



ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL

BIBLE PASSAGE (1 KINGS 18:16–45)

Summary: Elijah told King Ahab to send the prophets of Baal to Mount 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 the people that He is the one true God.

Today's Brite Idea is: The Lord is the one true God.



MONTHLY Memory Verse

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

(PSALM 145:3)



BIG QUESTION

Who is greater than everything? God!



God is real.



We can
talk to Him.



I can talk to Him.

LEADER TRAINING: REDIRECT WITH HUMOR

Laughter is a powerful tool for helping preschoolers change course without shame. Humor lightens the moment, captures attention and makes redirection feel safe and positive. When used intentionally, it turns potential tension into connection.

- **Use funny voices or silly gestures.** A playful “penguin waddle to the rug!” can shift focus immediately and spark joy in following directions.
- **Turn misbehavior into a teachable moment.** Example: “Uh-oh, we don’t throw toys at each other. Let’s share, and each pick a toy to play with and have fun!” Playful phrasing helps kids recognize the right behavior without feeling corrected harshly.
- **Keep it gentle and inclusive.** The goal is to redirect, not embarrass. A shared laugh invites everyone back into unity and grace.
- **Model joy in obedience.** Jesus often used stories and playful illustrations to engage others, teaching truth with a smile. When kids see you enjoying the process, they learn that following God’s ways is both good and delightful.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: MORE THAN ONE GOD?

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 co-exist. Pluralism says that you can believe what you believe, I can believe what I believe and we can both be right. Kids in your group may have already heard this messaging and think that there are other gods. Our world says there are many gods. But in today’s Bible story, kids will learn that the Lord is the one true God.

Be sensitive to kids who come from other backgrounds or who might have relatives from another religion. Speak truth in love so kids feel safe with asking questions and learning how to tell others about the one true God.

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Altar: a place where people worship

Prophet: a person who gives God’s messages to His people

1

BELONG

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

**GOD IS
GREATER**

SUPPLIES: Ball

2

BIBLE TEACHING

Large Group (15 MINUTES)

ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL
(1 KINGS 18:16–45)

SUPPLIES: Bible, Bible story cards

3

BELIEVE

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible

**PRAYERS
TO GOD**

SUPPLIES: Paper (1 per kid), coloring supplies

4

BECOME

Small Group (10 MINUTES)

GOAL: For kids to learn to follow Jesus by applying faith to their lives

GOD HEARS ME

SUPPLIES: Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, smiley-face stickers (3 per kid), scissors (prep)



GOD IS GREATER

SUPPLIES:

Ball

PREP:

None

ACTIVITY INTRO:

Welcome everyone! My name is _____. *Greet each kid by name and welcome any new kids to the group.*

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. *Gather kids to sit in a circle.*
2. **Say:** We will roll this ball back and forth in our circle as we think of things that are small and then things that are really big!
3. **Ask:** Can you reach your arms out to the side super-big? How about bringing your hands in close together, really small?
4. **Ask:** What is bigger than a crayon?
5. *Roll the ball to the first kid. Help kids name different things larger than a crayon.*
6. *Repeat with another small object such as a rock, toy, chair, beanbag, etc.*
7. *Challenge kids to think of things that are big or small that belong inside or outside.*
8. **Ask:** What is the biggest thing you have ever seen?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

We can think of some big things. But nothing is bigger or greater than God! Today's Bible story is very exciting. We will learn how God shows just how great He really is. Let's discover how God shows He is the one true God.

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(1 KINGS 18:16–45)

Use the Bible story cards to teach the Bible story or read the script to the kids.

Say: Israel had a very bad king named Ahab and a bad queen named Jezebel. Jezebel believed in a fake god. She wanted everyone to stop worshiping the real God. Sadly many people did. Can you make a sad face? But God sent Elijah to speak true things to people and show God's power. Elijah told the king and queen to invite everyone to a big mountain. Say, "Come here!"

Say: Elijah said, "It's time to choose—whom will you believe in?" No one answered. So Elijah said, "Let's see whose God is real. We will pray and the real God will send fire from the sky." Let's all wiggle our fingers like a dancing fire!

Say: The people who believed in the fake god went first. They shouted and prayed all day, but nothing happened. Elijah teased them: "Maybe your god is taking a nap!"

Say: Then Elijah built a place for the fire to fall and poured water all over it. Let's all pretend to pour out water! He prayed, "God, please show everyone that You are real and true!"

Say: Immediately, fire fell from the sky! It burned everything Elijah had built— even the water. The people shouted, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!"

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Altar: a place where people worship

Prophet: a person who gives God's messages to His people



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God showed He is the One true God. He is the only One who can rescue us from our sin. He loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us.

WRAP-UP:**BIG QUESTION**

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll?
1, 2, 3.. drumroll!

Show the Big Question and Answer Teaching Image.

Say: Who is greater than everything? God!



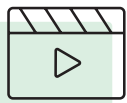
God is real.



We can
talk to Him.



I can
talk to Him.

**VERSE VIDEO**

*Play Memory Verse
Motion Video after the
verse is read.*

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- Great (make a V with your arms)
- is the LORD, (point to the sky)
- and greatly (bring arms in and extend out to one side)
- to be praised. (bring arms in and extend out to the other side)
- Psalm 145:3 (open hands like a book)

**MONTHLY****Memory Verse**

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

(PSALM 145:3)



PRAYERS TO GOD

SUPPLIES:

Paper (1 per kid), coloring supplies

PREP:

None

LEADER TIP: Play soft worship music in the background.

ACTIVITY INTRO:

The Bible teaches us true stories about God. Today we learned God is real and we can talk to Him.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** One way we can talk to God is through prayer. I will give each of you a piece of paper and some coloring supplies. We will think about something you want to tell God about and then draw a picture of it.
2. **Say:** You could tell God about something that makes you happy, sad, afraid or even something really exciting.
3. **Ask:** What is one thing you want to tell God?
4. **Say:** Let's draw a picture of what you want to tell God. Then we will pray together.
5. *Once kids have drawn their pictures, lead them in a prayer.*
6. **Prayer example:** Dear God, thank You for each of these kids. I pray that they know they can talk to you anytime, anywhere. Help them to always come to You. In Jesus' name, amen.
7. **Ask:** Who is your favorite person to talk to?

**ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:**

God is real, and He is always there. We can count on God and know that He will always be faithful. One way we can count on God is knowing that He will hear us when we pray to Him. I love that God invites us to talk to Him.



GOD HEARS ME

SUPPLIES:

Take-Home page, coloring supplies, printable page, smiley-face stickers (3 per kid), scissors (prep)

PREP:

Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid). Print the printable page and cut out (1 phone per kid). Fold each phone on the dotted line.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Say:** Today we learned an amazing Bible story about when Elijah called out to God and God answered him. You and I can talk to God just like Elijah did. God is real and will hear us!
2. **Say:** Some ways we can talk to others is by using a phone. We will make a phone-like craft to remember we can always talk to God no matter where we are. God can hear us anywhere! God is always there. We can count on Him and know that God is real.
3. *Pass out precut and folded printable pages, coloring supplies and stickers.*
4. *Lead kids to color in their phone craft and then add the stickers for decorations.*
5. *Write each kid's name on their craft and set aside for parent pickup.*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why did Elijah call out to God?
- Did the people's false god answer them?
- How did God show He is greater?
- What did you learn about God from today's Bible story?



PRAY TOGETHER:

Dear God, thank You for hearing us when we talk to You. Help each kid to remember they can tell You anything and talk to You all the time. Help them to draw close to You. Amen.

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP:

Give each kid a Take-Home page. With remaining time, kids can play in centers or color the Take-Home page.

CENTERS:

Set up 3–4 centers around the room for kids to explore and learn as they play. While kids explore the centers, leaders can work with individuals or small groups to make the craft. Set up each center in a separate part of the room, making sure all kids are visible at all times. Show the whole group what is in each center and give simple instructions on what kids should do in each center.

- **Modeling Dough:** Provide modeling dough and tools. Lead kids to work together to make a scene from today's Bible story. Share that God is real and always there.
- **Messages:** Provide play phones or cups for kids to pretend to talk to one another with. Share how they can talk to God.
- **Find It:** Put heart stickers into a muffin tin. Cover the muffin tin sections with sticky notes. Have kids look at the hearts. Share how God is real and cares about them.

BONUS SCRIPT:

Preschoolers learn best through repetition. Use the script below to review the story at any opportunity. You could review the story while kids play in centers, while they work on their craft, during snack time, or while waiting for parents.

Say: Elijah went to a big mountain called Mount Carmel. The people didn't know who the real God is. The prophets of Baal called and called to their pretend god, but nothing happened. Then it was Elijah's turn. He poured water all over the altar. When Elijah prayed, God sent real fire from heaven, and it burned up the altar and everything around it. Everyone saw that God is real and God is powerful. God is the one true God!



BIG QUESTION

Who is greater than everything? God!