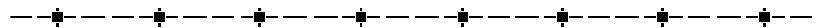


# Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

# Through the Old Testament in Two Years

## Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners  
Adaptable for all ages including adults

# Old Testament

## Elijah at Mt. Carmel

Last week we learned that God sent Elijah to Zarephath. Elijah obeyed and trusted God. He told the widow that the flour and oil would not run out. The widow trusted God and did what Elijah said. God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son. God wants us to trust Him for our needs.

## I Kings 18:16-39

### Read the Bible

**READ: I Kings 18:16-39 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

### Memory Verse:

The prayer of a godly person  
is powerful.  
It makes things happen.  
(James 5:16 NIV)

### Begin With Prayer

Last week we learned that God sent Elijah to Zarephath. Elijah obeyed and trusted God. He told the widow that the flour and oil would not run out. The widow trusted God and did what Elijah said. God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son. God wants us to trust Him for our needs.

Remember we learned that Elijah was a messenger for God. He told the people what God wanted them to know.

In the land, the king named Ahab, did many things that the Lord said were wrong. He did more evil than any of the kings before him.

Elijah told the king that no rain or dew would fall on the ground until God commanded it. Sure enough...the land began to dry up and turn brown because no water fell on the earth. During the third year without rain, the Lord spoke His word to Elijah. The Lord said, "Go and meet King Ahab. I will send rain." So Elijah went to meet Ahab.

Along the way, Elijah met a friend named Obadiah. He went and told the king where Elijah was. The king quickly came to meet Elijah. He frowned; "Elijah, you're the biggest troublemaker in the land!" (I Kings 18:16-17)

Elijah responded, "I have not caused trouble; you and your family have because you have not obeyed God. You have worshiped statues called Baal instead of worshiping the only true God." (I Kings 18:18)

Then Elijah told the king, "Let everyone meet on Mount Carmel. Bring the 450 Baal prophets, too." (I Kings 18:19)

Everyone came to the mountain and Elijah talked to the group. He said, "How long will you try to serve both Baal and the Lord. If the Lord is the true God, follow Him. But if Baal is the true God, follow him." (I Kings 18:20-21)

But the people didn't stand up for God. (I Kings 18:21) Then, Elijah challenged the people, "Let's see who is the 'True God'.

Then he told the people, "You people who love Baal, pray to him. And I will pray to the Lord. The God who answers the prayer will set fire to the wood and the bull. We will see who is really God." (I Kings 18:24)

The people liked this contest. The people who worshiped Baal started praying, but nothing happened. They shouted and danced around the wood altar, but nothing happened. (I Kings 18:25-26) Elijah began to make fun of them.

### Goals

1. Understand that Elijah was not ashamed to tell people about God.
2. Learn that Elijah was very courageous.
3. Recognize that Elijah has to tell the truth about God.
4. Understand God heard Elijah's prayers and answered them.

### Elijah and Mt. Carmel — Bible Facts

1. Ahab said Elijah had caused trouble for Israel.
2. Elijah told Ahab that his own disobedience to God had caused the trouble for Israel.
3. Elijah had a contest to see which god would respond by fire.
4. God responded by fire.
5. The Israelites fell to the ground and worshipped God.

He said, “Pray louder! Maybe Baal is busy traveling or he is sleeping or taking care of some business.” (I Kings 18:27) Nothing ever happened because Baal was just a statue. (I Kings 18:28-29)

Elijah then gathered 12 stones and built an altar for the Lord. Next, he dug a ditch around the altar. After this, he cut up a bull. (I Kings 18:30-33)

Then he asked for a precious thing—water. (Remember, it hadn’t rained in three years) He poured four jars of water on top of the altar. He did this three times. (Ask the group how many jars,  $4 \times 3 = 12$ . You might tell the kids that it is very hard to light a fire when the wood is wet. He is showing the people that only God could do this miracle.) (I Kings 18:34-35)

Elijah bowed down and began to pray to God. He asked God to show the people that He was God. (I Kings 18:36-37) Instantly fire came down from heaven and burned the bull and wood. It even dried up the water in the ditch. (I Kings 18:38) When the people saw this, they fell down to the ground and cried, “The Lord is God! The Lord is God!” (I Kings 18:39)

Elijah then told the king to go eat because a heavy rain was coming. Then Elijah prayed 7 times. Soon a dark cloud was in the sky. It started to rain! God answered Elijah’s prayers. The people saw that God was real! (I Kings 18:39)

### Review

1. **What did Ahab tell Elijah?** (Ahab said Elijah had caused trouble for Israel.)
2. **What was Elijah’s response?** (Elijah told Ahab that his own disobedience to God had caused the trouble for Israel.)
3. **What happened next?** (Elijah had a contest to see which god would respond by fire.)
4. **What did God do?** (God responded by fire.)
5. **What did the people do?** (The Israelites fell to the ground and worshipped God.)

### Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus died and came back to life for a very important reason. He died to pay the price for all our sins. Jesus is the only way to know God and enter heaven. (Acts 4:12) We can follow God and trust Him. We can believe in Jesus or we can do what everyone else does. Elijah chose God. Will you choose God?

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help you worship only Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to worship only God.

### Application

In James 5:16-17 it says that great things happen when godly people pray. Elijah was a person just like us. God heard his prayers and answered them. Elijah loved God and was not ashamed to tell people that God was real. He was very courageous. Elijah knew that he could not say what everyone wanted to hear. He had to tell the truth and obey God.

### Planning for the next week:

**God Whispers to Elijah — I Kings 19:1-16**

# Preschool Lesson

## Read the Bible

**READ: I Kings 18:16-29 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)**

**Teachers:** Hang a piece of newsprint on a wall. Draw an altar. Explain what Elijah did before he prayed.

Elijah was a man that loved God very much. One day, God told Elijah to pray that it would not rain in the land. Sure enough, it stopped raining all over the land. Elijah told the king the reason it was not raining was because he did not love God. Elijah told the king that God was very sad that he did not obey Him.

The king was furious! He told the whole kingdom to look for Elijah. God took care of Elijah and kept him from harm.

Elijah prayed that it wouldn't rain for three years. It did not rain for three years. That is a very, very, long time. Everything in the land was dry and brown.

Finally, God told Elijah to find the king. He challenged the king to a contest. He told the king to bring the people who did not love God. They would try to pray to a statue and ask for fire to come down on the wood. Then, he would pray to God and ask for help.

The king's men tried and tried to bring fire, but nothing happened. Elijah smiled. He knew that a statue could do nothing to help the people.

Then, Elijah prayed to God and asked Him to bring fire. Instantly, God brought fire down from heaven and burned the wood.

When the people saw this, they fell down to the ground and cried, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!"

God showed the people that He was real and could do amazing things. They started to worship Him and love Him.

### Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.
3. Ask God to help you worship Him.

### Memory verse for younger children

**The prayer of a godly person is powerful. James 5:16**

## Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Copy pictures of an altar. Print the words to the verse on the pictures. Practice the verse. Make a booklet of the verse for the children.

- **Test your memory** — Have the children trace their body on newsprint. Decorate the newsprint. Write the memory verse. Hang the pictures where the children can be reminded about the importance of prayer.

- **Taste activity** — Make S'mores with graham crackers, chocolate candy, and marshmallows.

- **Think about it** — Read the memory verse. Talk about prayer and the effect prayer can have.

Elijah was outnumbered. But he knew God was on his side. Talk about the importance of having God on our side.

- **Touch activity** — Hang a piece of newsprint on a wall. Draw an altar. Explain what Elijah did before he prayed.

Ask the children to draw the altar on construction paper.

Bring rocks and make a small altar.

- **Run and play** — Bring small boxes. Ask the children to make an altar. Let the children run around the altar. Talk about the lesson.

- **Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to worship Him.

- **Sing** — Sing “Worship His Majesty,” “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name,” “Holy, Holy, Holy,” or another song related to the story.

- **Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take the pictures of the altar with verse for each child. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

## Memory Verse

The prayer  
of a godly  
person  
is powerful.  
It makes things  
happen.

James 5:16

## Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Elijah

was on

God's

side

## Word Search

J K T P M E D I V B R P S G T F G B N  
G R H N V C S Q D N G R L P P B K V C  
N S B A E I T S S L B C R R F D M L B  
T S D B J D B K E C A D O F R B K L S  
V K R E K I I R U R V P S T R B L J P  
S K N B E R L F T R H P H F S P T G I  
C B R K S N I E A E A D C R K D N H L  
M T F G B R H L T B P I D B T N F V P  
H S N T E W F S S F C D N V L N L J H  
T B S H S A C R I F I C E B R V K N F  
F V C D H F R D C G B D K T C T P M R  
B M O A K K S G F D L C O M C N B S Y  
K W B K D L G N P R S E D L R G D T L  
F G D W O R S H I P P E D F S K S T B

ELIJAH

PROPHETS

AHAB

WORSHIPPED

STATUES

IDOLS

RAIN

SACRIFICE

FIRE



# Word Search

J K T P M E D I V B R P S G T F G B N  
 G R H N V C S Q D N G R L P P B K V C  
 N S B A E I T S S L B C R R F D M L B  
 T S D B J D B K E C A D O F R B K L S  
 V K R E K I I R U R V P S T R B L J P  
 S K N B E R L F T R H P H F S P T G I  
 C B R K S N I E A E A D C R K D N H L  
 M T F G B R H L T B P I D B T N F V P  
 H S N T E W F S S F C D N V L N L J H  
 T B S H S A C R I F I C E B R V K N F  
 F V C D H F R D C G B D K T C T P M R  
 B M O A K K S G F D L C O M C N B S Y  
 K W B K D L G N P R S E D L R G D T L  
 F G D W O R S H I P P E D F S K S T B

ELIJAH

PROPHETS

AHAB

WORSHIPPED

STATUES

IDOLS

RAIN

SACRIFICE

FIRE

## Word Search

E L I J A H K T B N L J  
S J H K B D W C S D P M  
B A A L K S B L G M K N  
S B M S P R B P F G K D  
P R O P H E T S R S P F  
J F G G M M K R P C L B  
S A C R I F I C E H C M  
D R K P B R G F L B B R  
F I R E K P R L K J D H  
N R K T D M P L M B J S  
A H A B M S V C I L C D  
V L D B R F G W F D G W

ELIJAH

AHAB

PROPHETS

BAAL

SACRIFICE

FIRE

## Word Search

E	L	I	J	A	H	K	T	B	N	L	J
S	J	H	K	B	D	W	C	S	D	P	M
B	A	A	L	K	S	B	L	G	M	K	N
S	B	M	S	P	R	B	P	F	G	K	D
P	R	O	P	H	E	T	S	R	S	P	F
J	F	G	G	M	M	K	R	P	C	L	B
S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	H	C	M
D	R	K	P	B	R	G	F	L	B	B	R
F	I	R	E	K	P	R	L	K	J	D	H
N	R	K	T	D	M	P	L	M	B	J	S
A	H	A	B	M	S	V	C	I	L	C	D
V	L	D	B	R	F	G	W	F	D	G	W

ELIJAH

AHAB

PROPHETS

BAAL

SACRIFICE

FIRE

# Anagram

AEIHJL

T.M AECLMR

THOEPPRS

ABLA

AABH

AEIICCFRS

TAALR

EIRF

WDOEB



## Anagram

ELIJAH

MT. CARMEL

PROPHETS

BAAL

AHAB

SACRIFICE

ALTAR

FIRE

BOWED