hands tissue to Staff Member #3.) **I'm sorry. I didn't know anyone would be here. I came up here to be by myself.**

Staff Member #2: **What happened? Why are you crying?**

Staff Member #1: **What didn't happen? I'm such a loser. I was helping out in the cafeteria. Ms. Bea was making her famous lasagna.**

Staff Member #3: **You've got to be kidding! I LOVE Ms. Bea's lasagna. I never miss lasagna day. I feel like crying now. Here we are up on this mountain while down below everyone is enjoying big helpings of tomatoey, cheesy goodness.** (Wails the following line loudly) **Why? Why, oh why? We're missing Ms. Bea's lasagna!**

Staff Member #1: **Everyone's missing the lasagna. See, that's why I'm here. I was taking the pans of lasagna out of the oven and placing them on a rolling metal cart. I didn't check the cart out before using it. The wheel was broken. The cart tipped over and, well, the lasagna was ruined.**

Staff Member #3: (Gasps and grabs heart.) **That is the worst thing I've ever heard. You carelessly wasted one of the greatest culinary creations known to man. What a tragedy!** (Wails loudly again.) **Why? Oh, why?**

Staff Member #1: **I know. Believe me, I know. There are about 150 campers and staff members down**

there who feel the same way. They all hate me! I'll never be able to go back. How will I ever face everyone?

Staff Member #3: I see what you mean. They'll never forgive you for ruining the lasagna. That's a big one. So, what, you think you might live up here? That's what I would do. You could live off the land. It will be hard at first, but you'll find a way. Yep! That's the answer, all right

Staff Member #2: Hold on. Let's not get carried away. You don't have to live up here.

Staff Member #1: Actually, that's what I've been thinking. I just can't go back. I can't. I just want to be by myself.

Staff Member #3: It definitely sounds like a plan to me.

Staff Member #2: _____ (Staff Member #1), do you remember the story about Elijah and the prophets of Baal?

Staff Member #1: Sure. What a great story of faith and courage! He stood alone against 450 prophets.

Staff Member #2: Would it surprise you to know that shortly after that, Elijah became afraid of the queen and ran for his life? Would it surprise you to know that he was hiding under a tree, tired and depressed, crying for God to let him die?

Staff Member #1: Really? Elijah? But why? I mean, he had just seen God do miraculous things. Why was he afraid?

Staff Member #2: Well, Elijah took his eyes off God. He looked at himself. He began to feel sorry for himself. Even after the standoff with the prophets of Baal, he felt like he was all alone in following God. He was afraid because Queen Jezebel wanted him dead. He thought he was finished. He felt like a failure because people were still worshipping Baal. He wanted to die.

Staff Member #1: I can relate. I feel like a failure right now. I can never face those people again.

Staff Member #3: Well, what happened? Did Elijah live out his days in hiding?

Staff Member #2: No, God helped him. God sent an angel to give Elijah food and drink. Then, God told Elijah to take the long journey to Mount Horeb. There, Elijah waited to hear from God. (Use drama in relaying the facts of the story.) There was a wind that shattered rocks, but God was not in the wind. There was an earthquake, but God was not in the earthquake. There was a great fire, but God was not in the fire. There was a gentle whisper. Guess what? That whisper was how God chose to speak to Elijah.

Staff Member #3: Hey, I get it. Elijah had seen God do big things like with the prophets of Baal. God was showing Elijah that he needed to look for Him in the small stuff, too. Right?

Staff Member #2: I think so. When God spoke to Elijah, he reminded Elijah that he wasn't alone. God

told him that 7,000 others in Israel worshipped the one true God. Even though Elijah thought he was finished, God gave him a new plan to carry out. God told Elijah to go back the way he had come. The cool thing is that on the way back, God gave Elijah a friend and partner to help him. His name was Elisha.

Staff Member #3: I'm confused. He/She dropped the lasagna. How does that compare to Elijah being depressed because the queen wanted to kill him?

Staff Member #2: Well, we all feel like failures at times. We all want to hide from everyone at times. We can learn from Elijah's story. See, Elijah took his eyes off God and looked at himself. He felt sorry for himself. So, the first step is to put your eyes on God and not feel sorry for yourself. You know that the same God who burned the water and stones at Elijah's altar can help you with your problem. Next, you know that you are not alone. You have God. You also have people who care about you and will forgive your mistake. You have us, for example. The last thing is to remember that God told Elijah to go back the way he came. God didn't call Elijah to live in a cave. His plan for you isn't that you hide up here on Mount Whack-a-Mole. He has more in store for you than that. So, instead of hiding, go back the way you came and face the people.

Staff Member #1: You're right. I'm going to trust that God will help me through this. I made a mistake, but I'm not alone. God will work to make things right in this. I believe that. I'm going back.

Staff Member #3: God gave Elijah a partner, Elisha. I'll be your Elisha. I'll go back with you.

(Staff Member #1 and Staff Member #3 begin walking off together.)

Staff Member #2: I'll help you, too. You guys go ahead, and I'll catch up. I'm just going to clean up here.

Staff Member #3: (Pretends to trip over a camper.) Awwh! Hey! When did you guys get here?

Staff Member #2: Who is it? (Shines flashlight out into the audience.) Oh, it's you. I didn't even hear you hike up here. Hey, let's all go back down the mountain together. But first, let's be sure we all know what to do when we feel like a failure.

(Two exiting staff members should sit with campers, remaining still and quiet so they do not distract.)

***SLIDE #1

Step 1: Keep your eyes on God (trust God). Don't focus on yourself and feel sorry for yourself.

***SLIDE #2

Step 2: Know that you are not alone. God is always with you.

***SLIDE #3

Step 3: Know that God has a plan. God has more for you to do. He doesn't want you to live in a cave or hide on Mount Whack-A-Mole. So, *instead of hiding, go back the way you came.*

****SLIDE #4*

Step 4: Ask God for a friend to help you stay on the right track. He gave Elijah a partner named Elisha.

Let's pray.

Father, thank You for showing us through Elijah that we are not alone. Help us to keep our eyes on You and not focus on ourselves. When we are depressed and feeling like failures, help us to remember that with You, we have hope. Amen.

Okay, let's get down the mountain in an organized manner. I'll call out one cabin at a time.

(Staff Member #1 and Staff Member #3 should exit with the campers and keep up the pretense of hiking back down Mount Whack-a-Mole.)



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