

## WEEK 2 LESSON GUIDE



### **BIG IDEA**

God can do impossible things.

### **BIBLE**

**Elisha and the Shunammite's Son:**  
2 Kings 4:8–37

## **ABOUT THIS WEEK**

Some paintings are so large they seem impossible to make—especially when we're first learning about art! This week, we'll hear the story of when Elisha prayed for God to bring the Shunammite's son back to life. The Shunammite knew that what Elisha was asking was a big, impossible task that could never happen, but Elisha knew that **God can do impossible things.**

## **WELCOME TIME**

### **ACTIVITY | Are You Sleeping, Elisha?**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, use an instrumental track (like [this one](#)) to have kids sing the song “[Are You Sleeping?](#)” but instead of “Brother John,” say “E-li-sha.” Have kids walk in a circle around one kid who is “Elisha,” lying down in the middle. Once they get to “ding ding dong,” have kids hop up and down. Then, switch out the kid in the middle and repeat.
- We get to learn about another story in the Bible about Elisha, who loved God.
- In today’s Bible story, we learn that Elisha’s friends gave him a room where he could sleep whenever he was in town.

### **ACTIVITY | Don’t Drop The Ball!**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, have the kids grab the handle of a parachute (or the edges of a bedsheet or light tablecloth). The group stands in a circle, facing each other while flapping the parachute. Drop one or two ball pit balls in the middle of the parachute, and ask them to keep them inside. Keep adding the balls until you’ve added about ten to fifteen balls, making the activity more challenging for the group. Kids have to work together to make sure none of the balls fall to the ground.
- **Did you think keeping all the balls inside the parachute was impossible?**
- In our Bible story today, God does something impossible again through the prophet Elisha. Let’s find out more together!

## **STORY TIME**

### **SCRIPTURE | 2 Kings 4:8–37 (Elisha and the Shunammite’s Son)**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible storybook, or using the talking points provided below. To add to the theme, set up an easel or tape a piece of

butcher paper on the wall. Draw stick-figure images with a bold marker as you teach the story.

- Welcome to the Imagine That! studio, where we get to imagine what it was like to be where the Bible stories took place! Let's see if we can paint a picture as we listen to what God wants to teach us today.
- Draw three stick people—Elisha, the Shunammite woman, and her husband.
  - Elisha was God's prophet. He traveled from place to place so that he could help people and teach people about God.
  - A husband and wife who lived in Shunem prepared a room in their home just for Elisha. Whenever he was in town, he didn't have to look for a place to rest.
- Draw a room around the stick people with recognizable items like a bed, a chair, and a lamp.
  - Elisha was so grateful for their kindness. He asked the woman if there was anything he could ask God for her.
  - The woman and her husband did not have any children, and that made them sad. So Elisha told them that in one year, they would have a baby!
- Draw a little boy in between or next to the Shunammite woman and her husband.
  - As Elisha promised, the Shunammite woman and her husband did have a baby one year later—a son. And they love him very much.
  - One day, when the child grew up a little, he was out with his father in the fields when suddenly, the boy said his head hurt.
  - He was brought to his mother, but sadly, he didn't get better. He died.
- Draw tears coming down the man and woman's faces.
  - The boy, who was a miracle gift from God, had died. The woman was so very sad.
  - But she went to see Elisha. She told him what happened. Elisha didn't waste any time. He told his helper, Gehazi, to run to where the boy was and put Elisha's stuff on the boy's face.
- Draw a stick figure of a boy with a staff lying across his face.
  - Nothing happened—yet.
  - Elisha arrived and prayed to God. He stayed with the boy until his body became warm again. The boy sneezed seven times and came back to life!
- Draw the mother, father, and Elisha standing around a stick figure boy with smiling faces.
  - God did so many impossible things in this story. First, the Shunammite woman and her husband couldn't have a baby. God gave them a baby!
  - Then, their boy died. God made that boy alive again.
- God makes impossible things ... possible! *Imagine that!*

### BIG IDEA | God can do impossible things.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On a roll of large [white poster paper](#), use a white oil pastel or crayon to write the letter "G" so that it appears "invisible." Invite the kids to come around and paint over the white paper in watercolors. Lay out a tarp below the paper to catch drips. Once the letter is revealed, teach kids the Big Idea by having them repeat the words after you, along with the hand motions provided.
- **What Big Idea masterpiece awaits us today?** It starts with the letter G!
  - **What words start with the letter G?**
  - There's another word that starts with G ... a very important word—God! God is in our Big Idea.
  - **God can do** (Point up to the sky.)
  - **impossible things.** (Put your hands on your face like you are amazed.)

### VIDEO | *Imagine That!*, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

**ACTIVITY | Rise And Shine**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, line kids up on one side of the room like they would for the game “Red Light, Green Light.” Stand on the opposite side of the room. Start with kids sitting on the ground. When you say, “Rise,” they can stand. When you say, “shine,” they should run toward you. Alternate between calling out “rise” and “shine” so they can either stand still or run until all kids have reached the side of the room where you are. Allow kids to try to be callers, too.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Draw a happy face and a sad face on either side of a paper plate. Show toddlers the happy side and make happy expressions with them. Then, show the sad side and pretend to pout and cry. Continue flipping the plate around to have toddlers do the appropriate action. Talk about when the characters from the Bible story were happy or sad.
- The little boy from today’s Bible story came back to life! He sneezed seven times, and then it was time to rise and shine.
- **God can do impossible things!**

**PRAYER**

- God, you can do impossible things. Help us remember that you have the power to do anything! Amen.

**SHARING TIME****SNACK | Paint Palette**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For [this snack](#), provide artist [palette cookie cutters](#) and have kids cut out the shapes on bread. Have them create indents using a straw and three to four holes, and fill them with colorful M&M’s or fruity puff cereal. Make sure to provide gluten-free substitutes if needed.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Try bread painting with your toddlers! Mix your own “paints” using milk and food coloring for them to dip unused paintbrushes into and paint on their bread canvases. Check out instructions [like these](#) for more detail.
- **Do you like to use paint?**
- **What do you like to draw?**

**ACTIVITY | Circle Time**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For Circle Time this month, have kids sit on [colorful spot markers](#) or make some out of construction paper or foam. You can also have them sit in “rainbow order” according to their shirt color. Pass around preschooler-safe art tools or toys ([like these](#)) as you review what you learned together.
- **What did the Shunammite woman and her husband prepare for Elisha?** A room to stay.
- **What did Elisha say God would give the woman and her husband?** A baby.
- **What happened to the baby when he grew up?** He died.
- **How did God do something impossible for this family?** Elisha prayed for the boy, and the boy came back to life.
- **Who can do impossible things?** God! God can do impossible things.

**ACTIVITY | Miracle Home**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, help kids cut out the items from the [printable](#). They can glue the doors on the spots indicated and add Elisha, the Shunammite woman, and her son wherever they’d like on the house. For a more interactive version with free-standing paper dolls and houses, print the printable on cardstock paper and cut out the bottom of each character similar to [this pattern](#). Make two vertical slits on the bottom, and insert an extra paper strip into the slits to create a triangular stand.

- The Shunammite woman was kind and thoughtful to Elisha. God saw her loving heart and made the impossible possible!
- **God can do impossible things.**

### MEMORY VERSE | Ephesians 2:10a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words and Scripture reference to the tune of "[This Is The Way](#)." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say it using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- **"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."**

## PLAY TIME

### ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Routines help toddlers feel safe and confident. Do your best to have a routine that is the same for each session. An example would be to start class with familiar toys, always have a snack after the Bible story, and bring out the crayons when it is almost time for pickup. If you repeat the same routine each week, the toddlers will learn to expect what is next and feel secure.

### ACTIVITY | Cotton Ball Painting

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For [this free play activity](#), kids can clip cotton balls on clothespins, dip them in washable paint, and start painting or stamping on art paper. You don't need very much paint on the cotton balls. Just a little dip will do.
  - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Swap out the cotton ball paintbrush for a long rectangular slice of a sponge so that toddlers do not stick loose cotton balls in their mouths.

### ACTIVITY | A Room For Elisha

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this free play activity, set out different items for kids to create and build their own imaginative version of Elisha's room. Playdough, popsicle sticks, magnet tiles, and blocks will work great. Provide figurines for kids to recreate the Bible story.