

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

We need to make time to pray every day.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will choose a quiet place at home to spend time in prayer.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Kings 19:1-18, Elijah Flees to the Cave

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

Batman has the Batcave and Superman the Fortress of Solitude. To be real heroes, we need a quiet place to get away, to be silent, and spend time with Jesus.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Please hear our prayers and encourage us when we pray.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*

*"Do everything else for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NirV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Choose three kids from the audience. Have each one "sing" the memory verse in a different musical style - country, hip hop, oldies, opera, etc.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Have the kids collaborate on a musical version of the Bible verse. Can it be sung to a popular tune, or can you invent your own?

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## SKIT

### THE MORBID CAVE

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Superhero costumes for Morbidman and the Supreme Diva, a chair, a tablet computer

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M, 1F

#### CHARACTERS:

Morbidman - A sad superhero

The Supreme Diva - A teenage hero

*Morbidman sits in his chair in his lair, playing video games.*

MORBIDMAN: Come on... what's the matter with you? You feind! You vicious monster! I'll take care of you yet! No one escapes from Morbidman!  
The Supreme Diva enters.

DIVA: Hi everybody! The Supreme Diva's here! This week, we're talking about getting away to a quiet place to pray, and I can't think of a better getaway in the whole world than this place right here.

MORBIDMAN: What are you doing here? This is my secret lair! There are no girls allowed! Didn't you see the sign?

DIVA: Oh, Morbidman, you're such a kidder.

MORBIDMAN: I'm not kidding! Get out!

DIVA: Morbidman built this huge cave right beneath his billionaire mansion!

MORBIDMAN: Are you telling them where my lair is?

DIVA: Yes I am!

MORBIDMAN: Don't tell them! This is a secret lair! Secret! Do you hear me?

# SKIT

DIVA: This is where Morbidman comes to piece together clues from his latest mystery, or to gather his thoughts, or... to play a video game.

MORBIDMAN: Can a man play Candy Crush in peace?

DIVA: I love coming down here. It's so quiet and peaceful, and it's the perfect place to sit down and have a talk with God. God wants us to speak to Him everyday, you know.

MORBIDMAN: Can you speak to Him in your own lair?

DIVA: Sure I can! You can speak to God from anywhere! But there's something special about getting away by yourself and just letting God know how you feel.

MORBIDMAN: I'm praying you would go away!

DIVA: See? You're doing it right now!

MORBIDMAN: And it's not working! I guess I have to pray HARDER!

DIVA: Good for you, Morbidman! God wants us to pray hard. He wants us to let Him know when we're happy and when we're sad. God uses prayer to grow our faith and to do amazing things in our lives. He can comfort us. He can inspire us. And He can help us.

MORBIDMAN: (praying, eyes closed) Please, please, please get rid of her!

DIVA: I hope all of you can find a quiet place to sit and pray at home. It may not be as cozy as this lair, but it can be a special place where you meet with Jesus everyday.

*The Supreme Diva exits.*

MORBIDMAN: (praying) Make her go away, please!

*Morbidman opens his eyes.*

MORBIDMAN: She's gone. She's GONE! Hallelujah, prayer works!

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Keys

*Have one of the adult leaders share their key ring with the kids. Go through each key, and tell what that key is for.*

Some keys are for big things, like our houses. Some are for small things, like safes. Some are for personal things, like diaries and even bedrooms. The purpose of a key is to keep something, or some place, safe and reserved only for us.

Superheroes know the value of having alone time. Christians know it too. They know that it's good to have a place you can go to be quiet and pray.

God wants us to make time for Him. He wants us to get alone, to be still, and listen for Him. God will meet us in those special times. He will speak to us, and He will renew our strength.

Your place of quiet doesn't have to have a key. It just has to be yours. Find a spot this week, and make it a daily habit to go there and spend time with Jesus.

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### TO THE BAT CAVE

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Ten black paper airplanes  
A barrel or trash can

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Make ten paper airplanes out of black paper. Give them big wings to make them look like bats. Spread them on the floor in a circle around the trashcan, about 5 feet from the can.

Choose one player. The player will have 60 seconds to get all 10 bats into the “cave” by flying them into the opening. They must throw each plane from where it lies. If they miss, they can pick it up where it falls and try again from that spot. If they beat the clock, they win a prize.

#### VARIATION:

Reduce the number of bats from 10 to 5 or 6 for little kids.

#### WHAT’S THE POINT?

Batman has a Batcave; we all need a place to get alone with God and pray.

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

We need to make time to pray everyday.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will choose a quiet place at home to spend time in prayer.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Kings 19:1-18, Elijah Flees to the Cave

### **INTRO:**

Everything Batman owns has the word bat attached to it. Have you noticed this about Batman? Everything he has, everything he uses to fight crime, starts with Bat. There's the Batmobile, arguably the coolest car in all of comic books. There's the Bat Boat, the Batwing, and Batman's favorite weapon, the Batarang.

The old Batman series took the Bat-business to the extreme. That Batman had a Batcopter, a Batcycle, a Batcomputer, a Bat-printer, a Bat-roscope, a Bat-secret Writing Detector, A Bat-funnel, Bat-makeup, Bat-radar, Bat-armor, Bat-weather instruments, Bat-scanners, Bat Wax Solvent, and even Bat Shark Repellant.

And where does Batman go at the end of a long day of fighting crime? He returns home to the Bat Cave. The Bat Cave is one of Batman's most famous Bat-things. In fact according to bat-legend, it was the discovery of a cave full of bats beneath Bruce Wayne's home, Wayne Manor, that set Bruce Wayne on the path to becoming Batman.

The Bat Cave is more than a place to house all of Batman's Bat-toys. It's a place to rest, to recuperate, and to refocus on Batman's mission. Batman isn't alone in having a private place he can go to be alone and think either. Superman has a place of his own, known as the Fortress of Solitude, a place where Superman can go to reconnect with his heritage as an alien from the planet Krypton and focus on his own mission.

If Batman and Superman can teach us anything today, it's the importance of having alone time. As Christians, we all need to make time to get away from everyone else and just be by ourselves so we can connect with the source of our own power - Jesus. Today's story is about a time when the great prophet Elijah needed some alone time, and how God used that time to refresh his spirit.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## READ 1 KINGS 19:1-18

### MAIN POINT:

Elijah had just won a major victory for God. After calling fire from Heaven, Elijah had killed the prophets of the false God Baal and brought back his people to God. But Elijah soon found himself running for his life from the wicked king and queen.

In spite of his victory, Elijah never felt more defeated. God led Elijah up to a mountaintop, where he was able to refresh Elijah's spirit. He comforted Elijah, and he set him back on his feet again.

Elijah's cave was a place to refresh and reconnect. When Elijah cried out to God, God answered him. God wants us all to take time like Elijah to get away and to pray. We need to pray so we can grow closer to Jesus and do His work.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

Elijah's time on the mountain teaches us three things about having alone time with God. First, it shows us that prayer refreshes us. Elijah was beat. He was tired, and he was ready to give up. Elijah found rest on the mountain. God brought him food and drink to restore his health, and Elijah slowly started to feel better.

Second, Elijah's story shows us that when we pray, God answers us. God heard Elijah's cries for help, and He answered him. God can speak to us through prayer as well. You won't hear an audible voice like you're hearing mine right now, but if you take questions and big decisions to Jesus, He will answer you and guide you.

Third, Elijah's story shows us that prayer can set us on track to serve God. God finishes this passage by giving Elijah instructions. As soon as Elijah is ready, God puts Elijah right back into action. God will put us into action as well. He will show us what we can do to serve Him and point others to Jesus if we take time each day to pray.

You don't need a cave to have quiet time with God. You don't need a Fortress of Solitude either. All you need is a space to call your own, some place quiet where you can be alone with God. God will meet you there. He will refresh you, speak to you, and set you on the right path.

### CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Please hear our prayers and encourage us when we pray.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*





## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, where would you hide all your super stuff?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Have the kids collaborate on a musical version of the Bible verse. Can it be sung to a popular tune, or can you invent your own?

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Have the kids come up with their own ideas for Batman tools. What's the craziest Bat-thing you can dream up?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read 1 Kings 19:1-18**

Why did Jezebel want to kill Elijah?

What did Elijah do to escape being killed?

How did God refresh Elijah and help him feel better?

What did God tell Elijah to do?

Is there a quiet place at home you can go to pray like Elijah's cave?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Help us to find a place we can pray with You every day.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, where would you hide all your super stuff?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Have the kids collaborate on a musical version of the Bible verse. Can it be sung to a popular tune, or can you invent your own?

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Have the kids come up with their own ideas for Batman tools. What's the craziest Bat-thing you can dream up?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read 1 Kings 19:1-18**

Why did Elijah flee to the cave?

How did Elijah feel when he got there?

How did God refresh Elijah and help him feel better?

Is there a quiet place at home you can go to pray like Elijah's cave?

Can you commit to spending time with God in that spot everyday this week?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Help us to find a place we can pray with You every day.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### TRUE OR FALSE

Elijah ran to the cave because he wanted to celebrate his victory.

FALSE

Elijah was tired and wanted to die.

TRUE

God sent Elijah food to restore his health.

TRUE

God left Elijah to work out his own problems.

FALSE

God gave Elijah direction and sent him forth to serve God again.

TRUE

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: SECRET LAIRS



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Batman has the Batcave and Superman the Fortress of Solitude. To be real heroes, we need a quiet place to get away, to be silent, and spend time with Jesus.

1 Kings 19:1-18, Elijah Flees to the Cave



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Help your kids to pick and set up a place where they can spend a few minutes each day praying. Offer to spend time praying with them, if they want.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Why did Elijah run off to a cave?
- What did God do to help Elijah feel better?
- Why is it important to spend time alone in prayer?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

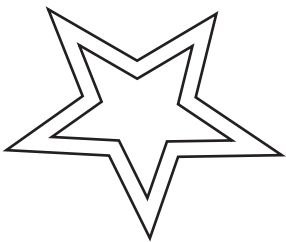
*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*



#### PARENT TIME:

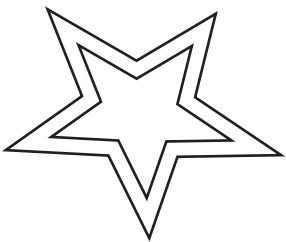
What you need to know:

Prayer is our lifeline, our daily connection to God. Help your kids to start a daily prayer habit now that will serve them all their lives.



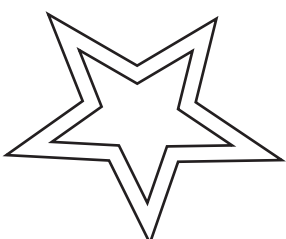
"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)



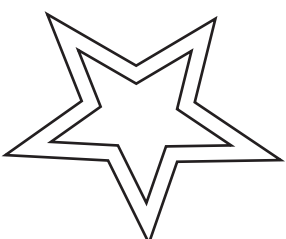
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"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

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"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids make a sign they can place at or above their prayer spot. Let them decorate it however they want and name that spot anything they want that reminds them it is a place to pray.