



Teacher Lesson Plans

Bibletime Levels 0-4

C Series

C9 & C10

Bible Educational Services

Registered Charity UK (No 1186004)

BES Mission:

Producing Bible lessons for intermediaries to present the truth of Jesus Christ to the next generation worldwide.

BES Vision:

To reach the next generation with our full curriculum in their own language by developing and supporting a global network of committed partners.

GENERAL INFORMATION

What Bible Educational Services does:

Bible Educational Services (BES) publish "Bibletime", "New Life" and "Gleaners" Bible lessons in English and support Postal Bible Schools and similar organisations using BES lessons in the UK and overseas. We do this by visiting, networking, advising and training. BES is also currently working in partnership with groups in other countries who are involved in translation, design, publishing and distribution of lessons. Lessons must be provided free of charge to all students.

Bibletime lessons were first used in Southern Ireland over 50 years ago. Bible Educational Services maintain editorial responsibility for Bibletime Lessons in English and in all foreign languages. Bibletime lessons have been normally published in an A4 format which enables students in some areas, every four weeks, to send the lessons back to a Bible School Centre for marking. More recently, thanks to Every Home Crusade (Revival Movement) in Belfast, lessons for six months have been published in an A5 format, which has made usage in Churches and Schools much easier, especially where there is no effective postal system.

The BES lessons are unique in that they are prepared with home or group (Church / School) study in mind. They follow a planned syllabus which allows students to continue studying for up to 20 years. Five levels of lessons are available for specific age groups, Pre-school, 5-7's, 8-10's, 11-13's, 14-16's. There is a three-year syllabus for each age group. The age groups may vary according to different levels of ability. The Bibletime Resources allow children the opportunity to study the Bible and reflect on its relevance in the lives of people today.

Printed copies of the lessons are available in English from the BES website www.besweb.com or from the BES Office in Enniskillen. They are also available on the website in other languages. BES has documents which may be helpful to you if you are considering partnering with us, which are also available on the website.

BES Contact Addresses

BES Office (stockist of all English lessons):

37a Belmore Street, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, BT74 6AA

Phone: 02866 322462

Email: info@besweb.com

website: www.besweb.com

LESSON PLANS FOR TEACHERS

Teacher Lesson Plans are produced to equip Teachers using Bibletime lessons with suggestions and ideas for classroom study. In this booklet they are designed for use with Levels 0-4.

Each lesson plan follows the same Bible reference as the Bibletime lesson and are designed to be used on a weekly basis. The April lessons are specific to the Easter story and the December lessons are based on the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Normally the classroom Teacher will work through the monthly A4 lesson each week with the class. They are free to allow time for independent study if this is appropriate. At the end of the month the Teacher will collect the lesson and do the necessary marking, returning the marked lessons as soon as possible to the pupils.

PREPARATION FOR TEACHERS

Teachers should feel free to use their own ideas and initiatives when using the Bibletime lessons, adapting them as appropriate to their particular pupils. These are suggestions which may help in the use of this Resource:

- **Be familiar with the story** - Teachers should be as familiar as possible with the Bible Story and also with the Bibletime lesson that accompanies it. Ideally, the Bibletime lesson should be completed by the Teacher before the lesson. The Lesson Plans for each lesson should also be carefully considered as a planning aid for the lessons.
- **Understand the lessons to be learned** - At the top of each lesson plan you will notice the words 'We are learning that', followed by some learning intentions. The children will hopefully have grasped these points after listening to the Teacher's presentation and completing the Bibletime lesson.
- **Introduce it** - With all lessons, we start where the children are with their own experience of the situation. We have suggested various ways that might be used to introduce the story to enable the children to be interactive in discussing the starting point of the story.
- **Teach It** - We have given the Key Points in the story. Teachers should not have to refer to these when actually teaching the story, but they are a useful guide. Aim to teach it in an interesting and inspiring way! Help the children to understand the main points by grasping their attention - use the appropriate tone and ask questions to test their learning.
- **Show it** - We appreciate that in some situations, visuals will be very difficult to obtain but wherever possible it is important to focus on pictures or objects to help in the understanding of the story. In most lessons we have given the information about pictures from www.freebibleimages.org (FBI) which are downloadable from their website. These direct links to the story / study are available in Appendix A, B or C at the back of the booklet.
- **Learn It** - There is a Key Verse attached to each story. Hearing and learning these verses should enable pupils to increase their knowledge of Biblical vocabulary.
- **Complete It** - In a school situation you will be aware of the abilities of children to complete worksheets and the amount of Teacher support required. For some, it will be a requirement that the Teacher reads over the text of the lesson as the children follow what is now a familiar narrative. Other children may be able to read the text independently. Whatever the approach, try to make the lesson enjoyable, and remember to praise the pupils' efforts.
- **Review it** - We have suggested possible quizzes, games, art and drama to assist learning, and as a means of revising the story.
- **Live it-** This section carries the heading 'How does the lesson challenge Christians today?' and also some suggestions of possible group work and individual responses to the challenge of the lesson.

Bibletime Syllabus

| | LEVEL 0 (Pre-School) LEVEL 1 (Ages 5-7) LEVEL 2 (Ages 8-10) | LEVEL 3 (Ages 11-13) | LEVEL 4 (Ages 14+) |
|----------------|--|---|---|
| STARTER SERIES | 1. Starter Lesson - Intro | 1. Starter Lesson - Intro | 1. Starter Lesson – Intro |
| SERIES A | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Abraham 6. Abraham 7. Peter 8. Peter 9. Jacob 10. Early Christians 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation 2. Noah 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. Prayer 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation & Fall 2. Early developments - Genesis 3. Peter 4. Peter - The Cross 5. Peter 6. Abraham 7. Jacob 8. The Christian Life 9. Paul 10. Paul 11. Paul 12. The Christmas Story |
| SERIES B | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Life of Christ 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Parables 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. People Jesus met 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Joseph 7. Joseph 8. Gospel Writers 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. Moses 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parables 2. Miracles 3. Bethany 4. The Cross 5. Early Christians 6. Jacob & his family 7. Joseph 8. Acts 2: 42 - The way ahead 9. Moses 10. Moses 11. The Law 12. The Christmas Story |
| SERIES C | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. More Miracles 3. People Jesus met 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth & Samuel 6. David 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Jonah 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. People Jesus met 3. More Miracles 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. Men used by God - OT 12. The Christmas Story | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel 2. The sayings of Jesus 3. The Lord's Power 4. Death of Christ 5. Ruth 6. Samuel 7. David 8. Joshua 9. Elijah 10. Elisha 11. More OT Characters 12. The Christmas Story |

C9 Story 1
“God looks after Elijah”

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah obeyed God when he told King Ahab God’s message. • Christians try to obey what God says in the Bible. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 5 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 17: 1-7</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Ask the pupils to list their needs and wants and distinguish between the two. Ask a volunteer to hide, or hide an object, for the children to find. Explain that a person in this story went into hiding.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah had to tell wicked King Ahab some bad news. King Ahab didn’t love God and he was the worst king Israel had ever had (see 1 Kings 16: 30). He worshipped gods who were not real and made the people of Israel do the same. He was married to wicked Queen Jezebel. God was angry with all the evil in the land and was going to punish King Ahab. God chose Elijah, a man who loved God, to be his messenger. He was to tell Ahab there would not be any rain or dew in Israel for a long time. Relate 1 Kings 17: 1. Elijah obeyed God by telling King Ahab the bad news. • How do you think the king felt about this news? Angry. Discuss what it would mean – crops and vegetables would not grow; animals and people would not have water to drink and food to eat. King Ahab was so angry because of Elijah’s message that he wanted to kill him! But God had a plan to keep Elijah safe. He told him to go and hide! Elijah was to go on a journey to a hot, steep-sided valley called Cherith (NIV Kerith). There was a stream there and Elijah could drink the water. God also said he would provide him with food in a wonderful way. Each morning and evening, ravens (large, black birds) would bring Elijah bread and meat in their beaks (1 Kings 17: 2-4). God was looking after Elijah. Elijah obeyed and set off for the valley at Cherith. • Day after day, God provided for Elijah’s needs. Elijah drank water from the stream and the ravens provided him with food. As time passed, Elijah noticed the water in the stream was drying up. Why? There had been no rain, as God had said. The water became less and less until one day there was only a dried-up river bed. What was Elijah to do now? God already had a plan for Elijah! All he had to do was obey (1 Kings 17: 5-7). • <i>Elijah obeyed God even though he knew that telling King Ahab bad news would be dangerous for him. He obeyed God, too, and went to Cherith where God provided him with food and water. Elijah had the courage to do what God told him to do and he trusted God to look after him.</i> • <i>Christians believe that God speaks to us today through the Bible. He tells us how to live and how to become a member of His family. We need to listen to what God says in the Bible and obey. God looks after and cares for those who love Him.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah obeys God..</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach the Key Verse and explain where necessary: 1 Kings 17: 5. Choose the first part of the verse for younger children.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Draw the outline of a raven on card and use tissue / crepe paper to complete, or quiz.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the name of the wicked king and queen? • What was God going to do to punish King Ahab? • Who did God choose to tell the king God’s plan? • How did King Ahab respond? • Where did God send Elijah? • How did God look after Elijah there? • What eventually happened to the stream? • What do we learn about Elijah from this story? • How can Christians obey God? |

C9 Story 2
“Elijah trusts God to look after him”

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elijah and the widow trusted in God to provide their needs. • Christians believe that God provides for our daily needs. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 14 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 17: 8-24</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Use visual aids from last week and let the pupils re-tell the story. We are going to find out what happens next. Show flour and oil. What can we make? (bread) What do we need? (fire). Show a bundle of sticks and a small loaf or bread roll.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God told Elijah to leave Cherith and go to a town called Zarephath. <i>Relate what God also told Elijah – that a widow would supply him with food. Ask the pupils to define a widow.</i> Elijah obeyed and set off on a long, hot walk. He trusted God would look after him. When he arrived at the entrance to the town, he saw a woman bending down and picking up sticks which had fallen from the branches of trees and bushes. <i>Read the conversation in verses 10-12.</i> Why were the widow and her son so short of food? There had been no rain and the crops for making flour had not grown. People were going to die due to lack of food (1 Kings 17: 8-12). • <i>Relate what Elijah said to the woman, and what God promised (verses 13-16).</i> What do you think the woman did? The woman trusted, she believed God would keep his promise. She went away and made a small loaf of bread for Elijah and then she made some for herself and her son. Something amazing happened! When she looked in the jar of flour, there was still flour left and there was oil in the jug. The flour and oil should have been used up. But day after day, the jar had flour in it and the jug of oil never ran dry. It was just as God had said! There was food every day for Elijah, the woman and her son. God had kept his promise. He provided for their needs (1 Kings 17: 13-16). • <i>The last section of the Bible passage (1 Kings 17: 17-24) is only mentioned in Level 2 Bibletime leaflets.</i> Sadly, one day the woman’s little boy became very ill and died. She carried the boy in her arms to Elijah. He took the boy upstairs to his room and put him on the bed. Elijah prayed three times: “O Lord, my God, restore this child to life.” God heard Elijah’s prayer and the boy started to breathe again! He carried the boy downstairs and gave him to his mother. God had not only provided their daily food, but he had brought the widow’s son back to life. The woman knew that Elijah’s God was the true God. • <i>Christians believe that God provides for our needs today – food, families and friends. He cares about every detail of our lives. The Bible teaches that God cares about us so much that He sent His son, Jesus, to die so we can have our sins forgiven. If we ask, God will forgive our sin, and we will have eternal life with Him in Heaven.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah trusts God.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 1 Kings 17: 14. <i>Explain that God kept his promise. He keeps all his promises in the Bible.</i></p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Using the flour, oil and a bundle of sticks, act out the story, or quiz: Share the loaf with the children. <i>(Check for allergies)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where did God tell Elijah to go when the stream at Cherith dried up? • Who did he see when he got there, and what was the woman doing? • What did he ask for? What was the woman’s reply? • What was God’s promise to the woman? Did He keep it? • What happened to the widow’s son? • How many times did Elijah pray? • Whose power brought the boy back to life? |

C9 Story 3
“Elijah serves God”

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God gave Elijah the victory at the contest on Mount Carmel. • Christians believe that the God of the Bible is the one true God. <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 18: 39 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 18: 1-2, 16-46</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Explain what a contest is by using examples, such as games between two teams. Talk about everyday choices – favourite colours, food, music. People in our story are asked to make a very important choice.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rain had fallen for three whole years in Israel. <i>Describe what this would mean – no crops, grass, vegetables, plus animals and people would die. Remind the pupils why God had punished the people of Israel in this way – the wickedness of King Ahab and the worship of false gods.</i> God told Elijah to go back to King Ahab and tell him that very soon God would send rain. Elijah obeyed (1 Kings 18:1-2). • King Ahab was still angry with Elijah. What had he threatened to do to him? (<i>kill him</i>). This time he called Elijah a trouble-maker. <i>Relate Elijah’s reply in verse 18.</i> Elijah decided it was time to show King Ahab and the people of Israel who was the real God. He set up a contest which was to be held on Mount Carmel overlooking the sea. <i>Describe what happened in verses 19 and 20 and the challenge of Elijah to the people in verse 21. (1 Kings 18: 16-21)</i> • The contest would be between the false god Baal and the true God. <i>Describe how two altars would be built and a sacrifice placed on each. Those who believed in Baal, and Elijah who believed in the true God, would each pray for fire to come down and burn up the sacrifice on their altar. Wherever the fire fell, that would prove who was the true God (1 Kings 18: 22-26).</i> • Those who believed in Baal prayed first. They prayed all morning, but there was no answer from their god, no fire came. They shouted out even louder, but there was no response, no-one answered, no-one paid attention. Why? They were praying to a stone god that could not hear (verses 25-29). • Now it was Elijah’s turn. When the sacrifice was placed on the altar, Elijah poured 12 barrels of water over it. Why? It would make it harder for the fire to burn it up. Elijah prayed quietly to the God of Israel. <i>Relate his prayer in verses 36 and 37.</i> Immediately, fire from God fell and burnt up the sacrifice, the stones of the altar and dried up the water. God was alive, had heard Elijah’s prayer and shown His great power. When the people saw what had happened, they fell down on the ground and cried: “The Lord, He is God” (verses 38-39). Elijah ordered the prophets of Baal to be killed (Verse 40). • What a victory for Elijah and his God! What had Elijah promised Ahab at the start of our story? It would rain! The day ended with God sending rain. The sky grew black with clouds, the wind blew, and heavy rain fell down (1 Kings 18: 41-46). • The people of Israel saw that day that God was the only true God. <i>Remind the pupils what Elijah said in verse 21.</i> They gave up worshipping false gods and turned back to worshipping the true God. <i>Do people today worship false gods? Christians believe that the God of the Bible is the true God.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah serves God.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 1 Kings 18:39.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Ask the pupils to re-tell the story using the visual aids, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What message from God did Elijah have to give to King Ahab? • What did King Ahab call Elijah? • What was Elijah’s reply? • What choice were the people given? (verse 21) • What happened when the people who believed in Baal prayed? • What happened when Elijah prayed? What did the people do and say? |

C9 Story 4
“Elijah forgets God”

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Elijah was afraid, he forgot to trust God to take care of him. • Christians believe that they can trust God at all times. <p>Key Verse: <i>Psalm 62: 8</i> Bible Passage: <i>1 Kings 19: 1-16</i></p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>What situations make you afraid or sad? The Bible says that God is with you! Using visual aids, recap the story of Mount Carmel (Story 3).</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King Ahab’s wife, wicked Queen Jezebel, was furious when she heard what had happened on Mount Carmel and that the prophets of Baal had been killed on Elijah’s instructions. <i>Recap the story of Mount Carmel if not used in the introduction.</i> What had the people of Israel learned? The God of Elijah was the true God. In her temper, Queen Jezebel sent a message to Elijah to say she would have him killed within the day for what he had done. When Elijah heard this, he was afraid and ran for his life! He felt alone and sad and forgot to trust in God (1 Kings 19: 3). <i>Talk to the pupils about times when they feel sad and alone, when they are teased at school or get into arguments.</i> The Bible says that God knows all that happens and what makes us sad and afraid. • Elijah ran into the hot, dusty desert and sat down under a tree. He asked God to let him die and then fell asleep. <i>Tell the pupils about the provision given by the angel, showing God’s care for Elijah.</i> After eating and sleeping, Elijah was strong enough to walk for 40 days and nights to Mount Horeb (also called Mount Sinai). <i>Ask the children if they can remember anything that happened there – Moses was given the 10 commandments by God.</i> Elijah spent the night in a cave (1 Kings 19: 3-9). • <i>Relate the question which God asked Elijah and his reply.</i> Elijah was able to tell God how he felt and why he was so sad. The Bible teaches that God will always listen. You can tell him how you feel and why you are sad or afraid. <i>Introduce the Key Verse - Psalm 62: 8.</i> • God told Elijah to go and stand on the mountain. God was going to meet with Elijah. There came a strong wind, an earthquake and fire, but God was not talking to Elijah in any of these. Then Elijah heard a gentle whisper. It was God speaking. He told Elijah to go back the way he had come. <i>Relate what God said and the new jobs he had for Elijah.</i> One of the jobs God had for Elijah was to find a young man called Elisha who was going to be God’s next prophet or messenger. Elijah was old, and his life was almost at an end. He had served God well. God had taken care of him. <i>Recap how God had provided for him at Cherith, Zarephath and on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 19: 11-16).</i> • <i>God had spoken to Elijah throughout his life and told him what to do. Christians believe that God speaks to us today through what we read in the Bible. If we are sad or afraid, we can ask God to be with us and to help us. We can trust God at all times.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elijah forgets / fails God.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – Psalm 62: 8. God never changes. He is always there.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Pupils could draw or create a timeline for the story, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who threatened to kill Elijah? • How did Elijah react? • What did he ask God to allow him to do? • What meals did the angel provide? • How long did it take for Elijah to get to Mount Horeb? • What question did God ask and what was Elijah’s reply? • Name three things which were not God talking to Elijah? • How did God speak to Elijah? • What job did he give him to do? • Who can Christians call on when they are sad or afraid? |

C10 Story 1
“Elisha, God’s new helper”

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God gave Elisha power to do His work. • The Bible says that God will help all those who love Him to serve Him. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 2: 14 Bible Passage: 1 Kings 19: 19-21, 2 Kings 2: 1-15</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Discuss ways in which people work for God – missionaries, church workers, Christian charities, telling others about Jesus. <i>Talk to the pupils about things they find hard to do – their school work, saving their pocket money, not getting angry, etc.</i> Sometimes we need help from other people. A man in our story needed God’s help to do the work God had given him.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who had God chosen to take over from Elijah to be His new messenger? <i>Recap on God’s instructions to Elijah in 1 Kings 19: 15-16.</i> Elijah knew his work for God was coming to an end, so he set off from Mount Horeb to find Elisha, a younger man to carry on God’s work. Elijah found Elisha ploughing in a field (<i>show images of how ploughing was done in Bible times</i>), he took off his cloak and threw it around him. Elisha knew this was a sign he had been chosen by God to leave his work as a farmer and to serve God. He said goodbye to his family and went with Elijah. Elisha started his new job (1 Kings 19: 19-21). • Elijah and Elisha went everywhere together as they worked for God. (<i>If time, relate 2 Kings 2: 1-6</i>). After a while, the time came for God to take Elijah to Heaven. One day, the two men came to the edge of the river Jordan. Explain what happened in verse 8. Elijah was able to do this because God was with him and gave him the power. Elijah asked Elisha what he wanted him to do for him before he was taken by God. Elisha knew he would need the same God-given power that Elijah had to help him to do God’s work. <i>Relate the conversation in 2 Kings 2: 7-10.</i> • Suddenly an amazing thing happened as they were talking together. A chariot and horses of fire appeared between the two men. Elijah was lifted up towards Heaven in a big swirl of wind. Elisha could no longer see Elijah, only his cloak that had fallen to the ground. How do you think Elisha felt? (<i>Alone, amazed, sad</i>) (2 Kings 2: 11-12) • Elisha picked up the cloak and went back to the river. Elisha wondered if God was with him. <i>Relate the Key Verse.</i> Elisha now knew that Elijah’s God was with him and would give him the power he needed to do his work for God. He would help him as he had helped Elijah (2 Kings 2: 13-15). • <i>Christians believe that God uses people today to do His work. It may mean going to another country or staying in your own country. Christians serve God by living lives that please Him. Whatever is done for Him, God promises to help – just like he helped Elijah and Elisha.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: a call to follow.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 2: 14. Focus in on Elisha’s words and explain the context.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Draw the outline of a chariot and ask the pupils to decorate with the flames – paint, crayon, coloured paper, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who did Elijah have to find to take over his work for God? • What was Elisha doing when Elijah found him? • What did Elisha do? • Who caused the river Jordan to part, so the men could cross over? • What did Elisha ask for? • What came between Elijah and Elisha when Elijah was lifted up to Heaven? • What item did Elisha pick up and use? • Was God now with Elisha? How did Elisha know? • How does God help those who work for Him? |

C10 Story 2**“Elisha helps a poor widow and a rich woman”**

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisha shows kindness to the poor widow and the rich woman. • Christians believe that they can pray to God about difficult things in their lives. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 4: 2 Bible Passage: 2 Kings 4: 1-7 (Levels 0-1) 2 Kings 4: 1-37 (Level 2)</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Have you ever helped a friend? Discuss. In today’s story a poor widow cries out to Elisha for help. (Level 0-1) Level 2 children will also study the story of the boy being raised back to life.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisha travelled around the country doing God’s work. <i>Recap how Elisha had taken on the work from Elijah and had been given God’s power to do so.</i> He met a poor widow who needed some help. She couldn’t pay her dead husband’s debts and she was worried that her sons would be taken as slaves by the creditor. • Elisha had compassion on the woman. She didn’t have much in her house (2 Kings 4: 2) but God was able to use the ‘little’ to bring about a lot! • God then uses Elisha to perform a miracle with oil. This oil was probably used for cooking, lamps and for fuel. The widow was able to sell it in order to pay her debts and provide for her family. • The widow’s faith and willingness to obey Elisha’s instructions led to blessing. • LEVEL 2 Elisha often visited a place called Shunem where a rich woman lived with her husband. They loved having Elisha in their home for a meal, and after a while decided to build him his own room at the top of their house where he could stay for the night. <i>Describe what they put in the bedroom – bed, chair, table and lamp.</i> The couple showed kindness to their friend. We should do the same for our friends (2 Kings 4: 8-10). • Elisha wanted to do something in return for their kindness. He heard that the woman was sad because she didn’t have any children. Elisha told her that God would give her a baby boy! Soon the woman had a baby boy of her own. How do you think she felt? One day, when the boy was older and helping his father on the farm, he became very ill. He was carried into the house but soon died. Who do you think his mother thought could help? <i>Elisha.</i> She knew Elisha was a man of God and could help her with God’s power. When you are in difficulty who do you turn to for help? (<i>parents, teacher, brother or sister</i>) (2 Kings 4: 11-25) • <i>For this age group, the following events have been simplified.</i> Elisha returned with the woman and went to his bedroom where the body of the boy lay. He shut the door and prayed to God. He breathed into the boy’s body and the boy started to come back to life. Suddenly, he sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. God had answered Elisha’s prayer! He gave the boy back to his mother. How thrilled she must have been to see her son alive! Elisha trusted God to help and God answered his prayer. The woman, her husband and the boy learned about the power of God that day (2 Kings 4: 26-37). • <i>The Bible teaches that God wants us to trust Him and pray about difficult things in our lives. Discuss some difficulties – a friend moves away, a pet dies, someone is horrible to you at school. God listens to our prayers and is able to help.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: comfort a friend.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 4: 33</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Level 0-1 Using props e.g. jars, oil, money, act out the poor widow’s story, or have a quiz. Level 2 – Create two feelings trees to illustrate how the rich woman felt after her son died, and when he was raised to life again, or try writing a prayer for help in a difficult situation.</p> |

C10 Story 3**“God uses Elisha to heal a sick man”**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman had a disease which could only be cured by God. • The Bible teaches that God has made a way for us to have the problem of sin forgiven. <p>Key Verse: 2 Kings 5: 15 Bible Passage: 2 Kings 5: 1-19</p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>Who do you go to see to make you better when you are ill? <i>Discuss.</i> A man in our story was ill and no-one could help him. <i>Talk about instructions, written and verbal.</i> A man in our story had to obey instructions given by Elisha, even though he didn't want to.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman, the commander of King Aram's army, was a very important man. He was a brave soldier, had won many battles and the king was very pleased with him. He lived in a big house with his wife and servants. But he was an enemy of God's people, the Israelites. One day, a terrible thing happened. He looked at his skin and saw there was something wrong. He had leprosy – a disease which in those days couldn't be healed by doctors. Soon, other people would see he had the disease. He would lose his job and be sent away from his family (2 Kings 5: 1). • Living in his house was a young maid who served and helped his wife. She had been captured from the land of Israel and bought to the house as a servant. She heard the terrible news about Naaman and knew of someone who could help. Who? (<i>Relate verse 3</i>) Naaman agreed to go to see Elisha. Leprosy was a problem Naaman could not solve. <i>The Bible teaches that we have a problem that we cannot solve – sin which makes us do wrong things.</i> King Aram allowed Naaman to go to see Elisha and gave him gold, silver and clothing to take as a present (2 Kings 5: 2-7). • When Naaman arrived, Elisha sent a messenger to tell him to wash seven times in the river Jordan and he would be healed of his leprosy. Naaman was furious – he was angry that Elisha had not come out himself to see him and he didn't want to wash in the muddy river Jordan. <i>Relate verses 13 and 14 - get the children to count the seven times Naaman had to dip down into the water.</i> How amazing! Naaman was healed! His skin looked perfect. Relate what Naaman said to Elisha. Naaman now knew the God of Israel was the true God. Naaman offered Elisha the presents of gold, silver and fine clothing, but Elisha would not take them. It was God who had healed Naaman, not Elisha (2 Kings 5: 8-19). • <i>Naaman had to obey what Elisha said to be healed of his leprosy. There was no other way for him to be made better. The Bible teaches that sin separates us from God. God tells us that because His Son, Jesus, died on the cross, we can ask God to forgive our sin. There is no other way for us to be forgiven of our sin. We then become part of God's family.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: cleansing / healing a leper.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – 2 Kings 5: 15.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Use a circle of cardboard or paper plate for each child to draw a sad face with spots on one side and a happy face without spots on the other side. Get them to re-tell the story, or quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What job did Naaman do? • What illness did he have? Was there anyone who could help? • Who knew Elisha, God's messenger, could help? • Who let Naaman go to see Elisha? What presents did Naaman take? • How many times did Naaman have to wash in the river Jordan? • Was he happy to do so? Who told him to obey Elisha's instructions? • What happened when Naaman came out of the water for the seventh time? • What did he say to Elisha? • Did Elisha accept his presents? Why? • What problem does the Bible say we have that only God can solve? |

C10 Story 4
“Elisha and his greedy servant”

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| | <p>We are learning that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God punished Gehazi for being greedy and telling lies. • The Bible says that Jesus took the punishment for our sin when He died on the cross. <p>Key Verse: <i>Numbers 32: 23</i> Bible Passage: <i>2 Kings 5: 19-27</i></p> |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p><i>Discuss what it means to be greedy; or is it right to tell lies? When we do these things, we hope that no-one will know or find out just like someone in our story.</i></p> <p>Show images and / or quiz to recap the story of Naaman. This is what happened next.</p> |
| TEACH IT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naaman the army commander, his men and servants set off for home. Naaman was happy he had been cured of his leprosy and he now knew that Elisha’s God was the true God. But there was someone who was not happy. Gehazi, Elisha’s servant was cross that his master had not accepted the gifts of silver and fine clothes from Naaman. Can you remember why Elisha had not taken the presents? <i>It was God who had healed Naaman and not Elisha.</i> Gehazi thought it was silly of Elisha not to take anything from Naaman and planned to get some of the gifts for himself. Gehazi was being greedy. We can be greedy sometimes and want what other people have got. God has said we should not be like this. <i>Refer to Exodus 20: 17 and 2 Kings 5: 19-20.</i> • Gehazi ran after Naaman even though he had gone some way on his journey. When Naaman saw Gehazi running up behind, he got off his horse and asked Gehazi if everything was all right. Relate Gehazi’s reply in verse 22. Gehazi had made up a story that was not true in order to get some silver and fine clothing for himself. God has said we should not tell lies. <i>Refer to Exodus 20: 16.</i> Gehazi cheated Naaman into giving him the presents meant for Elisha. Naaman gave Gehazi even more than he had asked for! He sent two of his servants to help carry the gifts back home for Gehazi. We can sometimes tell lies to get out of trouble or to get something which is not ours (2 Kings 5: 21-23). • The servants gave Gehazi the gifts and Gehazi hid them in his house. He thought nobody would know what he had done. Do you think he was right? Who would know what he had done? <i>God.</i> God knows when we do wrong things. He knows everything. He is not happy when we cheat or lie (2 Kings 5: 24). • Gehazi went to Elisha and stood in front of him. <i>Relate the conversation in verses 25-26.</i> Explain that God had told Elisha what his servant had done. God punished Gehazi for what he had done wrong. He couldn’t be allowed to get away with it. His sins had been found out by God. Suddenly Gehazi was covered in leprosy (2 Kings 5: 25-27). • <i>The Bible says we all do wrong things. We have all sinned. God knows all we have done. We can ask God to forgive our sins because His Son, Jesus, took the punishment for sin when He died on the cross.</i> <p>Complete the Bibletime lesson.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix A – Elisha: cheating is punished.</p> |
| LEARN IT | <p>Teach and explain where necessary the Key Verse – <i>Numbers 32: 23</i>. Explain that some people think that no-one will find out about their sin, but the Bible says that God knows everything.</p> |
| REMEMBER IT | <p>Ask pupils to answer the following questions as a means of revising the story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did Gehazi think his master, Elisha, was silly? • What did Gehazi do? What did he say to Naaman? • How would you describe Gehazi? • Who helped Gehazi back to his home with the gifts from Naaman? • What did Gehazi do with the gifts? • Did he think he had got away with it? Who knew? • What happened to Gehazi? • What does the Bible teach about sin? |

| Level 3-4 | C9 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Elijah Topic – Commanded by God | C9 - LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Elijah Topic – God’s Punishment |
|--------------|--|--|
| | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 16: 29-33; 17: 1-7</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 5</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the Israelites turned away from God, Elijah remained true to Him. 2. God chose Elijah to speak out against King Ahab and all his wickedness. | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 16: 29-33; 17: 1-7</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 17: 5</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah was God’s man chosen to speak out against King Ahab and his wickedness. 2. Christians believe that obedience to God’s word is essential for daily living. |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>In this set of lessons, we are introduced to Elijah one of Israel’s greatest prophets. Elijah lived at the time when King Ahab was on the throne of Israel. Ahab was a very wicked king, married to an even more wicked woman called Jezebel. She worshipped an idol called Baal and influenced her husband to promote idol worship at the time. The Israelites turned away from God.</p> | <p>Elijah was the first in a long line of important prophets God sent to Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah (the southern kingdom). God therefore, called prophets to rescue Israel from its spiritual and moral decline. Over the next 300 years, these men and women would encourage the people and their leaders to return to the only true God.</p> |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ahab was more evil and wicked than any of the kings who went before him (1 Kings 16: 30 -33). 2. God sent Elijah to confront the people of Israel about their idolatry and sinful lives and encourage them to repent. 3. Elijah courageously announced to Ahab there would be a drought and there would be no rain for three years and six months (James 5: 17). This was God’s punishment against their idolatry (17: 1). 4. God told Elijah to leave Samaria and go east to the brook ‘Cherith’ where he would be fed by the ravens and sustained by the water in the brook. After a while, however, the brook dried up (17: 2-6). 5. Elijah believed God’s Word and obeyed His instructions. God provided for all his needs. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 17: 5</p> <p>Complete Lesson 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Commanded by God.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ahab’s evil wife, Jezebel, came from the Phoenician city of Tyre, where her father Ethbaal, was a high priest and king. She worshipped Baal and in order to please her, Ahab built an altar of Baal (1 Kings 16:30-33). This promoted idolatry and led the nation of Israel into sin. 2. Baal worshippers believed it was Baal who brought the rain and harvests. When Elijah courageously told Ahab that there would be no rain for three years and six months (James 5: 17), Ahab was shocked (17: 1). 3. Elijah told Ahab of a power far greater than any pagan god – ‘the Lord God of Israel’ (1 Kings 17: 1). 4. When rebellion and idolatry were at an all-time high in Israel, God intervened and sent the drought. However, He told Elijah to leave Samaria and go east of the Jordan River to the brook ‘Cherith’. Here he would be sustained by water from the brook and food brought by the ravens (17: 2-6). 5. Elijah believed God’s Word, obeyed His instructions and God provided for all his needs. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 17: 5</p> <p>Complete Study 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God’s Punishment.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | <p>Ask pupils to summarise in their own words:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The background setting of this lesson; (ii) Elijah’s prophecy to Ahab; and (iii) God’s promise for Elijah. | <p>Read Deuteronomy 4: 13 and discuss how this verse related to King Ahab. Read Deuteronomy 7: 1-6 and discuss how God told the people of Israel that they were not to enter into marriage, or relationships, with God’s enemies. God warns them that such relationships would result in His people turning away from the true God. Read verse 6 and discuss how God saw Israel as ‘special people.’</p> |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If God chose to overlook sin, what would be the consequences? What would this tell us about His character? 2. Just as it took courage by Elijah to tell the wicked Ahab there would be judgement for sin, so it takes courage to live the Christian life. Can you think of examples when Christians need courage? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah was a powerful witness in a very dark and sinful day. He directed the people back to God. How can Christians follow his example? (see Luke 1: 17) 2. Elijah was known for being a man of God and for his obedience to God. Why should obedience to God be a priority for Christians today? |

| Level 3-4 | C9 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Elijah Topic – Cared for by God | C9 - LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Elijah Topic – God’s Provision |
|---------------------|--|---|
| | <p>Bible Focus: <i>1 Kings 17: 7-24</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>1 Kings 17: 24</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Despite the serious drought, God looked after Elijah. 2. Christians believe that it is God who provides the necessities of life. | <p>Bible Focus: <i>1 Kings 17: 7-24</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>1 Kings 17: 24</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bible teaches that God keeps His promises. 2. Christians believe that God can bring hope into the most desperate situations. |
| INTRODUCE IT | Remind pupils of the previous lesson; during the drought, God was looking after Elijah but now the brook 'Cherith' had dried up. God did not forget Elijah but told him to go to Zarephath. Zarephath was on the Mediterranean Coast between the cities of Tyre and Sidon, a considerable distance away. | Remind pupils of the previous lesson. God now directed Elijah to go to Zarephath after the water dried up in the brook 'Cherith'. In this study we learn how Elijah turned to the Gentile widow for help and, as a result, she was blessed beyond her expectations! |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In obedience to God, Elijah travelled to Zarephath as God had arranged a Gentile widow would feed him there (<i>17: 7-9</i>). 2. Elijah asked her to make him some bread, but she hesitated as she only had enough flour left for her son and herself. Elijah said that God would ensure that the flour and oil would not run out. The widow obeyed, and the flour and oil lasted until the drought finished (<i>17: 12-16</i>). 3. Later, the widow's son became ill and died. Elijah prayed to God that the boy might live again. God answered his prayer and he handed the boy back to his mother alive (<i>17: 17-23</i>). God had used Elijah to perform an amazing miracle! 4. The widow of Zarephath acknowledged that Elijah was 'a man of God' (<i>17: 24</i>). 5. God turned to ravens, unclean birds, and to a poor widow to supply Elijah's needs. Christians believe that God can help when we least expect it and provides for His children in ways that go beyond our expectations (<i>See Matthew 6: 25-35</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 17: 24</p> <p>Complete Lesson 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Cared for by God.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In obedience to God, Elijah goes to Zarephath where a Gentile widow is preparing, what she believes, is the last meal for herself and her son (<i>17: 7-12</i>). 2. Elijah tells her to make him some bread first even though she had so little left. She trusted Elijah and by doing so was giving God first place. Consequently, her supply of flour and oil never failed (<i>17: 12-16</i>). 3. Later, the widow's son became ill and died. Elijah took the boy to his bedroom, stretched himself out on the child three times and prayed to God to revive him. The boy revived and was taken down to his mother in normal health (<i>17: 17-23</i>). 4. This Gentile widow was convinced, beyond all doubt, because of both these miracles, that Elijah was a man of God and that God's word was the truth – not the idolatry being promoted by Ahab and Jezebel (<i>17: 24</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 17: 24</p> <p>Complete Study 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C– God's provision.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | Review this lesson by asking pupils questions which will help them fill in the answers to the nine questions asked in Lesson 2. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Read <i>Matthew 6: 31-34</i> and discuss how <i>verse 33</i> relates to the Gentile widow's experience; (ii) Read <i>Hebrews 11: 32-35</i> and point out that in <i>verse 35</i> the widow of Zarephath is one of the people being referred to. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah's life was characterised by prayer. He believed he would receive what he prayed for. When we pray, do we expect God to answer? 2. Elijah was obedient to God and had his needs met. What does it mean to be obedient to God? 3. Elijah was known as 'a man of God'. Discuss exactly what that means. | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The widow put her faith in God's Word and was richly blessed. What can we learn from her example? 2. Elijah was a man of God. He obeyed God and had his needs met, despite living in a difficult time. Does God still bless people today who are struggling in difficult circumstances? |

| Level 3-4 | C9 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Elijah Topic – Challenging Baal’s Prophets | C9 - LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Elijah Topic – God’s Power |
|--------------|--|--|
| | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 18: 1-2, 16-46</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 18: 39</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Elijah showed on Mount Carmel that his God was the true God. Christians believe that there is only one true God and only He can hear and answer prayer. | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 18: 1-46</p> <p>Key Verses: James 5: 17 & 18</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Elijah showed on Mount Carmel that his God was the true God. Christians believe that God hears and answers prayer. |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>God instructed Elijah to appear before King Ahab. One day Elijah met Obadiah, a steward of King Ahab’s and asked him to arrange a meeting with King Ahab. Elijah challenged Ahab to assemble his idols on Mount Carmel in order to show who the true God was. Elijah showed great courage on this occasion as King Ahab and his wife Jezebel hated him.</p> | <p>There were many false prophets in Elijah’s day who were an obstacle in bringing God’s word to the people. They brought messages which contradicted the words of the true prophets. They gave ‘messages’ which appealed to the people’s sinful way of living and spoke only what the people wanted to hear. The true prophets, such as Elijah, told God’s truth.</p> |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> When a great crowd assembled on Mount Carmel, Elijah accused the people of Israel of wavering between two opinions. He advised them that they had to choose God or Baal and he set up a contest to determine who the true God was (18: 20). Elijah told Ahab to have a meal before returning to Jezreel because rain was coming, and he would need to leave Mount Carmel. Elijah ran before Ahab’s chariot, in pouring rain, demonstrating his loyalty as a faithful subject to Ahab even though Ahab hated Elijah (18: 45-46). Two bulls were to be sacrificed, one by the prophets of Baal and one by Elijah, and the God who answered by fire was the true God. The 850 prophets cried to their god all day but there was no response (18: 22-29). Elijah rebuilt an altar of 12 stones and laid the sacrifices on it. He covered it with water. Then he prayed to God to send down fire from Heaven. Immediately this happened, and the people had to admit Elijah’s God was the true God. All the prophets of Baal were then killed (18: 30-41). Christians today believe that power, status, appearance or material possessions can become false gods. <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 18: 39</p> <p>Complete Lesson 3.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Challenging Baal’s prophets.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Elijah was instructed by God to appear before King Ahab and he met Obadiah, a senior member of Ahab’s staff. Obadiah was a faithful believer and told Elijah Ahab was looking for him. Elijah told Obadiah to tell King Ahab he wanted to see him (18: 3-15). Elijah met Ahab and told him he was disobeying God’s laws and leading Israel into idolatry. Elijah proposed a contest between himself and the 850 false prophets to determine who the true God was (18: 18-19). Two bulls were to be sacrificed, one by the prophets of Baal and one by Elijah, and the God who answered by fire was the true God. The 850 prophets cried to their god all day but there was no response (18: 22-29). Elijah rebuilt an altar of 12 stones and laid the sacrifices on it. He covered it with water. Then he prayed to God to send down fire from Heaven. Immediately this happened, and the people had to admit Elijah’s God was the true God. All the prophets of Baal were then killed (18: 30-41). Elijah prayed for rain and continued doing so until the rain appeared. He told Ahab to return to his palace in Jezreel as quickly as possible and he ran before his chariot in drenching rain. God had worked a miracle in defeating the prophets of Baal. Christians believe that when something or someone takes the place of God it becomes a false god. <p>Explain the Key Verses and encourage pupils to learn them - James 5: 17 & 18</p> <p>Complete Study 3.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God’s Power.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | <p>Review the lesson by asking pupils to summarise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What did God tell Elijah to do (verse 1)? What was Obadiah doing, and why, when Elijah met him? What did Elijah suggest to Ahab so that they would find out who was the true God? How did God answer Elijah’s prayers? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Read Joshua 24: 15 and compare it with 1 Kings 18: 21. Discuss how Elijah and Joshua challenged the people to take a stand for God. Read Isaiah 45: 21-22 and discuss what these verses tell us about the only true God. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Elijah believed in God and was not afraid to stand up for Him. How should Christians react when people disown God today? Elijah prayed, in times of great difficulty, to the true God and his prayers were answered. Why should Christians follow his example? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The people in Elijah’s day had to decide whether they would obey God or idols. What idols do people today worship? If Christians don’t take a stand for God and just ‘drift along’, who are they really worshipping? |

| Level 3-4 | C9 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Elijah Topic – Confused by Fear | C9 - LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Elijah Topic – God’s Presence |
|--------------|--|--|
| | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 19: 1-18</p> <p>Key Verse: 1 Kings 19: 10</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After Elijah’s triumph, his faith is tested, and he goes through a difficult time. 2. Christians believe that God can help them overcome their problems so that they are useful in His service. | <p>Bible Focus: 1 Kings 19: 1-18</p> <p>Key Verse: James 4: 8</p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being a servant of God did not make Elijah immune to human worries and concerns. 2. The Bible teaches that God understands when we face times of discouragement and depression. |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>In the previous lessons, we have learned Elijah predicted the beginning and end of a 3-year drought, he was used by God to restore a dead son to his mother and represented God in a showdown with the priests of Baal. Despite all these achievements, Elijah gives in to feelings of fear and depression when Jezebel threatens to have him killed because he had ordered the death of her prophets.</p> | <p>Jezebel was enraged because of the death of her prophets. Elijah, who caused the prophets’ deaths, was ‘a thorn in her side’ because he was always predicting doom and gloom. Since Jezebel could not control his actions, she wanted to kill Elijah and so he flees for his life. As long as Elijah was about she could not carry out all the evil that she wanted to do.</p> |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah flees from Jezebel to Beersheba in the desert and sits down under an evergreen tree wishing he could die (19: 1-5). 2. God provided rest, food and drink for Elijah and he then travelled for 40 days from Beersheba to a cave on Mount Sinai (Horeb) (19: 5-9). 3. God asked him what he was doing there. Elijah said he was the only one who remained true to God, as the children of Israel had fallen into idolatry. Elijah was told to stand outside of the cave where he had spent the night (19: 9-11). 4. God visited the mountain with wind, an earthquake and a fire. After the fire, Elijah heard a still, small voice and God revealed Himself to him (19: 11-14). 5. God told him to return north to the Desert of Damascus where he would anoint three people. Despite his fears, God gives Elijah an important job to do. He was to anoint; (i) Hazael to be king over Syria; (ii) Jehu as king over Israel; and (iii) Elisha as his own successor (19: 15-18). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 19: 10</p> <p>Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – Confused by fear.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After achieving great spiritual victories, Elijah becomes discouraged and depressed. He flees into the wilderness of Beersheba (19: 1-5). 2. God looked after his physical needs by providing food and drink. Elijah travelled on to Mount Sinai (Horeb) after being refreshed. He thought that he was the only person left who was still true to God. He forgot others had remained faithful too during the nation’s wickedness. There were 7,000 in Israel who did not bow down to Baal (19: 5-9 and 18). 3. Elijah was told to stand outside the cave where he had spent the night (19: 9-11). 4. God visited the mountain with wind, an earthquake and a fire. After the fire, Elijah heard a still, small voice and God revealed Himself to him (19: 11-14). 5. The Lord told him to return north to the Desert of Damascus where he would anoint three people. Despite his fears, God gives Elijah an important job to do. He was to anoint; (i) Hazael to be king over Syria; (ii) Jehu as king over Israel; and (iii) Elisha as his own successor (19: 15-18). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it – James 4: 8</p> <p>Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – God’s Presence.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | <p>Review the lesson by asking the pupils to summarise, in their own words:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (v) What was Jezebel’s threat? (vi) Describe Elijah’s experience on Mount Sinai; and (vii) What were the important tasks God gave him? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Read Isaiah 40: 29-31 and discuss with pupils how these verses describe Elijah’s experiences at both the beginning and end of this Study. (ii) Read Hebrews 13: 5-6 and discuss with pupils that, instead of becoming discouraged and depressed, Elijah should have trusted God to meet his needs. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read Psalms 56: 3 and discuss how this relates to the story of Elijah, and to people facing difficult circumstances today. 2. Elijah had failures and weaknesses, but God used him in powerful ways. How can this encourage Christians today? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christians believe that God speaks through the Bible more often in ‘whispers’ than in ‘shouts’ as indicated by ‘gentle whisper’ in this Study. What does this mean practically in the life of a Christian? 2. Times of difficulty are inevitable at different points in life. What should a Christian’s response be? |

| Level 3-4 | C10 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 1 – Elisha Topic – The prophet Elijah meets Elisha | C10 - LEVEL 4 Study 1 – Elisha Topic – Elisha and Elijah |
|--------------|--|--|
| | <p>Bible Focus: <i>1 Kings 19: 19-21; 2 Kings 2: 1-15</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>1 Kings 19: 21</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah's work is now complete, it's time for him to go and for Elisha to take over. 2. Just as Elisha wanted to be Elijah's 'double' by serving God like him, so Christians try to imitate Christ. | <p>Bible Focus: <i>1 Kings 19: 19-21; 2 Kings 2: 1-22</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>2 Kings 2: 14</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha was willing to follow and learn from Elijah in order to do the work which God had called him to. 2. Elisha desired to do God's will and God used him powerfully. |
| INTRODUCE IT | Remind pupils of C9 Lesson 4 and God's instructions to Elijah. The time had now come for Elijah to finish his work for God on earth and Elisha was to succeed him. They had worked together for some time but then God's plan was to take Elijah to Heaven. | Remind pupils of C9 Study 4 and God's Instructions to Elijah. The time had now come for Elijah to finish his work for God on earth and Elisha was to succeed him. They had worked together for some time but then God's plan was to take Elijah to Heaven. There are many parallels between the ministry of Elijah and Elisha. However, although Elisha performs many miracles and told Israel to return to God, they persisted in living sinful and wicked lives. |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah did as God instructed and called Elisha to follow him. He became his assistant for many years (<i>19: 19-21</i>). 2. Then the time came for Elijah to go. Before leaving, Elijah visited four places; Gilgal, Bethel, Jericho and Jordan, and Elisha faithfully insisted on going to all of these places with him (<i>2 Kings 2: 1-7</i>). 3. Then they came to the River Jordan. When Elijah struck the Jordan River with his cloak, the waters parted, and both went over on dry land. Elisha made a request for a 'double portion' of the spirit of Elijah, indicating he wanted to be his worthy successor (<i>2 Kings 2: 8-10</i>). 4. As they walked on, they were separated by a chariot and horses of fire and Elijah was taken up into Heaven in a whirlwind (<i>2 Kings 2: 11-13</i>). 5. In sadness, Elisha returned to the River Jordan and struck it with the cloak Elijah had left. The waters parted again, and he crossed back on dry land. When the sons of the prophets saw the parting of the Jordan, they understood Elisha was Elijah's true successor (<i>2 Kings 2: 13-15</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 1 Kings 19: 21</p> <p>Complete Lesson 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The prophet Elijah meets Elisha.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah is soon to be taken up to Heaven and he transferred his authority to Elisha by putting his cloak on Elisha's shoulders. A cloak was the most important garment a person could own in those days. Elisha kills his oxen, showing he would not be returning to his life as a wealthy farmer, and says goodbye to his parents (<i>19: 19-21</i>). 2. The time had come for Elijah to finish his ministry, visiting Gilgal, Bethel, Jericho and Jordan for the last time. Elisha faithfully insisted on going with him to these places. Elijah strikes the River with his cloak, the waters part, and both go over to Gilead on dry ground. It is here Elisha asks for a 'double portion' of Elijah's spirit, which God gives him. Elijah was then taken up to Heaven (<i>2 Kings 2: 1-12</i>). 3. Elisha crosses back over the Jordan and uses Elijah's cloak to strike the waters. Again, they part and Elisha crosses over on dry land – showing the transfer of authority was now complete. The 'sons of the prophets' at Bethel, who were really disciples supporting the recognised prophets, witnessed the transfer of Elijah's ministry to Elisha (<i>2 Kings 2: 13-15</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 2 Kings 2: 14</p> <p>Complete Study 1.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Elisha and Elijah.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | Review this lesson by asking pupils the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) What were the last four places Elijah visited before being caught up to Heaven? (ii) What do verses 2, 4 & 6 tell us about Elisha's faith? (iii) What was the question Elijah asked Elisha and what was his reply? (iv) How was Elijah taken to Heaven? | Read Matthew 6: 24 – Discuss how this was true of Elisha. Read Romans 12: 1-2 – Discuss how Elisha lived according to these verses. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elijah's life had a strong spiritual influence on Elisha. Ask pupils to think of people who have had a good / spiritual influence on their lives. 2. Knowing that it is possible to have both a positive and negative influence on those around us, how should a Christian live? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God granted Elisha's request for a double portion because his motives were pure, and he wanted to achieve more for God. Is it right to ask for this sort of thing today? 2. Elisha kept close to Elijah, recognising him to be a great spiritual mentor. Ask the pupils if they have experienced the help of a spiritual mentor. |

| Level 3-4 | C10 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 2 – Elisha Topic – The prophet Elisha helps two women | C10 - LEVEL 4 Study 2 – Elisha Topic – Elisha and the Poor |
|--------------|---|---|
| | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 4: 1-37</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>Ephesians 3: 20</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha's ministry was helping other people. In this lesson, he is involved in helping both the poor and the rich. 2. Elisha's obedience to God resulted in God using him greatly in his service to Him. | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 4: 1-44</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>2 Kings 4: 33</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God used Elisha in a remarkable way. Elisha trusted in God to perform great miracles. 2. It's important to show genuine care and concern for others as Elisha did. |
| INTRODUCE IT | Remind the pupils that Elisha has now taken on Elijah's role. Both Elijah and Elisha attended to the needs of the people around them. Whilst Elijah spent much of his time denouncing idolatry and the wickedness of the day, Elisha spent much of his time showing care and compassion to those around him, as illustrated in this lesson. | Elisha, unlike Elijah who spent most of his time confronting the idolatry and evil, spent most of his time showing compassion to needy people. This study is about four of God's miracles through Elisha: (i) the provision of money for a poor widow; (ii) the raising of a dead boy to life; (iii) the purifying of poisonous food; and (iv) the provision of food for 100 men. |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha helps the poor widow of one of the godly prophets by miraculously supplying her with a large amount of oil. This enabled her to pay off her debt and support her two sons who were at risk of becoming slaves if the debt was unpaid (<i>2 Kings 4: 1-7</i>). 2. Elisha also helped a rich woman, who showed him hospitality by providing him a special room. Elisha wanted to return her kindness to her. She had no family, and he told her she would have a son. Although she did not believe at first, in time she gave birth to a son (<i>2 Kings 4: 8-17</i>). 3. Years later the boy was taken ill and died. His mother went to Mount Carmel to find Elisha and told him she did not want to be deceived by being given a son and having him taken away (<i>2 Kings 4: 18-28</i>). 4. Although Elisha sent Gehazi initially to bring the boy back to life, Elisha had to go himself, as the dead boy did not waken. When Elisha breathed his own life into him, the boy came alive. God had blessed this mother, through the prophet Elisha, by raising her son from the dead (<i>2 Kings 4: 31-37</i>). 5. These two miracles remind us of the Bible's teaching that nothing is impossible with God (<i>See Luke 1: 37</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - <i>Ephesians 3: 20</i></p> <p>Complete Lesson 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The prophet Elisha helps a woman.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The widow woman was in debt and afraid of losing her two sons as slaves. She collected jars from her neighbours as instructed by Elisha. She poured olive oil from her one jar and filled as many jars as she could find. When they were sold her debts were paid (<i>2 Kings 4: 1-7</i>). 2. Elisha also helped a rich woman, who showed him hospitality by providing him a special room. Elisha wanted to return her kindness to her. She had no family, and he told her she would have a son (<i>2 Kings 4: 8-17</i>). 3. Years later the boy took ill and died. His mother went to Mount Carmel to find Elisha, believing that he could raise her son from the dead (<i>2 Kings 4: 18-28</i>). 4. When Elisha breathed his own life into him, the boy came alive. God blessed the mother, through the prophet Elisha, by raising her son from the dead (<i>2 Kings 4: 31-37</i>). 5. At this time, there was a famine in the land and one of Elisha's servants, when making stew put some poisonous fruit into it. Elisha threw some flour into the pot and made it safe to eat, and nobody was hurt (<i>2 Kings 4: 38-41</i>). 6. Finally, Elisha fed 100 men with 20 small loaves and there was enough and more to spare. 7. These four miracles remind us that nothing is impossible with God (<i>See Luke 1: 37</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - <i>2 Kings 4: 33</i></p> <p>Complete Study 2.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Elisha and the poor.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | Review this lesson by asking pupils the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How did Elisha use the great power God had given him? 2) Consider whether God still does miracles today. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Read <i>Ephesians 3: 20-21</i>. Discuss how this prayer of praise to God is true of the four miracles in this study. (ii) Read <i>Philippians 4: 13</i>. Discuss how God supplied the needs, through Elisha, of the people mentioned in the four miracles in this study. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. These miracles show us that it is important to show kindness and care to others. How can Christians help others? 2. Elisha was obedient to God and so God used him powerfully. What can Christians learn from his example? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The woman from Shunem showed kindness to Elisha because she sensed a need to do so. How sensitive are we to the needs of others? 2. The Bible teaches us to be kind and compassionate to others. What effect does this have on us? On them? |

| Level 3-4 | C10 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 3 – Elisha Topic – The Prophet Elisha helps a Soldier | C10 - LEVEL 4 Study 3 – Elisha Topic – Elisha and an Army Officer |
|---------------------|--|---|
| | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 5: 1-16</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>2 Kings 5: 15</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha's miracle ministry continues with the healing of a man with leprosy. 2. In the Bible, leprosy was a contagious skin disease which brought shame and isolation upon those who suffered from it. | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 5: 1-27</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>2 Kings 5: 15</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. God worked through Elisha to miraculously heal Naaman from leprosy. 2. Leprosy is a picture of sin. In the same way that the disease causes separation, the Bible teaches that sin separates us from God and makes us unclean in His sight. Jesus Christ is the only answer. |
| INTRODUCE IT | Remind the pupils how God used Elisha in so many different situations. In this lesson, Elisha's miracle – working power is extended to a commander in the Syrian army, called Naaman. He had what many people today would believe gave him complete satisfaction in life. He had position, power, good character, he was brave, but he was a leper! That spoiled it all! | In this study we continue to learn how God worked miraculously through Elisha in the healing of Naaman, the commander of the Syrian army from his leprosy. We also learn how a captive Jewish girl, who was loyal to God and of no importance in the eyes of the world, was used by God to help bring about Naaman's cleansing. |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Naaman's wife had a maid, who was a captive from the land of Israel, and who had faith in the true God. She advised her mistress that Elisha could heal Naaman of his leprosy (<i>2 Kings 5: 1-3</i>). 2. Naaman made a number of mistakes before he eventually took the maid's advice. He went to the wrong person, King Jehoram an idolater, he went to the wrong means of healing – his gold, silver and clothes and went with the wrong idea; "I thought....!" (<i>2 Kings 5: 4-11</i>) 3. Naaman rejected Elisha's advice initially, to wash in the River Jordan seven times. But when he got rid of his pride, and obeyed Elisha's instructions, he was healed of his leprosy (<i>2 Kings 5: 12-14</i>). 4. After he was cleansed, he said "I know". He knew his obedience to God's Word through Elisha, resulted in him being a new man! (<i>2 Kings 5: 15</i>) <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 2 Kings 5: 15</p> <p>Complete Lesson 3.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The prophet Elisha helps a soldier.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Syria conducted raids on Israel and Israelite captives were often taken i.e. Naaman's servant girl. She had faith in the true God and advised her mistress that Elisha could heal Naaman of his leprosy (<i>2 Kings 5: 1-3</i>). 2. The king of Syria requested healing for Naaman from the king of Israel, Jehoram, who was angry, suspecting Syria was going to attack Israel (<i>2 Kings 5: 7</i>). 3. Elisha became aware of Naaman's problem and sent word to him to dip in the River Jordan seven times for cleansing. Naaman was outraged when treated like an ordinary person – he expected royal treatment! Eventually Naaman was persuaded by his servants to obey Elisha's instructions and was cleansed! Naaman was filled with gratitude, thanked Elisha and declared he now knew the true God (<i>2 Kings 5: 8-15</i>). 4. Unfortunately, Gehazi, Elisha's servant saw an opportunity to get rich by asking Naaman for the reward Elisha refused and lied about his motives to Elisha. This resulted in God's judgement and Gehazi becoming a leper (<i>2 Kings 5: 20-27</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn them - 2 Kings 5: 15</p> <p>Complete Study 3.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Elisha and an army officer.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Naaman had to learn that he could do nothing to change his life. The Bible teaches that it is only Jesus who can change our lives (<i>2 Corinthians 5: 1</i>). (ii) Naaman came from a country where there were many gods; now he learned that there is only one true God (<i>2 Kings 5: 15</i>). | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Read <i>2 Corinthians 5: 17</i>. Discuss how this verse sums up the change in Naaman's life after he was cleansed, and the change God can make in a Christian's life. (ii) Read <i>Numbers 32: 23</i> and <i>Galatians 6: 7</i>. Discuss how these two verses sum up the actions of Gehazi. |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the midst of idolatry, the maid spoke up for God. When should a Christian speak up? 2. Naaman left idolatry and served the true God. He showed the change in his life by his conduct. How can Christians show their inner life change by their outward conduct? Give examples. | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We do not know much about the maid, but she was placed in Naaman's house for a purpose, and she was faithful. God used her to spread His Word to others. How can this encourage faithful service today? 2. Naaman found it hard to obey God's word from Elisha but when he did his life was completely changed. Are there areas of obedience that are difficult today? |

| Level 3-4 | C10 - LEVEL 3 Lesson 4 – Elisha Topic – The Prophet Elisha promises victory | C10 - LEVEL 4 Study 4 – Elisha Topic – Elisha and the Syrian Army |
|--------------|--|---|
| | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 6: 24-25, 7: 1-20</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>2 Kings 7: 2</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The King of Aram had surrounded the city of Samaria. There was no food in the city, and the people were desperate. 2. Elisha told the people God was going to give them a great victory. | <p>Bible Focus: <i>2 Kings 6: 24-25; 2 Kings 7: 1-20</i></p> <p>Key Verse: <i>1 Corinthians 15: 57</i></p> <p>We are learning that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When the King of Aram surrounded the city of Samaria there was such a severe famine that cannibalism was taking place. 2. Israel's king blamed Elisha – he knew he was a man of God and he was frustrated at having to wait for a solution. |
| INTRODUCE IT | <p>The King of Syria (Aram) was trying to take control of Israel. His army surrounded the city of Samaria, so food was scarce and expensive. The King of Israel acknowledged that only God could help in such a time. People were even practising cannibalism to satisfy their hunger. They blamed the king for failing to do anything about it. He blamed Elisha and went to see Elisha to kill him, but Elisha had a message from God for him (<i>2 Kings 6: 32-33, and 7: 1-3</i>).</p> | <p>The Syrian army invaded Israel and surrounded Samaria leaving it cut off and facing a serious famine. Israel was constantly rejecting God's leadership and in <i>Deuteronomy 28: 49-57</i>, it was predicted such a famine would happen. The king of Israel blamed Elisha for the famine, for the prophets often predicted doom because of the evil of Israel's kings. He also knew Elisha was 'a man of God' and may have thought he could do any miracle he wanted and was angry that Elisha had not come to Israel's rescue.</p> |
| COMPLETE IT | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha informed the king that the next day barley and flour would be on sale at low prices and told the king's unbelieving officer that he would not enjoy the blessing of cheap food because he had not believed Elisha's words (<i>2 Kings 7: 1-3</i>). 2. The four men who had leprosy left and went to the camp of the Syrians to try and get food but found the camp abandoned. God had caused the Syrians to hear the noise of a coming army, so they were scared and retreated (<i>2 Kings 7: 3-7</i>). 3. The four men with leprosy helped themselves to the food, money and clothing left behind by the Syrian army and reported this 'good news' back to the king (<i>2 Kings 7: 8-11</i>). 4. The king suspected the Syrians of an ambush but agreed to send out scouts who found the Syrians had actually fled and left all their belongings behind them (<i>2 Kings 7: 12-15</i>). 5. Famine was over, and Elisha's prophecy had come to pass. Flour and barley was now cheap, and the unbelieving officer of the king was trampled to death by the people at the city gate (<i>2 Kings 7: 16-20</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn it - 2 Kings 7: 2</p> <p>Complete Lesson 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix B – The prophet Elisha promises victory.</p> | <p>Present the Bible Story</p> <p>Discuss and Explain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elisha prophesied God's deliverance to the king but the army officer said it couldn't happen (<i>2 Kings 7: 1-3</i>). 2. According to the law, lepers were not allowed in the city and depended on charity outside the city gate. However, their situation was so desperate they deserted to the Syrian camp to get food and found it abandoned. God had caused the Syrians to hear the sound of a mighty rushing army and so they fled (<i>2 Kings 7: 3-7</i>). 3. The lepers kept the 'good news' about all they had found and forgot about their fellow citizens starving in the city. However, they realised the need to report their findings to the king (<i>2 Kings 7: 8-11</i>). 4. The king suspected the Syrians of laying an ambush for the Israelites; he agreed to send a few scouts to check out the land. They confirmed the Syrians had fled and the people of Israel plundered the tents of the Syrians – the famine was over! (<i>2 Kings 7: 8-11</i>) 5. Although the king's officer was a witness to the end of the famine, he never enjoyed the blessings which followed as he was trampled to death at the gate of the city –because of his unbelief, just as Elisha had promised (<i>2 Kings 7: 16-20</i>). <p>Explain the Key Verse and encourage pupils to learn them - 1 Corinthians 15: 57</p> <p>Complete Study 4.</p> <p>Show it: see FBI links in Appendix C – Elisha and the Syrian army.</p> |
| REVIEW IT | <p>Discuss with pupils how God was in control throughout the famine by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ensuring the king did not kill Elisha. (ii) Using Elisha to show the people of Samaria that God was an all-powerful God who could supply their needs – something the false gods could not do. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read <i>Luke 4: 17-19</i> – What do these verses teach about Jesus? 2. Read <i>John 6: 1-15</i>. Discuss how Jesus met the needs of the people in the feeding of the five thousand and compare with the miracle of the famine in this study. Can Christians trust God to meet all their needs? – see <i>Matthew 6: 25-34</i> |
| LIVE IT | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The men with leprosy needed to share their 'good news'. How can Christians apply this to their situations? 2. The Bible teaches that God is always in control – even in the most difficult situations in our lives. How should a Christian respond to this? | <p>How does the lesson challenge Christians today? Discuss.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bible teaches that it is God who provides our daily food and all other daily blessings. Why then should Christians not give in to worry and despair? Is there a difference between carefully planning ahead and worrying about tomorrow? |

Appendix A - Level 0 & 1 Free Bible Images

| | Title | Story Images | Suggested slides to use or omit |
|------------|---|---|---|
| C9 | Elijah | Elijah obeys God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elijah-ravens/ | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-ravens/ | (slide 1-15) |
| | | Elijah trusts God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elijah-widow/ | (slide 1-6) |
| | | Elijah serves God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elijah-widow/ | (slide 7) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elijah-baal/ | (slide 2-7) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-baal/ | (e.g. slide 1-3, 17, 22-24, 26-35, 45-46) |
| | | Elijah prays again/forgets God | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-baal/ | (Level 0: slide 36-40, 42-46) | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/jonah-preschool/ | (Level 1: Elijah under the tree - slide 1) | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-ezekiel-1/ | (Level 1: Elijah is exhausted - slide 13) | |
| C10 | Elisha | Elisha - The call to follow | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elijah-elisha/ | (Level 0: e.g. slide 3, 13, 18; Level 1: slide 3, 11, 18) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elijah-elisha/ | (Level 0: slide 1-3, 5) |
| | | Elisha - Comfort for a friend | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/ls-elisha-oil/ | (slide 1-5) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-oil/ | |
| | | Elisha - Healing a leper | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-1/ | (slide 1-5) |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-2/ | (slide 5-11) | |
| | Elisha - Cheating is punished | | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rg-elisha-naaman-2/ | (slide 14-20) | |

Appendix A - Level 2 Free Bible Images

| | Title | Story Images | Suggested slides to use or omit |
|------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| C9 | Elijah | Elijah obeys God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-brook/ | (slide 1, 3-8, 10, 12-14) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rp-elijah-baal/ | (slide 1, 2, 5-10) |
| | | Elijah trusts God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-widow-boy/ | (slide 3-13) |
| | | Elijah serves God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-carmel/ | (slide 2, 4, 8-9, 11-18) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-prophets-baal/ | (slide 45) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/rp-elijah-baal/ | (slide 8-12, 15-17, 25-26, 30-41) |
| | | Elijah fails God | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-horeb/ | (e.g. slide 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, 12-14, 17-22) | |
| C10 | Elisha | Elisha - The call to follow | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-elisha/ | (slide 2-3, 7) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-chariot/ | (slide 1, 4, 7-12) |
| | | Elisha - Comfort for a friend | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-boy/ | (slide 1-10, 14-16) |
| | | Elisha - Cleansing a leper | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/ | (slide 1-4, 7-14) |
| | Elisha - Cheating is punished | | |
| | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/ | (slide 14-16) | |

Appendix B - Level 3 Free Bible Images

| | Title | Story Images | Suggested slides to use or omit |
|-----|--------|---|--|
| C9 | Elijah | Commanded by God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-brook/ | (slide 1-10, 12-14) |
| | | Cared for by God | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-widow-boy/ | (slide 3-13) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-fed-by-ravens/ | (slide 3-10, 12-18) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-widow/ | (slide 1-31; slide 4 may be inappropriate) |
| | | Challenging Baal's Prophets | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-widow/ | (slide 32-34) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-baal/ | (slide 6-7, 10-12, 15, 19-23) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-rain/ | (e.g. slide 26) |
| C10 | Elisha | Confused by Fear | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-elisha/ | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-horeb/ | (slide 1, 5-6, 8-22) |
| | | The prophet Elijah meets Elisha | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-elisha/ | (slide 2, 3, 7) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elijah-chariot/ | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-anoints-elisha/ | (slide 3-8) |
| | | The prophet Elisha helps two women | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/olives-olivepress/ | (slide 27) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-boy/ | |
| C10 | Elisha | The prophet Elisha helps a soldier | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/ | (Slides 1-14) |
| | | The prophet Elisha promises victory | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-siege/ | |

Appendix C - Level 4 Free Bible Images

| | Title | Story Images | Suggested slides to use or omit |
|-----|--------|---|--|
| C9 | Elijah | God's Punishment | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-fed-by-ravens/ | (slide 1, 3-10) |
| | | God's Provision | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-fed-by-ravens/ | (slide 11-18) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-widow/ | (slide 1-31) |
| | | God's Power | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-widow/ | (slide 32-34) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-baal/ | (slide 4, 6-7, 10-12, 15-24) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-rain/ | |
| | | God's Presence | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-horeb/ | |
| C10 | Elisha | Elisha and Elijah | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bible-characters-prophets/ | (e.g. slide 5 or 7, 12) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/elijah-anoints-elisha/ | (slide 3-8) |
| | | Elisha and the Poor | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-boy/ | |
| | | Elisha and an Army Officer | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bible-characters-women/ | (maid - e.g. slide 1) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/bible-characters-older-men/ | (Naaman: slide 1, 20; King: 9; Elisha: 7; Gehazi: 6 or 13) |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-naaman/ | |
| | | Elisha and the Syrian Army | |
| | | https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-siege/ | |



© Bible Educational Services 2018

www.besweb.com

Registered Charity UK 1186004