



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Series:** Elijah  
Summer, Year 2, Lesson 11

# Elijah's Fiery Chariot

**Take Home Point:** \*God is powerful.

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. Leaders say the phrase and the children repeat it.

**Bible Event:** 2 Kings 2

**We will help children know:**

- Elijah was training Elisha to be the next prophet.
- God can do anything.
- God is powerful.




**We will help children feel:**

- Awe for such a powerful God.
- Secure because God loves them.

**We will help children do:**

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that reminds us of a chariot of fire.
- Make a craft of Elijah in a fiery chariot.
- Play a learning game called *Am I Powerful?* and a movement game called *Elijah Race*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce learning today's Take Home Point: \***God is powerful.**

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<b>Warm-Up</b> (5-10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>toys of your choice</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group Opening</b> (5-10 minutes) 	3	Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>songs of your choice</li> </ul>
	3	Puppet Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bubba puppet and his elephant</li> </ul>
	4	Bible Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>children's picture Bible</li> </ul>
<b>Small Group Application</b> (10 minutes—each activity) 	6	Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>children's picture Bible</li> </ul>
	8	Activity 2: Snack	<i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>napkins</li> <li>cups of water</li> <li>graham crackers</li> <li>frosting tinted orange</li> </ul>
	9	Activity 3: Craft	<i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>copies of Appendix A, one copy for two children</li> <li>Styrofoam cup</li> <li>Tape</li> <li>Crayons or markers</li> <li>Orange crepe paper streamers</li> <li>Sticker that says "God is powerful" or permanent marker to write it on cup</li> </ul>
	11	Activity 4: Learning Game Movement Game	<i>Activity 4: Games</i> <i>Learning Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>none</li> </ul> <i>Movement Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>none</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group Wrap-Up</b> (5-10 minutes) 	13	Review Lesson and Take Home Point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>songs of your choice</li> </ul>
	13	Pray	
	14	Sing (Optional)	

## Warm-Up (Prior to class and first 10 minutes of the session.)

Young children this age need a time to get acquainted with the new surroundings as they enter the classroom. Provide a variety of calm activities and toys, such as blocks, play centers and simple puzzles. These activities create an environment that helps young children let go of Mom and Dad. If necessary, Mom and Dad may play with them for a few minutes and then leave.

## Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes)



*Purpose: You may use singing as a large group activity and to gather attention. The opening puppet presentation is a quick overview introducing the Bible Event and Take Home Point. Early childhood humor is also used. Bubba often says something silly about elephants. Judy says something silly about pink ponies. Let the children enjoy the "joke" but use it to call attention to the Bible Event.*

**Singing:** Use music of your choice.

## Puppet Presentation

*Supplies:*

- children's picture Bible
- Bubba's elephant

### Bubba Learns God is Powerful

**Presenter:** Boys and girls, let's call out Bubba.

Kids call Bubba. **Bubba...Bubba...Bubba.** Bubba enters carrying his elephant.

**Presenter:** Hi, Bubba. What do you have with you today?

Bubba: It's my elephant. I like my elephant.

**Presenter:** Why?

Bubba: Because elephants are big and powerful.

**Presenter:** You are right, they are powerful.

Bubba: I don't like pink ponies.

**Presenter:** Why?

Bubba: Because they can't do anything. Elephants are really powerful.

**Presenter:** Well, pink ponies still make good toys and so do stuffed elephants.

Bubba: Elephants are so powerful. They are the best of all.

**Presenter: Did you know that in the Bible there was an animal that was more powerful than an elephant?**

Bubba: What could be more powerful than an elephant?

**Presenter: It was a fiery horse!**

Bubba: You mean like a pink pony?

**Presenter: No. It was a fiery horse pulling a chariot. When it was seen, people knew God was powerful.**

Bubba: A fiery horse? Are you sure it wasn't an elephant?

**Presenter: It was a fiery horse pulling a fiery chariot. Will you let me tell you the Bible Event about how God is really powerful? He used a fiery horse to pull a fiery chariot to take his prophet Elijah back to heaven.**

Bubba: That sounds like something even an elephant could not do.

**Presenter: You are right. See what I am holding? This is the Bible. It is God's word. Everything in the Bible is true. Now I am going to read about our lesson from the Bible. Let's put on our listening ears.**

Read the Bible Event from a children's picture Bible.

**Presenter: Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.**

**Presenter: Bubba, will you help us sing our song of the week?**

Bubba: Sure, I love to sing.

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

**GOD is POWER-FUL.  
GOD is POWER-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWER-FUL.**

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,

You are with us. You are with us.

We love you. We love you.

You are powerful. You are powerful.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.

Amen. Amen.

# Small Group Application (30-40 minutes)



**Purpose:** Young children learn best by repetition. Review the Bible Event and practice the Take Home Point as you rotate through the activities.

The shepherd to child ratio for three-year-olds should be one to six or fewer. Divide into groups of six with one shepherd or have a slightly larger group with two shepherds.

Groups rotate from activity to activity. Another option, especially for larger churches, is to provide a leader at each activity table with a shepherd leading a group of up to twelve. The ratio will be maintained at one to six.

## Activity 1: Acting Out the Bible Event

Supplies:

- Children's picture Bible

### Elijah's Fiery Chariot

2 Kings 2

#### Introduction

Hold up a children's picture Bible.

**This is the Bible. It is God's word. Let's act out what it says in the Bible. When you see me do the actions, you do them, too.**

#### God calls Elijah.

- A long time ago, there were two prophets who loved God and helped his people. One was named "Elijah." Let's all say "Elijah."
- The other's name was "Elisha." Let's all say "Elisha."
- Elijah was the older prophet. The younger one was Elisha. Elisha was learning from Elijah how to be a good prophet of God.
- God told the prophets that soon Elijah would leave this world and go to heaven. Let's point to heaven.
- Elisha was sad that Elijah was leaving. Elisha liked learning from Elijah and would miss Elijah when he went to heaven. When it was time for Elijah to go, Elisha said, "I will not leave you. I want to go with you." So they started on their journey together. Let's walk in place.

#### Elisha does not want Elijah to leave.

- When they arrived in Bethel, other prophets came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that God is going to take your master

from you today?” Elisha said, “Yes, I know, but do not talk about it.” It made Elisha too sad to think about Elijah leaving. Show me your sad face.

- Again, Elijah wanted to keep going alone. But Elisha said, “I will not leave you. I want to go with you.” Elisha thought that if he stayed with Elijah, then Elijah could not leave him. So they walked on until they arrived in Jericho. Let’s walk in place.
- When they arrived in Jericho, again other prophets asked Elisha if he knew that God was going to take Elijah today. Elisha said, “Yes, I know, but do not talk about it.” Elisha thought that if no one talked about it, maybe it would not happen. Let’s cover our mouths.

Elijah goes to heaven in a chariot of fire.

- Elijah and Elisha kept on walking until they came to the Jordan River. The other prophets watched them. Elijah took his coat and hit the water in the river. The water stopped flowing and they walked across on dry land. Let’s walk across the river.
- Then Elijah asked Elisha if there was anything he could do for him before he left this world. Elisha did not ask for money. Elisha did not ask for fancy clothes. Elisha did not ask for rich jewels. Shake your heads “no.”
- Instead, Elisha said he wanted to be twice as full of God’s Spirit as Elijah was. Elijah told him if he saw him going to heaven, it would happen. Elijah knew that God is powerful and can do anything. Show me your muscles.
- Elijah and Elisha were walking along talking when Elisha saw something truly wonderful happen. Horses made of fire appeared out of the sky. They were pulling a chariot of fire. It swooped down in between them and Elijah climbed on board. Soon Elijah was flying in the fiery chariot up to heaven! Elisha saw him no more. Wow! Let’s say “wow!”

Elisha is blessed with God’s spirit.

- Elisha was sad that Elijah was gone. He cried and cried. Let’s pretend to cry.
- Then Elisha picked up Elijah’s coat, walked back to the river and hit the water in the river. Let’s pretend to hit the water with our coat.
- Just like before, the water stopped flowing so Elisha could walk across on dry land. The other prophets had been watching them. When they saw that Elisha could stop the river, just like Elijah did before, they knew the spirit of Elijah was with Elisha. They knew God was powerful. They knew that Elisha would be God’s special prophet. Everyone knew God was powerful.

God is powerful.

- **God is powerful.** He can do anything. Does he want to come and take us to heaven in a ferry chariot? No. He does want us to know that he is with us even when we cannot see him. He does want us to know that he loves us. He does want us to know that he gave his Son Jesus to us. He is very powerful.
- Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.

### Pray, Sing and Review the Take Home Point

**Prayer:**

Let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,  
You are with us. You are with us.  
We love you. We love you.  
You are powerful. You are powerful.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.  
Amen. Amen.

Let's sing our song of the week.

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

GOD is POWER-FUL.  
GOD is POWER-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWER-FUL.

**Take Home Point:**

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.

## **Activity 2: Snack**

*Supplies:*

- *Napkins*
- *Cups and water*
- *Graham crackers*
- *White frosting tinted orange*

BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM ANY FOOD TO EAT.
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Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of the chariot of fire. Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and say a prayer. Repeat after me.

Dear God, Dear God,  
You are with us. You are with us.  
We love you. We love you.  
You are powerful. You are powerful.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.  
Amen. Amen.

God is powerful. He took Elijah up to heaven in a chariot of fire being pulled by horses of fire. Our snack today reminds us of the chariot of fire. Hold up a frosted graham cracker. A chariot is like a cart that you can ride in. Pass out napkin, cup of water and a square of graham cracker to each child. Do not eat your cracker until I put the pretend fire on it. (If you have time, you can frost them before children arrive.) You can eat your chariots of fire now.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.

Let's sing our song of the week.

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.

### Activity 3: Craft

*Children take pride in making something themselves. Resist trying to do too much for children so that they can say, "I did it myself."*

*Supplies:*

- Copies of Appendix A, one copy per two children
- Styrofoam cups
- Tape
- Crayons or markers
- Orange crepe paper streamers, cut into 4 "pieces
- Sticker that says, or permanent marker to write on back side of cup, God is powerful.

*Before class, cut out horse and chariot, leaving them in one piece. White space around them is ok.*

*Cut out Elijah.*

*Cut a slit in Styrofoam cup from lip of cut, long enough to slip Elijah into it.*

*Write "God is powerful" on side of cup.*

**We heard how God is powerful enough to make fiery horses and a chariot come down from heaven to take Elijah. Today we are going to make our own fiery chariot and horse taking Elijah to heaven. First, I want you to color Elijah and the horse and chariot. When you are finished, we will tape this pretend fire (two strips of orange crepe paper) to the back of the fiery chariot. Now we will tape the horse and chariot to the cup. (Tape so that the slit is on top side of cup and horse and chariot are a little below the cup so it will not roll.) Then we will slide Elijah into the slit in the cup on his way to heaven. (You may have to secure Elijah with tape.)**

**Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.**

**Let's sing our song of the week.**

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

**GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.**

**Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:**

**Dear God, Dear God,  
You are with us. You are with us.  
We love you. We love you.  
You are powerful. You are powerful.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.  
Amen. Amen.**

## Activity 4: Games

Choose one or both games to play. Children with lots of wiggles should play the Movement Game first.

### Learning Game

Supplies:

- none

Today we are going to play a game called *Am I Powerful?* After you answer the questions, you can do the actions.

1. Am I powerful if I can lift up a car? Yes. Let's beep our horn.
2. Am I powerful if the heaviest thing I can pick up is a puppy? No. Let's bark like a puppy.
3. Am I powerful if I can climb a big mountain? Yes. Let's pretend to climb a mountain.
4. Am I powerful if I can stop a river like Elijah and Elisha? Yes. Let's pretend to hit the river with our coat and walk across the dry land.
5. Am I powerful if I have can not even pick a flower? No. Let's pretend to smell a flower.
6. Am I powerful if I drink from a baby bottle? No. Let's babble like a baby.
7. Am I powerful if I am an animal that says, "chirp, chirp?" No. Let's pretend to be a birdie and flap our wings.
8. Am I powerful if I am asleep? No. Let's close our eyes and snore.
9. Am I powerful if I am a lion with a shaggy mane? Yes. Let's roar like a lion.
10. Am I powerful if I am God? Yes! Let's say, "God is powerful."

### Movement Game

Supplies:

- none

Jesus is so powerful that he can help us do anything. He can help us play our game today called *Elijah Race* (similar to Duck, Duck Goose). I want everyone to sit down in a circle. I will choose one of you to start walking around the circle and tap children on the head saying "Elisha, Elisha, Elisha," until you say "Elijah." When you say "Elijah," that child will get up and you will run around the circle. The child who tapped will sit down and the child who was tapped will then proceed around the circle tapping the other children. Keep playing until everyone has a turn.

Remember how Elisha wanted to go along with Elijah? Elisha could not go into heaven with Elijah, but he did get to see Elijah go to heaven in a fiery chariot. God is powerful and he showed it by doing these things.

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.

Let's sing our song of the week.

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

GOD is POWer-FUL.  
GOD is POWer-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWer-FUL.

Let's pray now. Fold your hands and repeat after me:

Dear God, Dear God,  
You are with us. You are with us.  
We love you. We love you.  
You are powerful. You are powerful.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.  
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.  
Amen. Amen.

# Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)



## Lesson Review:

Presenter reviews the lesson by supplying key parts of the lesson with some words left out. Children are to supply the key words as the presenter shares the Bible Event.

**See if you know the word I'm thinking of when I tell the Bible Event. If you know it, you may say it out loud without raising your hand.**

**Elijah trained Elisha to take over after he left this world. Elisha was sad to know that Elijah would leave him. Did Elisha follow Elijah to the Jordan River or did he throw rocks at him? (He followed him.) God told Elijah to go to the Jordan River. He crossed the Jordan River by slapping his coat on the water. Did the water part so he could cross or did it freeze so he could ice skate across? (The water parted.) Elijah asked Elisha if there was anything he wanted when Elijah left this world. Elisha wanted to have God use him powerfully like God used Elijah. This would happen if he saw how he went to heaven. While they were walking, what came down from heaven to take Elijah, a fiery chariot pulled by fire horses or a helicopter? (A fiery chariot pulled by fire horses.) Where did the fiery chariot take Elijah? (Heaven.) Elisha saw how powerful God was.**

## Lesson Prayer:

**Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.**

**Dear God, Dear God,**

**You are with us. You are with us.**

**We love you. We love you.**

**You are powerful. You are powerful.**

**Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.**

**In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.**

**Amen. Amen.**

## Lesson Song:

Let's sing our song of the week.

**Song:** to the tune of *Farmer in the Dell*

*Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.*

GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.  
HE WILL take CARE of US.  
GOD is POWEr-FUL.

## Take Home Point:

Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: \*God is powerful. God is powerful.

*Lead the children in singing songs from a CD until parents begin arriving. Let parents know that they are welcome to join in. Dismiss by handing out God Talk at Home.*

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