



Date: _____

Series: God Gives the Best Gifts
Winter Year 2, Lesson 28

Elijah is Fed by Ravens

Bible Event: 1 Kings 17:1-6

Take Home Point: *GOD GIVES ME WHAT I NEED—*I thank*

God. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: I need forgiveness – God gave me Jesus.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn that we all go through tough times, but we can always depend on God. God will always provide what we need. It feels great to know that God is there for us, and we need to give him thanks. Just like God provided Elijah with food and water, God provides us with food and a family and a home. Kids will take home the point * **GOD GIVES ME WHAT I NEED – *I thank God.***
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Video

Test your sound and video system beforehand. Cue the video to its precise beginning. For larger groups of children (15 or more), use a large screen TV or imager. Dim the lights before starting the video. To introduce a video, you might read from a Bible storybook and leave off the ending, inviting children to see what happens by watching the video. You could also introduce the video by inviting children to keep an eye out for special actions or words they will see during it.

Introduce the video with a brief summary of the story. Explain that today's Bible story is about a man named Elijah. We have talked about Elijah before. He was a prophet of God. That meant he was God's special servant. In today's story, Elijah sees that people are worshipping a false god called Baal. A wicked king, Ahab, wants to kill Elijah, so God helps Elijah hide in the desert. God provides water for Elijah and sends birds to bring him food to eat each day. Let's watch...

Show *Elijah: Animated Stories from the Bible*; Animated Bible Stories II, 1993. Can be ordered from www.nestfamily.com. Show from the beginning title page until 8:55.

You may choose to continue this video to the end during zone or closing time.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal. If this is an option at your church, be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Make wraps. Place bologna and cheese on a flour tortilla; roll them up and cut into slices. Even though Elijah didn't receive cheese, this snack represents the food God provided for Elijah.

HEALTHY SNACK OPTION: Use nuts or carrot sticks or any fruit or veggies to illustrate the great food God has given us to help sustain our bodies. Talk about how he designed this food to give us things that help keep us well. Just like he did for Elijah.

Drama Zone: Allow children to reenact the scene. One child may dress as Elijah, and others can use the beaks from the craft zone to pretend they are birds. Provide some play food.

Puppet Zone: Let the children use puppets to name as many things as they can think of that they are thankful for.

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of Elijah being fed by ravens from today's Bible event. (For example, use Lesson #73, "God Cares for Elijah," from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

Craft Zone: Create bird beaks out of orange card stock. See attached template. Children can cut the beaks out or they can be pre-cut. Fold along dotted line. Children, with help, can punch the holes and tie the 'string elastic' so the beak will fit around their heads. Attach two pre-made labels, one for each side of the beak: "Elijah Fed by Ravens" and "I thank God."

Play Zone: Have children wave a parachute. Throw many balls of crumpled paper onto the parachute. Each time a ball flies off of the parachute, have a different child name something they are thankful for.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of Elijah and the Ravens.

Coloring Zone: "Elijah Fed by Ravens" coloring page



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Judy comes on stage wearing an apron. She is very excited because it's Thanksgiving and that means that she gets to bake pies with her Grandma! The presenter thinks that sounds great. He wonders if Judy knows what Thanksgiving Day is about. Judy thinks it must have something to do with giving thanks. The presenter asks Judy who we should be thankful for. She comes up with several answers, including Grandma for baking pies with her and Mom for being Mom, and Dad for watching football all day. The presenter thinks that it's good to be thankful for all of those people, but explains that there is someone else to be thankful for also. Thanksgiving should also be about thanking God.

The presenter invites the kids to help tell Judy about today's Bible story. The presenter prompts the kids to tell her about God providing food for Elijah, how he sent birds to give Elijah the food, and about how Elijah was thankful to God for providing the food he needed to live. The presenter goes on to explain that God provides all kinds of things we need, like food, families, homes, etc. The most important thing that God provided for us was Jesus. God knew that we needed forgiveness, so he sent his own Son to die on the cross for us. God loves us so much that he will give us everything we ever need – including his own Son. That is why we need to thank God for all that he provides for us. Remember: ***GOD GIVES ME WHAT I NEED – I thank God.**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

*(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly
(make a large circle with your hands. Finish by
bringing your hands down and wiggling your
fingers to resemble rain.)*

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

*(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then
move your hands out to the sides.)*

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

*(Move to a "strong man" position. Then
cross your arms with your hands on
corresponding upper arms to communicate
comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead"
and the other with "guide" to complete the
blessing.)*

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box—the treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event
- *Elijah: Animated Stories from the Bible*; Animated Bible Stories II, 1993—order from
http://www.nestfamily.com/store/product_detail.asp?productID=EJD

Action Zones:

Snack:

- tortillas
- bologna
- cheese
- *Healthy Snack Option:* fresh fruits and veggies

Drama:

- fake food
- bird beaks (template)
- Elijah costume

Craft:

- orange card stock
- hole punch
- scissors
- string elastic
- pre-made labels “Elijah Fed by Ravens” and “I thank God”

Play:

- parachute
- balls made of crumpled paper

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books

Puppet:

- various puppets

Felt:

- materials to reenact story (For example, use Lesson #73, “God Cares for Elijah,” from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt.*)—order from www.bettylukens.com

Coloring page

- crayons, markers, “Elijah is Fed by Ravens”

Closing Worship:

- Judy, the puppet
- apron

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books

