



LEFC  
KIDS

# 1-2 GRADES

FUN + FRIENDS + FAITH



SEPTEMBER 25  
1ST SERVICE

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR LESSON

Elisha's incredible loyalty to the prophet Elijah is recorded in 2 Kings 2. He followed Elijah wherever he went. He committed to Elijah even when others told him that Elijah would soon die. And he stayed by his side to the very end.

Elisha saw something in Elijah that he himself wanted: his spirit. In fact, Elisha told Elijah that what he wanted from him most was "two shares of your spirit." Why on earth would Elisha desire this? Was it because he wanted God's Spirit to be accessible to him? Was it because he wanted the authority that Elijah carried? Was it because he knew the remainder of his life would be hard and he thought he could use some extra strength? We may not be certain of this; however, it is obvious that Elisha saw something in Elijah that he wanted.

Have you ever observed the gifts of the people around you and desired them for yourself? Maybe you've been amazed by someone's ability to articulate the gospel with great clarity in a compelling way with thousands listening on and desired that gift. Perhaps you saw someone serving with great joy as they opened their home and pulled out every stop to make their guests feel loved and welcomed. Do you long for their gift of hospitality?

Though at times there is a selfish desire that drives our interest in someone else's gifts, we see in 2 Kings 2 that Elijah lived a life worthy of emulation. This thought brings to mind Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 11, 'Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ.'

Are you living the type of life that others see and long to follow? Is your use of the gifts God has given you one that draws attention and causes questions about where this gifting comes from? Does your faithfulness to the Lord stir an interest on the part of others around you?

When we run faithfully after the Lord, there is no doubt going to be others who see and desire to know more. And as the opportunity arises, take hold of those opportunities to bring others along to see what it looks like to remain faithful to the Lord and ultimately to show them that He is both your motivation and the source of all that is good in you.

PEOPLE TO KNOW Elisha: a ninth century BC Israelite prophet. The name Elisha means "my God is salvation."

ELISHA  
SERVED AS  
A PROPHET

2 KINGS 2



## MEMORY VERSE

Hear, O Israel: The Lord  
our God, the Lord is  
one. Love the Lord your  
God with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your  
strength.

DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5

## QUESTION

What is idolatry?



## ANSWER



Idolatry is a sin of the  
heart in which we love  
and value something  
else above God.



# BUSY HANDS

## ARRIVAL ACTIVITIES

*When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.*

### **ACTIVITY PAGE** // “Double Portion” activity page, colored pencils

**SAY:** Who is a friend you love to do things with? What places would you like to travel to with your friend? Give the children time to share.

**ACTIVITY PAGE** Place the colored pencils on the tables and invite the kids to complete the “Double Portion?” activity page. Ask one of the children to read the directions: Draw on the plate what foods you would like to have in double portion. Ask the children what that means in case anyone is unsure of the directions.

When they are finished drawing, allow the kids to share what they want more of!

**SAY:** Sometimes we like to have more than one serving of a food. Who would rather have two scoops of ice cream rather than one? In today’s story, Elisha also wanted to have a double portion, but not of food. We will read God’s Word to learn what Elisha wanted double of.

### **SESSION STARTER** // Small figurine

**WHERE IS ELIJAH?** Hold up a small figurine and name him Elijah. Tell the kids that someone will be chosen to hide Elijah somewhere in the room. Lead the remaining kids to close their eyes. Once Elijah is hidden, the kids will begin looking for him. When Elijah is found, the child who found him will be the one to hide him during the next round.

Continue playing as time allows. On the last round, the leader will be the one to hide Elijah. Hide Elijah in the leader’s pocket while the kids have their eyes closed. Challenge the group to find Elijah. After several minutes, bring the group back together and tell them that Elijah has gone away.

**SAY:** Elijah is gone! He is nowhere to be found. I wonder where he went. We’re going to read about where Elijah went and why he couldn’t be found in our Bible story today.

### **INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY** // Countdown video (optional), Bibles, big picture question poster, small unit timeline, giant timeline in the hallway (optional)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

Continue



# ACTIVE MINDS

## FOCUS ON GOD'S WORD

SAY: Hello! It's so wonderful that you are all here today. I am so glad to be with you. If you have your Bible with you, hold it up. [Provide Bibles for kids who need one.] The Bible is God's Word and we can believe it. God has given us the Bible so that we can know Him. Through God's Word we learn how He sent Jesus to rescue us from sin. We also read our Bibles to know how God wants us to live. The Bible tells us how we can honor Him. When we put our faith in Jesus, He gives us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's Word so we can follow God with all our hearts. Today, we're going to read the Bible and ask God to help us know Him better.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION SAY: Let's practice the big picture question and answer together today. I'll say it first and then we'll repeat it together. What is idolatry? Idolatry is a sin of the heart in which we love and value something else above God. Let's say it together. What is idolatry? Idolatry is a sin of the heart in which we love and value something else above God. You may also use the big picture question poster.

Continue: There are a lot of things that may try to steal our hearts away from God. Sometimes we can make good things into idols, like friends or sports. But God should always have first place in our lives.

REVIEW THE TIMELINE Point to the third story on the small unit timeline in your classroom. If you like, you may take the children into the hallway and show them the giant timeline. Point to some of the individual Bible stories as you review.

SAY: We've been learning about idols the people of Israel worshiped. First, we learned that Jeroboam made golden calves that the people worshiped. Then last week, we read about people praying to the false god, Baal. But each time, God sent prophets to remind the people that they should give God all of their love because He is the one true God. Today, we will read about another prophet who God called to serve Him.

**ELISHA SERVED AS A PROPHET** // Bibles, printed story, video on the USB: Elisha Served as a Prophet, Bible story picture poster

Open your Bible to 2 Kings 2. To tell the story using the script on the next page. To make the story more interesting, you may either move to different parts of the room as you teach that Elisha and Elijah traveled to different places or invite two shepherds to act out the roles of Elisha and Elijah while you narrate.

You may also choose to show the video of the story placed on the USB on the TV. Display the Bible Story Picture to the class.

Continued



# ACTIVE MINDS

## FOCUS ON GOD'S WORD

### ELISHA SERVED AS A PROPHET

Elijah was a powerful prophet to Israel, but God had a plan for another man to be a prophet after Elijah. That man's name was Elisha (ih LIGH shuh). Elisha followed Elijah and served him for several years.

When the time came for the Lord to take Elijah up to heaven, Elisha did not want to leave Elijah. Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to Bethel. At Bethel, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to Jericho." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to Jericho.

At Jericho, Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here. The Lord is sending me to the Jordan River." But Elisha said, "As long as you are alive, I will not leave you." So they went together to the Jordan River. A crowd of prophets watched Elijah and Elisha as they stood by the river. Elijah rolled up his cloak and hit the water with it. The river parted, and they crossed to the other side.

Elijah asked, "Is there anything I can do for you before I go?" Elisha said, "I want a double portion of the spirit that you have." Elijah said, "If you see me go, you will have it."

Suddenly, a chariot of fire with horses of fire appeared and drove between them. Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha watched as Elijah went away. Then he picked up Elijah's cloak and went back to the river. He hit the water, and it parted for him to cross to the other side just as it had for Elijah. The crowd of prophets was there watching, and they saw that the spirit that was with Elijah was now with Elisha. The prophets searched for Elijah, but they could not find him since God had taken him up to heaven.

Christ Connection: God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah so Elisha could carry out his mission as a prophet. Years later, Jesus told His followers to wait for the Holy Spirit. God gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can share the gospel with the world.

**REVIEW, DISCUSSION, PASSAGE, AND PRAY** // Questions from Kids video on the USB, key passage poster, song on the USB - Gospel Project folder: The Lord Our God (Deut. 6:4-5), small ball

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY SAY: God sent another prophet to follow Elijah. What was the name of the prophet that came after Elijah? [Allow responses.] His name was Elisha. Elisha learned a lot by following Elijah. The two prophets served the people of Israel together for a while. Everyone could see the spirit of the Lord on Elijah. God performed miracles through Elijah.

Continued





# OPEN HEARTS

## LIFE APPLICATION & SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Elijah knew that it was time for him to leave the earth. What did Elisha ask Elijah for before he left? [Allow responses.] Elisha asked for a double portion of the spirit that Elijah had. Elijah was taken up into heaven on a chariot of fire while Elisha watched. Elisha now had God's spirit that had been with Elijah. The people saw Elisha part the water and knew God's spirit was now with Elisha.

God's spirit came upon prophets in the Old Testament to display His power and the truth of His Word. Today, we can also have the Holy Spirit live in us when we place faith in Jesus. God gives us His Spirit so we can understand His Word and tell others about Jesus.

QUESTIONS FROM KIDS Show the "Unit 13, Session 3" questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

What should I do when I feel lonely?

How can you look for ways to be a friend to others?

KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Deuteronomy 6:4-5 together.

Invite kids sit on the floor in a circle. Choose one child to begin the activity and hand him a ball. Ask him to say the first word of the verse and then roll the ball to another child in the circle. The kid who received the ball says the second word of the verse. Continue directing kids to roll the ball and say a word of the verse until the entire passage is said.

SAY: God gave the Holy Spirit to Elijah and Elisha. God gives believers the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to love God with all of our heart, our soul, and our strength. God is the one true God and worthy of all our love.

Lead kids to sing "The Lord Our God (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)." You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

PRAY Invite kids to pray. Include praying for our missionary family during this time, as well. SAY: Dear God, You are so gracious to save us from our sin through Jesus. Thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit when we put our faith in Jesus. Help us to read our Bibles and ask Your Spirit to help us understand Your Word. Amen.



# OPEN HEARTS

## LIFE APPLICATION & SCRIPTURE MEMORY

### **GROUP DISCUSSION** // Whiteboard, dry-erase marker

Ask the following questions. You may want to write them on the whiteboard and divide the class in half. Give each half a question to discuss and answer in discussion. Lead the group to discuss.

SAY: Elisha told Elijah that he would not leave him. Who has promised to never leave or abandon us?

Remind kids that Jesus promised us He would never leave us and that He would be with us always. Discuss how Elisha was a faithful friend, but that Jesus is a faithful friend forever. Encourage kids to remember Jesus is always with them.

SAY: How can we see the Holy Spirit in our lives?

Explain that the Holy Spirit comes to live within us when we place faith in Jesus. Discuss how the Holy Spirit helps to make us more like Jesus as we live by His Word. Remind kids of the fruit of the Spirit and how people can see the fruit of the Spirit at work in our lives.

### **PART THE WAY** // Small paper plate for each child, 2-quart size bags full of pom poms, masking tape

Form the kids into two teams. Place a pile of pom-poms along the center of two tables. Place masking tape on either side of the pom-poms. Direct one team to a table and the second team to the other table. Provide each child with a paper plate. Lead kids to work in teams to fan the pom-poms away from the center of the table so that they are on the other sides of the tape. The first team to clear the pom-poms away from the center of the table wins.

SAY: God showed the people that His spirit was upon Elijah and Elisha when they parted the water. People can see the Holy Spirit at work in our lives when He helps us obey God's Word. The Holy Spirit helps us to look like Jesus by helping us to be kind, patient, forgiving, and gentle towards others. Encourage kids to think about ways they can rely on the Holy Spirit to guide them in truth

### **IF THERE IS TIME...** // Reverse side of activity page, crayons, or washable markers

On the back of the activity page there is a coloring page and information about the story. The children may color the picture and take the activity page home so the parents see what they learned in class today and discuss it with the kids.



# EXTRA IDEAS

## **REFLECTION** // Paper, pencil

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each child.

Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Allow time for the children to share their answers.

**REMINDERS:** The VIP meeting will be 8:30-8:40 in the Puddle Room. Attend for: Vision/Information/Prayer. Pick up your supply bin before going to class.

**REVIEW** the items in your bin, place the chairs around the tables, and be ready to greet the parents and children at the door.

**FOLLOW** protocol for sanitizing hands and cleaning large surfaces.