

“EPIC” - LESSON 4

“Who Is The REAL God?”

Main Focus:

Our God is the ONE true God!



Power Verse:

“I know the greatness of the Lord—
that our Lord is greater than any
other god.”

— Psalm 135:5



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Believe In The ONE True God!”

LEADER'S INFO

Sometimes, it's hard to tell the difference between what's real and what's fake. Whether it's a knockoff brand, a counterfeit bill, or even a pretend friend in a game, things aren't always what they seem. But when it comes to God, there's no confusion—there is only ONE true God!

Elijah was a prophet of God who had to prove to the people of Israel who the ONE true God really was. He was one man of God against 400 prophets of Baal. The challenge was clear—the God who answered by fire would be declared the only true God.

In this lesson, the children will discover there is only ONE true God. Many may claim to be, but only our God is alive, powerful, and worthy of worship!



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Real or Fake?”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Big Ray teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Spot The Fake!”



Bible Story

“Elijah On Mt. Caramel”



Power Verse Video

“I know the greatness of the Lord— that our Lord
is greater than any other god.”

- Psalm 135:5



Call To Action

“Who Is The REAL God?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Our God is the ONE true God!



Power Verse:

“I know the greatness of the Lord—
that our Lord is greater than any
other god.”

— Psalm 135:5



Whatchagaddaknow:

“I Believe In The ONE True God!”

Lesson 4 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 4 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Wacky Wally” Theme Graphic/Music

- A Drawing Of A “Giant Spaghetti Monster”

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video

- “Spot The Fake!” Graphics

Bible Story

- “Elijah on Mt. Carmel” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 3 - Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Who Is The REAL God?” Graphics

- A Cell Phone

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video

- “REWIND!” Lesson 4 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Psalm 135:5 Print Piece

- Crayons, Markers, Or Pencils

“The Spark” Intro Video

“Real or Fake?”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

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Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”

Offering Time

Game Time!

“Spot The Fake!”

Bible Story

“Elijah On Mt. Caramel”

Power Verse Video

“I know the greatness of the Lord— that our Lord
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Call To Action

“Who Is The REAL God?”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today, we are continuing our series called “EPIC!” We are learning from some of the most EPIC Bible Stories that will blow your mind!

Have you ever had something that looked real, but it turned out to be fake? Maybe a toy that broke right away, a “gold” necklace that turned your skin green, or a video online that wasn’t true at all? *(Allow responses)* It can be really tricky to tell the difference between what’s real and what’s fake!

Well, today we are learning about a time when a whole group of people thought they were worshipping a real god—but they were totally wrong! Elijah, a prophet of the one true God, challenged 450 prophets of the false god, Baal. The test was simple: the God who sent fire from heaven would be proven to be the real God! How do you think that turned out?

Before we find out, let’s check out this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 4”)

Leader: In life, lots of things claim to be true, powerful, or even worthy of worship. But just like in Elijah’s time, there is only ONE true God! No matter what the world says, He alone is real, He alone is powerful, and He alone deserves our praise.

Today, you’re going to learn how Elijah proved once and for all that God is the one and only true God. I can’t wait for you to hear this EPIC story!

Right now, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow!”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: **“Wacky Wally”** *(a mega-nerd who dreams of one day becoming a superhero! He usually wears a cape.)*

Wally: *(Enters excitedly)* Hey! Guess what? I just discovered a new god! His name is Keyser, the god of lost car keys!

Leader: *(Chuckles)* Wally, I think you might be confused. “Keyser” is not real.

Wally: *(Gasps)* No, no! Keyser is real! Just yesterday, I found my keys under my bed. They had been missing for weeks. Clearly, he was helping me out!

Leader: That is quite a coincidence, Wally. But let’s talk about the ONE true God.

Wally: *(Pulls out a drawing)* But look at this! This is my drawing of the Great Spaghetti Monster! He’s the god of delicious pasta and eternal sauce!

Leader: *(Laughs)* I’m pretty sure your love of spaghetti is influencing your thinking. The one TRUE God isn’t made of carbs, Wally.

Wally: *(Scratches head)* But carbs are so yummy! And what about the Flying Frying Unicorn of Enlightenment?

Leader: *(Raises an eyebrow)* The Flying Frying Unicorn? What does it enlighten you with? How to eat deep fried glitter?

Wally: *(Offended)* No! It teaches me to believe in all things magical!

Leader: Okay, Wally, listen. There is ONLY one true God!

Wally: *(Confused)* But if there’s only one true God, what about my other gods? They’re so fun!

Leader: *(Thoughtfully)* Fun is good, Wally, but true joy comes from a relationship with the one true God. He’s not just a character in your imagination; He’s real and wants to know you.

Wally: So, you’re saying Keyser and the Great Spaghetti Monster aren’t real?

Leader: *(Nods)* Correct! They might be fun to think about, read about, watch on TV, or draw, but they can’t help you. They don’t really exist like the God in the Bible!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Wally: So, if I pray to the one true God, will he help me find my car keys when I lose them?

Leader: *(Smiling)* Absolutely! Because He is real, and so is His power, God can help you with any problem you face!

Wally: I get it now. Today, Wacky Wally has officially left behind all other gods!

Leader: That's great to hear!

Wally: I'll keep praying to the ONE true God. Hey, maybe I'll never lose my keys again!

Leader: And more importantly, you'll find peace and purpose in life!

Wally: That's even better! I'll see you later, citizens! Until then, it's up, up, and A WACKY WALLY
AWAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAYYY!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Spot The Fake!”

Items Needed For Game:

Spot The Fake! Graphics

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Preparation:

Choose five boys and five girls to play.

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How To Play:

Have the teams stand where they can see the slides and choose which team will go first. Using the provided graphics, the team will decide which of the statements on the slide is fake. If they guess correctly, the team gets a point. The team with the most points at the end of the ten questions wins!



Bible Story

“Elijah on Mt. Carmel”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 4; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in 1 Kings 18:16-40; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

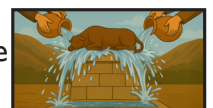
The Story:

Our EPIC Bible Story comes from the book of 1 Kings, chapter 18. The people of Israel were God’s chosen people, but they made a huge mistake. They chose to start worshipping a false god called Baal. Elijah was a prophet of God who knew that our God was the **ONLY** true God. Elijah knew that the only way he would get Israel to realize their mistake was to prove that God was the true God.

One day, Elijah told the king of Israel, Ahab, “Tell your 450 prophets of Baal to meet me on Mt. Carmel.” So, King Ahab did just that. When the prophets of Baal got there, Elijah spoke to the crowd of people who had gathered. He said, “If the Lord is God, follow Him. If Baal is God, then follow him.” Then, Elijah told the prophets of Baal, “Get two bulls for us. Choose one for yourselves, and put it on the wood but do not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. (*show pic*) The god who answers by fire—he is the **REAL** God.”



They did exactly as Elijah asked. They took a bull and put it on piles of wood. Then, (*show pic*) the prophets of Baal began to shout loud, dancing all around the altar. Baal didn’t answer. So, Elijah said, “Shout a little louder! Maybe he’s asleep!” Then, the prophets of Baal shouted and danced even more. Elijah continued to make fun of them, and they even started to cut themselves to get Baal’s attention. Baal didn’t answer. After all, Baal was not real. He would not answer when they called on him.



So, then it was Elijah’s turn. Elijah commanded the people to pour water all over the bull. They did. In fact, they did it a total of three times. Elijah was making sure when God answered, no one would think it was an accident. Then, Elijah prayed, (*show pic*) “Lord, answer so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God.” Elijah called on God. Do you think God answered? Of course, He did.

No sooner had Elijah called on God, when (*show pic*) suddenly, fire fell from Heaven and consumed the bull, the wood, and even the water in the trenches around the altar. God answered Elijah’s prayer! The people recognized that **GOD** was the real God. They shouted, “The Lord, **HE IS GOD!** The Lord, **HE IS GOD!**”

Today, we are going to learn that our God is the **ONE** true God! He hears when we call on Him and always answers right on time!



Call To Action

“Who Is The REAL God?”

Materials Needed:

The “Who Is The REAL God?” graphics; a cell phone

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Who Is The REAL God?”



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today, we learned all about Elijah’s showdown with the prophets of Baal. Elijah wanted to prove that our God was the REAL God - not Baal. He gathered those prophets up on the mountain, prepared a bull for a sacrifice, and told the prophets of Baal to call on their god. Whichever god answered by sending fire from Heaven would be declared the REAL God.

The prophets of Baal shouted, danced, and sang to Baal. Nothing happened. All the while, Elijah just made fun of them. Can you imagine what that must have looked like? Those poor prophets of Baal. They just couldn’t get their god to answer. Do you know why? Because Baal is not real. He can’t hear when they call on him. He doesn’t exist. But, our God is alive. I can always know...



When I Pray, I Know God Hears Me *(slide)*

Elijah prayed a simple prayer to our God and He heard and answered. Why? Because He is REAL! He always hears when we pray. Sometimes it’s easy to think that when we pray, God isn’t listening. We can sometimes think that because He doesn’t answer right away or the way we want Him to, then that must mean He is not listening.

(hold up the cell phone) Have you ever tried to call your Mom, but she didn’t pick up? You’re like, “Mom, pick up! Please pick up!” Maybe she was in a meeting at work. Maybe she just was in an area with bad signal. Whatever the reason, there is nothing more frustrating than trying to call someone, but they don’t answer. Well, that NEVER happens with God. When you pray, He hears you! God answered Elijah in such an awesome way! He sent fire from heaven and burned up the sacrifice. What does that teach us?



Nothing Is Too Difficult For God *(slide)*

Remember, Elijah was asking God to send fire from Heaven to consume not only the sacrifice, but also all of the water that surrounded the sacrifice. That seems like it would be a totally impossible thing to ask for, right?

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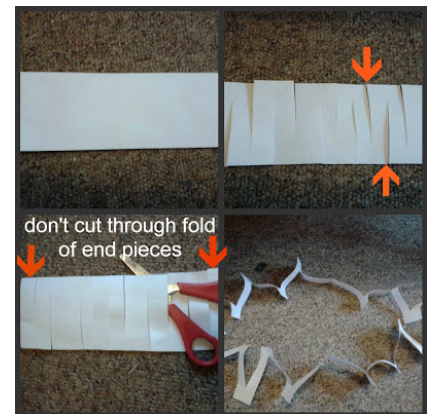
Call To Action (Continued)

Well, guess what? There is nothing impossible or too difficult for God! Let me show you what I mean. *(hold up a sheet of paper and scissors)* I challenge one of you to take these scissors and cut a single hole in this piece of paper big enough to fit your entire body through. *(allow several kids to come up and try - they will, of course, not be able to do it)*

Wow! Looks like this challenge is impossible, huh? *(allow response)* You're right! It SEEMS impossible! But, I want you to watch and see that it is definitely possible.

Now, demonstrate how it is possible by following these instructions:

1. Fold the paper in half lengthways.
2. Cut alternating 'up' and 'down' slits in the paper as shown.
3. Cut through the fold of the paper, leaving the fold of the end slit pieces in tact.
4. Open the paper out into a big circle that you can pass your whole body through. *(You may need to try this a few times before you actually do it for real so that you know roughly how many slits you need to make for your body to get through.)*



See! It's not impossible! Now, it certainly *seemed* impossible at first, huh? But, that's because you were looking at it from your own perspective. I knew something you didn't know, so it wasn't impossible for me. Guess what? Many things are like that with God also. He knows so much more than we know! He can do so much more than we can! If He can send fire from Heaven, He can heal your sickness, provide for your family, and heal your broken heart. Nothing is too difficult or impossible for God. God sent fire from heaven, consumed the sacrifice, and all the people began to fall on their knees and cry out, "The Lord, HE IS GOD! The Lord, HE IS GOD!" Elijah showed the world that...

Our God Is THE God! *(slide)*



Many other religions claim to serve the real god. Many other religions claim that their god is the one to serve. But, there is no other God who answers prayer. There is no other God who is real. There is no other God who sent His only Son to die on a cross to forgive us our sins. Our God is THE God! The ONE TRUE God! He wants to be YOUR God.

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray with kids who struggle to know that God is real and that He hears and answers their prayers. Remind the kids that God is the ONE true God, and they can always call on Him when they need help.



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 4 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “I Believe In The ONE True God!”

2. What was the name of the prophet in our Bible Story?

Answer: Elijah

3. What did Elijah tell the prophets to pour on his bull?

Answer: Water

4. What was the name of the false god in our Bible Story?

Answer: Baal

5. Did Baal answer when his prophets called on him?

Answer: No

6. Elijah said, “The God who answers by _____ is the real God!”

Answer: Fire

7. According to our lesson today, “When I Pray, God _____ Me.”

Answer: Hears

8. According to our lesson today, “Nothing Is Too _____ For God.”

Answer: Difficult

9. According to our lesson today, “Our God Is THE _____.”

Answer: God

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Psalm 135:5