

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 99: ELIJAH DEFEATS THE PROPHETS OF BAAL
1 KINGS 18:1-40

Now after a long time, the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go and let Ahab see you, so that I may send rain on the earth." So Elijah went to see Ahab. At that time Obadiah was in charge of Ahab's palace, but he faithfully worshiped the LORD. In fact, when Jezebel, Ahab's wife, was trying to kill the LORD's prophets, Obadiah hid one hundred of them in two caves and gave them food and water. Ahab sent for Obadiah and said, "We have to find something for our horses and mules to eat. If we don't, we will have to kill them. Let's look around every creek and spring in the country for some grass. You go one way, and I'll go the other." Then they left in separate directions. As Obadiah was walking along, he met Elijah. Obadiah recognized him, bowed down, and asked, "Elijah, is it really you?" Elijah replied, "Yes. Go tell Ahab I'm here." Obadiah replied: King Ahab would kill me if I told him that. And I haven't even done anything wrong. I swear to you in the name of the living LORD your God that the king has looked everywhere for you. He sent people to look in every country, and when they couldn't find you, he made the leader of each country swear that you were not in that country. Do you really want me to tell him you're here? What if the LORD's Spirit takes you away as soon as I leave? When Ahab comes to get you, he won't find you. Then he will surely kill me. I have worshiped the LORD since I was a boy. I even hid one hundred of the LORD's prophets in caves when Jezebel was trying to kill them. I also gave them food and water. Do you really want me to tell Ahab you're here? He will kill me! Elijah said, "I'm a servant of the living LORD of armies, and I swear in His name that I will meet with Ahab today." Obadiah left and told Ahab where to find Elijah, so Ahab went to meet Elijah.

When the evil king Ahab saw Elijah, he said to him, Is it you, you troubler of Israel? Then Elijah answered, I have not been troubling Israel, but you and your family have been; because, you turned away from the commandments of the Lord, and you have followed the false Baals. Now call together all the children of Israel before me at Mount Carmel, with the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who eat their food at Jezebel's table. So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and got all the prophets together at Mount Carmel. And Elijah came near to all the people and said, How long will you go back and forth between two opinions? If the Lord is

God, then worship Him; but if Baal is god, then worship him. And the people didn't say a word. Then Elijah said to the people, I, only I, am the last prophet of the Lord left alive; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men! Now, let them give us two oxen; and let them take one for themselves, and have it cut up, and put it on the wood, but don't put any fire under it; and I will get the other ox ready, and put it on the wood, and won't put any fire under it. And you make prayers to your god Baal, and I will make a prayer to the Lord: and it will be clear that the one who answers by fire is the REAL God. And all the people answered and said, "It's a good idea". Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, Take one ox for yourselves and get it ready first, because there are more of you; and make your prayers to your god, but don't put any fire under it. So they took the ox which was given them, and made it ready as a sacrifice, crying out to Baal from the morning until the middle of the day, and saying, "O Baal, listen to us". But there was no voice and no answer. And they were jumping up and down in front of the altar they had made. And in the middle of the day, Elijah made fun of them, saying, "Cry out louder, because he is a god; he may be deep in thought, or he may have gone away for some reason, or he may be on a trip, or maybe he is sleeping and has to be woken up". So they cried out loudly, cutting themselves with knives and swords, which was the way they did it, until the blood came pouring out all over them. And from the middle of the day they went on with their prayers until the time of the offering; but there was no voice heard, or any answer, or any who paid attention to them. Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me"; and all the people came near. And he fixed up again the altar of the Lord which had been broken down. And Elijah took twelve stones, the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the Lord had said, "Israel will be your name": And with the stones he made an altar to the name of the Lord; and he made a deep drain all around the bottom of the altar, big enough to hold about thirteen quarts, or more than 3 gallons! And he put the wood all in a pile, and, cutting up the ox, he put it on top of the wood. Then he said, "Get four jars full of water and put it on the burned offering and on the wood". And he said, "Do it again", and they did it a second time; And he said, "Do it a third time", and they did it a third time. And the water went all around the altar, until the drain was full. Then at the time of the offering, Elijah the prophet came near the altar and said, "O Lord, you are the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, let it be seen this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things by your command. Hear

me, O Lord, hear me, so that this people may see that you are God, and that you have made their hearts come back again". Then the fire of the Lord came down, and burned up the offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and dried up the water in the drain around the bottom of the altar. And when the people saw it, they all bowed down on their faces, and said, "The Lord, He is God, the Lord, He is God". And Elijah said to them, "Take the prophets of Baal, don't let one of them get away". So they took them, and Elijah made them go down to the stream called Kishon, and killed them there.

99. ELIJAH DEFEATS THE PROPHETS OF BAAL (1 KINGS 18:1-40)



"Hear me, O Lord, hear me, so that this people may see that you are God, and that you have made their hearts come back again". Then the fire of the Lord came down, and burned up the offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and dried up the water in the drain around the bottom of the altar."

1 Kings 18:37-38

99. ELIJAH DEFEATS THE PROPHETS OF BAAL

1 KINGS 18:1-40

MEMORY VERSE:

"Now, when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, 'The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!'" 1 KINGS 18:39

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Now after a long time, the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go and let Ahab see you, so that I may send rain on the earth." TRUE or FALSE
2. When Ahab saw Elijah, he said, "Is it you, O bubbler of Israel?" TRUE or FALSE
3. Elijah answered and said, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, for you have forgotten the commandments of the LORD, and have followed the false Baals." TRUE or FALSE
4. Elijah told Ahab to call together everyone from Israel and have them meet him on Mount Carmel, and to be sure to bring the four hundred fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who eat their food at Jezebel's table. TRUE or FALSE
5. But Ahab would not call together the children of Israel, or all the prophets of Baal and Asherah on Mount Carmel. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. What did Elijah tell all the people when they gathered at Mount Carmel? Did he ask them how long they would go back and forth between two different opinions? Did they answer him at all when he asked them that?
2. What was Elijah's idea to prove who the real God is? What did he want to do with the two sacrifices? Were they supposed to put fire under the sacrifices?
3. What was the real God supposed to do? Was He supposed to answer by fire?
4. How long did the prophets of Baal and Asherah cry out to their gods? Was it from morning until noon, and then from noon until the time of the evening sacrifice? Did their gods answer them?
5. When Elijah prayed to the LORD, what happened? Did fire come down and consume all the sacrifices? What else did the fire consume? Did it consume all the stones of the altar and dry up the water around it too?
6. When the people saw what happened, what did they say? Did they say, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"?
7. So, were the gods called Baal and Asherah real gods? No! Is the LORD the only real God? Yes!





LESSON 99 ACTIVITY

TRUE OR FALSE

Tell your class that you are going to be reading several statements to them about God. The class will then “vote” on whether the statement is true or false. With each question, record how many votes for true and how many votes for false.

1. God was once an angel.
2. God can never lie.
3. God loves Christians, but hates sinners.
4. God made the whole world out of playdough.
5. God loves me.
6. God listens to our prayers, but only if we yell them really loudly.
7. God can do anything.
8. God sent His Son Jesus to die for our sins.
9. God had a mom and dad.
- 10 .God sleeps at night, just like we do.

Now read through the questions again and give the right answers. Ask the children if there were any surprises. In today’s lesson we will be learning about true prophets and false prophets. Be careful of false prophets--they seek to deceive! Today we saw what God does when 450 false prophets try to gang up on one of His real prophets!

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to follow the Lord, even if the whole world turns away. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.