

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS
AUGUST 16, 2020

In this week's lesson we are going to meet Elisha, another of God's prophets. A lot happens in our Bible story this week, including an earthquake, strong winds and a fire but Elisha has to find a new way of listening to God.

The words from our Bible story got all jumbled up by the winds and the earthquake. Can you unscramble them?

_____ NIDW
_____ LABA
_____ QKETEAHARU
_____ ISAHLE
_____ TUQIE
_____ JEIAHL
_____ ATCO
_____ ZEEBJLE
_____ HRPOPTE

To help you out here are the words that you are unscrambling:

WIND	PROPHET	BAAL
JEZEBEL	EARTHQUAKE	COAT
ELISHA	ELIJAH	QUIET

As we learned before, our Bible stories this month happen near the river or involve water. Have you ever made a new friend at the pool or at the lake? What did you do together?

Do you remember last week when Elijah confronted Baal's prophets and showed them the power of the Lord? Well, after Elijah defeated Baal's prophets, King Ahab got very angry. And Queen Jezebel got even angrier. Listen to what she told Elijah. Read in your Bible 1 Kings 19:1-9.

Have you ever felt as angry as Jezebel? Have you ever felt as sad as Elijah? How did God take care of Elijah this time?

Continue reading 1 Kings 19:9-14.

Where do you think Elijah expected the Lord to appear? In the strong wind or in the earthquake or in the fire? What about in the thin, quiet sound?

Why do you think God appeared to Elijah this way?

Finish reading 1 Kings 19:15-21.

What does the Lord tell Elijah to do?

How does Elisha respond to Elijah's request?

What sticks out to you about this Bible story? Why do you think this is important?

One of the more bizarre details about this story is Elijah throwing his coat onto Elisha. How strange is that? This was a common practice in the Old Testament and symbolized passing responsibility on to the next generation. Have you ever heard someone say something like “passing the mantle?” This phrase comes from this story. Still it’s kind of weird.

Elijah had to look for God, in order to know that God was with him. At first, he looked in the loud, dramatic places but that’s not where God turned out to be. In some faith traditions they have exercises that help you look for God showing up in your day. These exercises are called the “examen”, because you examine your day and see what you can learn from it and what to be grateful for in it.

Usually, we use the examen at the end of the day to look back on the day. For now, I am going to give you some questions and I want you to answer them thinking about yesterday. I want you to think about what you did, where you went and who you saw. Now answer these questions:

What did you love about yesterday?	
What part of yesterday was the hardest for you?	
Was there a time yesterday when you did a really good job of sharing God’s love? Was there time you didn’t do that as well as you could have?	
When did you feel close to God yesterday?	
Thank God for yesterday, and ask God to help you notice and respond to God’s presence today.	

When we reflect on our day-to-day lives, we can learn more about God, God’s love and what God is teaching us.

Let’s end with a prayer. Thank you God, for guiding us and giving us companions on our faith journey. Keep us mindful of your presence in our lives and we do things with our family and friends. Keep us safe from during these times. In Jesus name. Amen.