



ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL

BIBLE PASSAGE: 1 Kings 18:16–45

FOCUS VERSES: 1 Corinthians 8:6, Jeremiah 10:10a,
Psalm 18:6, Jeremiah 29:12

Summary: Elijah told King Ahab to send the prophets of Baal to Mt. Carmel. Elijah asked the prophets to call on their god to send fire to burn up a sacrifice. They cried and prayed and danced, but nothing happened. Elijah prepared his altar and even drenched it with water. He prayed to God, and the Lord sent down fire, burning up the sacrifice and everything around it. God showed all of the people that He was the one true God.



MONTHLY *Memory Verse*

*Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and His greatness is unsearchable.*

(PSALM 145:3)



**The Lord is the
one true God.**

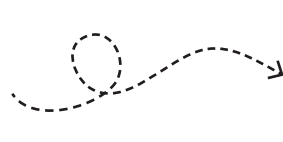


We will go deeper in God's truth by answering these questions:



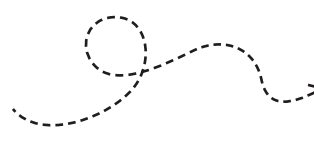
IS GOD REAL?

The God of the Bible is the one true God. He is real and He is holy.



DOES GOD HEAR US?

God is real, so we can trust He hears us when we call to Him anytime, anywhere.



HOW IS GOD INVITING ME TO RESPOND?

Kids will reflect and respond to the truth they learned about God.

Leader TRAINING

LEADER TRAINING TOPIC: PRAYER – BEING STILL

Today's kids are often overscheduled and constantly on the go. It is hard for them to grasp the discipline of being still and quiet. How are they ever to learn how to settle themselves and pray if they can't even be still?

- **Practice Still.** At the beginning of class or as a transition activity before the lesson, invite kids to find their own space in the room. Turn on some worship music and challenge kids to be still and quiet for one minute. As kids learn about stillness, you can extend this time to allow them to practice it further.
- **Return to Still.** After the lesson, take a moment to help kids return to a state of stillness and quietness as they reflect on what they learned. Invite kids to talk silently to God about things they understood, things they didn't understand and what they learned about Him.
- **Still Song:** Play a worship song and invite kids to sit still and listen for all the things they learn about God during the song.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: PLURALISM

In a survey by Barna, 50 percent of adults indicated that they believe Muslims and Christians worship the same God.* Pluralism accepts that all religious beliefs can be true and coexist. Pluralism says that you can believe what you believe, and I can believe what I believe, and we can both be right. Kids in your group have likely been exposed to this messaging through social media, YouTube or the shows or movies they watch. Our world says there are many gods. Today's story can help kids understand that in a world that says any god is good enough, the Lord is the one true God. Be sensitive to kids who come from other backgrounds or who might have relatives who are of another religion. It is important that kids don't feel that you are being condescending or judgmental towards other faiths. Speak truth in love.

*For more resources on this topic, check out:
[britecurriculum.com/resources](https://www.britecurriculum.com/resources)

ELEMENTARY GLOSSARY

Holy: set apart; perfect

Omnipotent: having unlimited power; stronger than anything

Pray: to talk to God anytime, anywhere about anything

Trust: confidence someone or something is reliable and will do what is expected

Large Group ROADMAP

1**WELCOME****(8 MINUTES)**

SUPPLIES: Video player, Intro Video, teaching slides, index cards (1 per leader), writing supplies

2**FIND IT IN
THE BIBLE****(2 MINUTES)**

SUPPLIES: Bibles, teaching slides

3**BIBLE
TEACHING****(10 MINUTES)****ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL****(1 KINGS 18:16–45)**

SUPPLIES: Bible, teaching slides, printable pages

4**REVIEW****(8 MINUTES)**

SUPPLIES: Video player, Bible Review Video, teaching slides, printable pages

5**LARGE GROUP
WRAP-UP****(5 MINUTES)**

SUPPLIES: Video player, Memory Verse Video, teaching slides

Welcome



Call three leaders to the front and collect their index cards.

Say: I'll read a surprising fact about one of our leaders. All three will act like it's referring to them, but only one is telling the truth! Listen closely and decide which leader is telling the truth.

Read one of the facts. Let each leader give a short explanation. Have the kids vote for the leader whom they think wrote the fact, then reveal which leader the fact belongs to. Play additional rounds as time allows.

Say: In this game, you had to look for clues to find what was true. In our story today, there is a showdown on a mountain between something fake and something true, and the clues clearly reveal today's Brite Idea: The Lord is the one true God.

SUPPLIES:

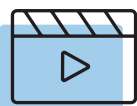
Video player, Intro Video, teaching slides, index cards (1 per leader), writing supplies

PREP:

Have all leaders write true, surprising facts about themselves on an index card.

LEADER TIP:

Encourage leaders to reveal something about themselves that kids don't already know.



INTRO VIDEO

Play Intro Video then transition into discussion.

Say: Wow, those were some tough questions. It was surprising to hear that a spaceship has traveled all the way to Pluto.

Discuss: Would you like to fly on a spaceship to Pluto/ Why or why not?

Say: On Pluto and beyond, there is only one true God in the universe. Today's Brite Idea is: The Lord is the one true God.

Show teaching slide: Brite Idea

Show teaching slide: He/We/Me Questions

TODAY WE WILL ANSWER THESE TWO QUESTIONS:

HE Is God real?

WE Does God hear us?

AT THE END OF OUR TIME TODAY, THE QUESTION YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ANSWER IS:

ME How is God inviting me to respond?

FIND IT
IN THE



Bible

WHAT IS GOD'S BIGGER STORY?

Show teaching slide: God's Big Story

Say: The Bible is real and true. God gave us the Bible so we could know Him. The Bible is filled with many books and stories, but they are all a part of one BIG story — God's story.

Creation: God is the one true God and He has always existed. He is the Creator of all things, including you and me. He is good, He loves us, and we are made in His image.

Fall: Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God. Sin broke the world, and people were separated from God. People could not fix their sin problem on their own.

Redemption: God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross, to take the punishment for our sins, and to rise from the dead to conquer death. When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, our relationship with God is made right again through His grace, and He gives us new life.

Restoration: When we walk with Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit and learn God's Word, He renews us. One day, Jesus will return to renew all things.

WHERE IS TODAY'S BIBLE STORY?

Show teaching illustration: Jonathan Puts God's Plan First

Say: Last week we studied David and Jonathan and saw that God's plan comes first.

Show teaching slide: Books of the Bible

Say: This week's story comes from the book of 1 Kings. 1 Kings can be found between the books of 2 Samuel and 2 Kings.

Show teaching slide: Find It in the Bible Timeline

Say: This story falls in the "Kings" period of the Bible. Today's true story tells us what happened during the reign of evil King Ahab and his wife Jezebel.

Show teaching slide: Biblical Theme

Say: This month we are focusing on the truth that God is greater than anything. Nothing on Earth or in the sky can match God's awesome power and might.

Say: This week we are learning that the Lord is the one true God.

LET'S FIND IT IN OUR BIBLES!

Open your Bible and show the kids the title page for the book of 1 Kings. Help kids turn in their Bibles to today's Bible passage (1 Kings 18:16–45).

Bible TEACHING

ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL

1 KINGS 18:16–45



PRAY: God, You are the one true God! You proved it to Elijah, and You prove it to us too. Help us learn from this story and trust You more. Amen.

SUPPLIES:

Bible, teaching slides, printable pages

PREP:

Print the printable pages double-sided (1 per kid).

LEADER TIP:

Allow kids to keep the printable page for the review game.

Pass out one printable page to each kid.

Say: Today we will hear an awesome story about how God proved He is real! We will also hear about a fake god named Baal and some of his followers. Every time you hear something in the story that proves our God is real, hold up the word “REAL.” Every time the false god Baal is shown to be fake, hold up “FAKE.” Let’s get started.

Say: The nation of Israel was in bad shape. The people continued rebelling against God and eventually, the kingdom split into a northern kingdom and a southern kingdom. An evil king named Ahab reigned over Israel. He married Jezebel, who worshiped Baal, a false god. Jezebel ordered soldiers to kill many of the prophets of the Lord. She was trying to wipe out all worship of the one true God.

Say: God raised up a prophet named Elijah. God worked miracles through Elijah. Do you think this proves our God is real?

Lead kids to hold up the word “REAL.”

Say: God sent Elijah to confront King Ahab. Elijah told Ahab to send all the prophets of the false gods to Mount Carmel and to gather the Israelites around to watch.

Show teaching illustration: It’s Time to Choose!

Say: When the people had gathered, Elijah said to them, “How long will you go back and forth between two opinions? If the Lord is God, serve Him. If Baal is god, follow him.” But the people didn’t respond.

Bible TEACHING CONTINUED

Say: Elijah told them to bring two bulls, one for him and one for the prophets of Baal. They would each put their bull on the altar and then ask Baal to send down fire. The people would know which god was real when they saw which one answered.

Say: The prophets of Baal put their bull on the altar. They cried out to Baal for hours, saying, "Oh Baal, answer us!" But nothing happened. Do you think this proves Baal is fake?

Lead kids to hold up the word "FAKE."

Say: They danced around the altar, crying louder. Elijah mocked them. He said, "Maybe you need to be louder. Maybe Baal is busy or in the bathroom or asleep." The prophets cried even louder, but no one answered. Do you think this proves Baal is fake?

Lead kids to hold up the word "FAKE."

Say: It was Elijah's turn. He used twelve stones to build an altar, symbolizing the twelve tribes of Israel. He dug a trench around the altar and laid the wood and bull on it. Then he told them to pour four jugs of water on the altar and the wood. Then he asked for it again. And again! The water soaked the altar and filled the trench.

Read 1 Kings 18:36–37 directly from the Bible: *And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel, and that I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that You, O LORD, are God, and that You have turned their hearts back."*

Show teaching illustration: Fire Falls on the Mountain.

Say: Immediately, God sent fire down from heaven. It burned up the bull, the wood, the stones and even the dust. Do you think this proves our God is real?

Lead kids to hold up the word "REAL."

Say: When the Israelites saw this, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

Show teaching slide: Point to Jesus.



Bible **TEACHING** CONTINUED



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God showed that He is the one true God. When Elijah called out to Him, God answered in power. God is real and He loves us so much that He provided one way for our sins to be forgiven. He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us. When we pray to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us, He answers us powerfully. He forgives our sins and makes our relationship right with the one true God.



BIBLE REVIEW VIDEO

Play Bible Review Video. Play the game below using teaching slides: Review Game

SUPPLIES:

Video player, Bible Review Video, teaching slides, printable pages

PREP:

Use the REAL/FAKE pages from Bible Teaching.

INSTRUCTIONS: Instruct kids to indicate that the following sentences are real (true) or fake by holding up the "REAL" or "FAKE" sign.

- 1. When His people were in trouble, God sent Elijah to confront evil King Ahab. (REAL)**

- 2. Elijah wanted to prove God is real, but he didn't want anyone to see it happen. (FAKE)**

Elijah wanted King Ahab to gather all the people to watch.

- 3. It took the prophets of Baal hours before finally getting an answer from their god. (FAKE)**

They cried out to their fake god for hours but nothing happened.

- 4. God immediately answered with fire when Elijah prayed. (REAL)**

- 5. God is 100% real. (REAL)**

The God of the Bible is the one true God. He is real and He is holy.

- 6. God hears us only when we close our eyes to pray. (FAKE)**

God is real, so we can trust He hears us when we call to Him anytime, anywhere.



Wrap – Up

Show teaching slide: Brite Idea



SUPPLIES:

Video player, Memory Verse Video, teaching slides

PREP:

None

Show teaching slide: He Question and Answer

HE

Is God real?

The God of the Bible is the one true God. He is real and He is holy.

Show teaching slide: We Question and Answer

WE

Does God hear us?

God is real, so we can trust He hears us when we call to Him anytime, anywhere.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

Choose an older kid to look up the verse and read it aloud to the group. Have the whole group repeat it together.

Show teaching slide: Memory Verse

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable.

(PSALM 145:3)



VERSE VIDEO

Play Memory Verse Video
after the verse is read.



PRAY: God, thank You that we can call to You anytime, anywhere. Prayer is a gift that we should use! You are real and holy, ready to listen and speak to our hearts. Help us this week to pray, trusting You hear us. Amen.