

K-2 | November 2

Today's Bible Story: Elijah and the Prophets of Baal • 1 Kings 18:16-45

Today's Bottom Line: God can do the impossible.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.* Isaiah 40:31 (NIRV)

1. Opening Activity

Pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time! Thank God that you have built your confidence on Him and not on yourself or others. Recall an age-appropriate story about a time when you trusted God even when things looked impossible. Thank God for always showing up! Ask God to help every kid learn how to live knowing He is with them, so they enter every situation with confidence in Him. Pray that even if a kid feels like the only one following God (like Elijah), they would know they're not alone, because the Holy Spirit is with them.

What You Need:

- ☐ Offering container

What You Do:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Lead the kids to try the following nearly impossible tasks.
 - Lick your elbow
 - Wiggle your ears
 - Raise your eyebrows—left, then right
 - Wiggle your nose
 - Snap your fingers
 - Hold a pencil between your nose and upper lip
 - Hold a pencil between your bottom lip and chin
 - Balance a pencil on your ear, nose, shoulder, or knee
 - Say the following tongue twisters five times in a row.
 - “Toy boat”
 - “Red leather, yellow leather”
 - “Fruit float”
 - “Bubble bobble”
 - “Selfish shellfish”
- Gather the group to discuss.

What You Say:

“Some of these challenges were REALLY hard! Maybe you can say ‘toy boat’ five times fast, but you can’t wiggle your ears. There are limits to what we can do because some things are just impossible for us.

“But today in our true story from the Bible, we’re going to see that NOTHING is impossible or too hard for God. Let’s go!”

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Let kids choose which challenges to try. Relieve any pressure by saying, “Try it if you want to!” This helps kids with physical or social anxieties feel safe.
- To adjust the mobility to meet the needs of your groups, offer other fun challenges like:
 - “Can you blink really fast?”
 - “Can you say your name in a silly voice?”

[Lead your group to do worship and watch today’s video lesson.]

2. Elijah & the prophets of Baal

What You Need:

- ☐ “Elijah & the prophets of Baal” Activity Page
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Markers, crayons/color pencils

What You Do:

- Give every kid an activity page and have them write their name on it.
- Invite the kids to color their page.
- When they’re done coloring, the kids will need to cut out the fire by cutting along the dashed lines.
- Insert the fire into the precut slit above the altar.
- The children can move the fire up and down representing the fire God sent down from heaven to burn up the water-soaked offering and even the stones too!

Talk Together:

- Ask:
 - What did God *show us* about who He is when the fire came down?
 - How can we live like we believe the truth that God is with us too?

What You Say:

“Elijah and the prophets of Baal were having a god showdown. King Ahab and his wife Jezebel had led God’s people to worship false gods like Baal, and Elijah wanted to turn the people’s hearts back to worshiping the one, true God. The prophets of Baal tried hard to get their god to listen, but after hours and hours, he didn’t respond. Then, it was God’s turn. Elijah rebuilt God’s altar and put the offering on it. Then God’s altar was soaked. When Elijah prayed to God, God answered right away! God sent fire from heaven, burned up the water-soaked offering and the stones too! Then, a little while later, God sent the rain because He is in charge of all things!

“God showed up! He showed everyone there that He was the one and only true God. This is what Elijah prayed:

“LORD, you are the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel. Today let everyone know that you are God in Israel. ... Let them know I’ve done all these things because you commanded me. Answer me. LORD, answer me. Then these people will know that you are the one and only God. They’ll know that you are turning their hearts back to you again.” —1 Kings 18:36-37 (NIRV)

“When the people in Elijah’s day were giving their hearts to other gods, that would not do! There is one, true God, and He loves us so much! God wanted to show His presence and His power, and He answered right away when Elijah prayed. God wanted all of the people to turn their hearts back to Him. He wants that or us too! God wants us to love and follow Him!

“And that altar was soaked, soaked, soaked. There was no way fire could light it! But it didn’t matter to God. He burned up the soaked altar and all of the stones too! God wanted the people to see Him, and to see that He can do the impossible. They could trust Him because He is the one, true God. And we can have the same trust. Even when things ‘look’ impossible, God is ALWAYS able—because **God can do the impossible!**”

3. Fly Like an Eagle

What You Need:

- ☐ Bibles marked at Isaiah 40:31
- ☐ “Verse Motions” Activity Pages

Inclusive Supplies:

- ☐ *Extra “Verse Motions” Activity Pages*

What You Do:

- Read your Bible verse marked at Isaiah 40:31.
- Read the verse and have the children repeat after you several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.

Move Together:

- Use the “Verse Motions” Activity Pages to teach the kids motions to Isaiah 40:31.
- Walk through the motions slowly, until the kids have learned them.
- Repeat the verse with the motions for several rounds. For each round, call on two kids each time to perform the motions like:
 - Kids who like chocolate ice cream
 - Kids with a winter birthday
 - Kids who have a pet
 - Kids who are left-handed
 - Kids who wore sneakers today
- Gather the group to discuss.

What You Say:

“The Bible is one big book full of truth! It’s got two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament. Our Memory Verse this month comes from the book of Isaiah, which is in the Old Testament! Isaiah was someone God chose to send a message from Him to His people. They were feeling really tired and weak. But Isaiah reminded them of this awesome truth: When you trust in God, He gives you new strength! And guess what? That promise is for us too!

“Whatever you’re facing, God can give you strength. Maybe you’ve been doing the right thing over and over and over, like being kind to the new kid, and you’re tired. Maybe you’ve been working really hard to learn how to read and write, and you’re tired. Life is hard, and we can get tired! We need new strength!

“But God is the strongest! And when we trust that the strong God is with us, this verse promises that He will give us strength. If you are feeling all wimpy and tired, God is the strong One. You can pray to Him, and He can help you be stronger because He is strong. When you trust in Him, He will give you new strength so you can keep going and not get so tired! Keep practicing these motions at home and remember: **God can do the impossible!**”

Inclusive Pro Tips:

- Print “Verse Motions” Activity Pages to support visual learners and readers who want to follow along on their own copies of the motions.

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need:

- ☐ No supplies needed

What To Do:

- Before you pray, ask the kids to answer a simple question like:
 - *“What do you think you’ll eat for lunch today?”*
- Explain that once you ask the question, you’ll count to three, and then the kids will call out their answers at the same time.
- Once they do, try to recall some of the answers. Then point out that even though you really tried, you couldn’t hear every single answer at once. It’s impossible for you!
- Share with the kids that God CAN hear all their prayers, even when prayed at the same time, because **God can do the impossible**.
- Close in prayer.

Prayer:

“God, we love You and we believe that YOU can do the impossible. Thank You for listening to every prayer from my friends in this group. Thank You for hearing the prayers of all Your people, all over the world! Today we discovered that what might be completely impossible for us is possible for You. Help us to walk confidently knowing that You are with us in everything that we face. Thank You for loving us, God. We love You so much. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen!