



Date: _____
Series: Elijah
Summer, Year 2, Lesson 10

Elijah's Fiery Showdown

Take Home Point: *Trust God.

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

Bible Event: 1 Kings 18

We will help children know:

- Trust means to believe what someone says.
- Elijah trusted God.
- We can trust God.

We will help children feel:

- Confident in trusting and following God.
- Happy that God loves them.

We will help children do:

- Participate in acting out the Bible Event.
- Eat a snack that looks like fire on an altar.
- Make a craft of the altar and fire God started for Elijah.
- Play a learning game called *Would You Trust Me?* and a movement game called *Trust What I Say*.
- Take home a copy of *God Talk at Home* to reinforce learning today's Take Home Point: ***Trust God.**

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Warm-Up (5-10 minutes)	3	Transition Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • toys of your choice
Large Group Opening (5-10 minutes) 	3 3 4	Sing (Optional) Puppet Presentation Bible Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • songs of your choice • Judy puppet, marshmallow on a stick taped to her hand • children's picture Bible
Small Group Application (10 minutes—each activity) 	6 9 10 11 12	Activity 1: Acting Out Bible Event Activity 2: Snack Activity 3: Craft Activity 4: Learning Game Movement Game	<i>Activity 1: Bible Event</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children's picture Bible <i>Activity 2: Snack</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • napkins • cups of water • saltines • sliced yellow cheese or squirt cheese <i>Activity 3: Craft</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • copies of Appendix A, one per child • tape • yellow, orange, and red crepe paper streamers (option, construction paper or tissue paper) • brown twine • glue • crayons or markers <i>Activity 4: Games</i> <i>Learning Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none <i>Movement Game</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one beanbag • one hula hoop • 8 foot rope
Large Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes) 	14 14 15	Review Lesson and Take Home Point Pray Sing (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • songs of your choice

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
- Judy has a marshmallow on a stick taped to her hand. (If you cannot obtain this prop, change script so Judy describes what happens.)

Judy Learns About Trust.

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

Kids call out **Judy...Judy...Judy**. Judy comes out with a marshmallow on a stick taped to her hand.

Presenter: Judy, what do you have there?

Judy: I've got a marshmallow on a stick.

Presenter: That's wonderful, but why?

Judy: I am getting ready. Today my daddy is going to take me and my pink pony camping. We are going to build a fire to roast marshmallows. My pink pony loves roasted marshmallows.

Presenter: What fun! You dad is very special to take you camping.

Judy: I know. When he says he will do something, he always does.

Presenter: Judy, that means that you can trust your dad. To trust someone means to believe what they say.

Judy: I believe my dad when he says we will go roast marshmallows. But the last time we almost didn't.

Presenter: What happened?

Judy: He couldn't start the fire because it had rained. The wood was all wet.

Presenter: It is hard to start a fire when the wood is wet.

Judy: Yes, but he finally got it going. And we roasted marshmallows. My pink pony ate more than my dad!

Presenter: Wow! Judy, today we are going to learn that we can trust God and believe what he says. We will learn in the Bible about a prophet named Elijah who trusted God. God sent a fire from heaven to burn up wet wood. He showed everyone that he was the true God.

Judy: Did they roast marshmallows?

Presenter: Not marshmallows, but they did burn a sacrifice to show everyone that he is the true God and we can trust him. 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: *Trust God. Trust God.

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

Judy: Sure, I love to sing.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU,
CARE of YOU, CARE of YOU.
TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU.
He LOVES you VER-y MUCH.**

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.

We trust you. We trust you.

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 Showdown

1 Kings 18

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.

Elijah trusted God to take care of him.

- "Trust God" means to believe what he says. Elijah loved and trusted God; he believed what God said. God said, "Don't worship other Gods. Love me. You should worship only me." Elijah trusted God and worshiped only God. Let's fold our hands and pretend we are praying and worshiping God.
- There was a bad king named Ahab. He did not trust God. He did not do what God said. Instead, he worshiped other false gods. He did not like Elijah telling people to worship only God. Ahab tried to hurt Elijah so Elijah hid for three years. God took care of Elijah. God kept him safe from the mean king. God made sure Elijah had enough to eat and a safe place to stay. Let's pretend to eat our food and smile because we are in a safe place.
- God is more powerful than anything. Bad King Ahab worshiped false gods and told all the people to worship false gods, too. So God punished the people. For more than three years it did not rain and food did not grow. Everyone was very hungry and thirsty. Everyone wanted it to rain. Let's rub our tummies and pretend we are hungry and thirsty.

God is more powerful than anything.

- After more than three years of no rain, God told Elijah that he would finally make it rain. Elijah went to King Ahab to tell him that God would make it rain again, but the people must stop praying to false gods. They were worshiping a false god named Baal. They would even bow down and worship Baal, even though he was not real. Baal could not help them. Elijah told the people, “No, no, no. Don’t worship Baal.” Let’s shake our heads and say, “No, no, no.”

Baal does not help.

- Elijah and King Ahab decided to see which God could be trusted; which God could answer their prayer; which God was the true God. Was it our God or was it Baal? They said whichever God could light the sacrifice on the altar on fire would be the one true God.
- First it was Baal’s turn. King Ahab called 1,000 of his prophets together. All morning long they danced around the altar and called to Baal to light the fire. He did not answer. Nothing happened. Shake your head “no.”
- All morning long they begged Baal to answer and light the fire. Nothing happened. Let’s shake our heads “no.”
- All morning long they even danced to worship Baal. But he did not light the fire. Nothing happened. Shake your head “no.”
- Elijah started teasing them. He said, “Shout louder. Maybe Baal is busy. Maybe he is out of town. Maybe he is asleep.” The people shouted louder and louder. They begged more and more. They danced more and more, but nothing happened. He did not answer because Baal was not the real god. Let’s shake our heads “no.”

Elijah prepares the altar.

- Now it was Elijah’s turn. He took twelve big stones to make an altar. He put wood and the sacrifice on it. Then he told the people to pour four large jars of water on it. Let’s pretend to pour water on our firewood.
- They did this and he told them to do it again, two more times. Elijah wanted people to trust God and believe what he says. Elijah wanted the people to see that God can do anything. Elijah knew that God could make a fire happen even if everything was wet. Let’s pour some more water on the firewood.

God starts the fire.

- Now Elijah prayed to God. He asked him to show the people that he was the one true God. Elijah trusted God to start the fire. All of a sudden, a fire fell from heaven. It fell right on the sacrifice. The fire burned up the sacrifice. It burned up the wood. It even burned up the stones and the dirt! The fire was very hot. Let's fan our face so we do not get too hot.
- When all the people saw this, they believed God was the one true God. They praised him. Let's raise our hands and say, "Thank you God."

The rain comes.

- Soon, they saw a small cloud rising from the sea. Then the sky grew black with clouds. The wind blew. Let's wave our arms like the wind.
- Remember how God said he would make it rain? Elijah trusted God and believed him. Just like God promised Elijah, it started to rain. It was the first rain to come in over three years. Let's make our hands be rain sprinkling down from the clouds.
- The people were happy. It was raining and now they remembered the one true God. They trusted God and believed what he said.

We can trust God, too.

We can believe and trust God. He loves us and wants to take care of us. Let's practice the Take Home Point. I'll say it first and you repeat after me: *Trust God. Trust God.

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.

We trust you. We trust you.

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 *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

TRUST God **TO** take **CARE** of **YOU**,
CARE of **YOU**, **CARE** of **YOU**.
TRUST God **TO** take **CARE** of **YOU**.
He **LOVES** you **VER-y** **MUCH**.

Take Home Point:

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

Activity 2: Snack

Supplies:

- *Napkins*
- *Cups and water*
- *Yellow cheese slices or canned squirt cheese*
- *saltines*

BE AWARE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES CHILDREN MAY HAVE BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM ANY FOOD TO EAT.

Today we are going to eat a snack that reminds us of the fire on the altar. 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.
We trust you. We trust you.
Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name. In Jesus' name.
Amen. Amen.

God started the fire for Elijah so the people would know that he is the one true God. Today our cracker is a pretend altar and the cheese is the pretend fire.

Pass out napkin, cup of water and two crackers with a square of cheese or squirt cheese.

Go ahead and eat your snack. Remember to say *please* if you want more.

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

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

**TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU,
CARE of YOU, CARE of YOU.
TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU.
He LOVES you VER-y MUCH.**

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 per child
- Tape
- Orange, red, and yellow crepe paper streamers, cut into 4" long pieces (option: tissue paper or construction paper cut into 1-1/2" x 4" pieces)
- Brown twine cut into 3" pieces
- Glue
- Crayons or markers

Today we are learning how Elijah trusted God to start the sacrifice on the altar on fire. Our craft today is the altar. First we will glue some pretend sticks (pieces of brown twine) on the top of the altar. Next you can color your page. Then we will tape the fire at the top of the page so it covers the wood. (Use one color of each or three of any color combination to look like fire.) Elijah trusted God and believed what he said. God did what he said he would. He sent down fire, burned up the altar and showed everyone that he is the true God. We can trust God, too.

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

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU,
CARE of YOU, CARE of YOU.
TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU.
He LOVES you VER-y MUCH.

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.
We trust you. We trust you.
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 *Would You Trust Me?* Remember, to trust someone means you believe him or her. After you answer the questions, you can do the actions.

1. Would you trust me if I told you I could eat a tree? No. Let's move our arms like the branches of a tree.
2. Would you trust me if I said I could make a cake? Yes. Let's pretend to blow out the candles on a birthday cake.
3. Would you trust me if I said I could fly? No. Let's pretend to be a helicopter and spin our blades.
4. Would you trust me if I told you I could pick up a house? No. Let's pretend to pick up something really heavy.
5. Would you trust me if I told you flowers grow in a bowl of soup? No. Let's pretend to pick a flower and smell it.
6. Would you trust me if I said I could make it snow? No. Let's pretend to catch snowflakes on our tongue.

7. **Would you trust me if I said I could make a real kitten? No. Let's meow like a kitten.**
8. **Would you trust me if I said I could run as fast as a train? No. Let's hear you sound like a train.**
9. **Would you trust me if I said I like to watch movies? Yes. Let's pretend to eat popcorn at the movies.**
10. **Would you trust me if I told you God loves you? Yes. Let's hug ourselves.**

Movement Game

Supplies:

- *One beanbag*
- *One hula hoop*
- *8 foot rope*

Today we are going to practice trusting another person by playing a game called *Trust What I Say*. Remember that we can not always trust people, but we can always trust God.

Teacher will start game by picking up beanbag and stating: **I am going to eat this beanbag. Do you trust me to do it?** Wait for children to answer *no*. **No, I will not eat it. Do you trust me to throw it up in the air and catch it?** Children answer *yes*. **Yes, I will.** Throw and catch beanbag. **Now I want to trust someone else to throw it the air. Who else would like to do it?** Make sure all children get to play. Move along to other actions with hula hoop and rope, saying you will do something and then do it. They can choose what to do or teacher can guide them.

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

Let's sing our song of the week.

Song: to the tune of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

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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.

We trust you. We trust you.

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 love and trusted God. Does that mean that he believed what God said or that he laughed at what God said? (Believed what God said.) God made the rain stop until King Ahab and the people remembered to worship God. Elijah wanted a contest to show the people that God was the only true God and he could be trusted. He wanted to show them that their false god, Baal, was really not a true god. The contest was to see which God could make the sacrifice on the altar burn up. Would they send fire from heaven or would they send teddy bears? (Fire from heaven.) Did Baal start the sacrifice on fire? (No.) When it was Elijah's turn, he trusted God to burn the sacrifice. Did God send fire from heaven to start the sacrifice on fire? (Yes.) Can we trust God and believe what he says? (Yes.)

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.

We trust you. We trust you.

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 *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

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

**TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU,
CARE of YOU, CARE of YOU.
TRUST God TO take CARE of YOU.
He LOVES you VER-y MUCH.**

Take Home Point:

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

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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Elijah's Fiery Showdown (1 Kings 18)

Trust God