

ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL

BIBLE PASSAGE ***(1 KINGS 18:16–45)***

Summary: Elijah told King Ahab to send the prophets of Baal to Mount Carmel. Elijah asked the prophets to call on their god to send fire to burn up a sacrifice. They cried and prayed and danced, but nothing happened. Elijah prepared his altar and even drenched it with water. He prayed to God, and the Lord sent down fire, burning up the sacrifice and everything around it. God showed all the people that He is the one true God.

Today's Brite Idea is: The Lord is the one true God.

MONTHLY Memory Verse

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised.

(PSALM 145:3)

BIG QUESTION

Who is greater than everything? God!

HE — God is real.

WE — We can talk to Him.

ME — I can talk to Him.

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LEADER TRAINING: REDIRECT WITH HUMOR

Laughter is a powerful tool for helping preschoolers change course without shame. Humor lightens the moment, captures attention and makes redirection feel safe and positive. When used intentionally, it turns potential tension into connection.

- **Use funny voices or silly gestures.** A playful "penguin waddle to the rug!" can shift focus immediately and spark joy in following directions.
- **Turn misbehavior into a teachable moment.** Example: "Uh-oh, we don't throw toys at each other. Let's share, and each pick a toy to play with and have fun!" Playful phrasing helps kids recognize the right behavior without feeling corrected harshly.
- **Keep it gentle and inclusive.** The goal is to redirect, not embarrass. A shared laugh invites everyone back into unity and grace.
- **Model joy in obedience.** Jesus often used stories and playful illustrations to engage others, teaching truth with a smile. When kids see you enjoying the process, they learn that following God's ways is both good and delightful.

NAVIGATING A BROKEN WORLD: MORE THAN ONE GOD?

In a survey by Barna, 50 percent of adults indicated that they believe Muslims and Christians worship the same God.* Pluralism accepts that all religious beliefs can be true and co-exist. Pluralism says that you can believe what you believe, I can believe what I believe and we can both be right. Kids in your group may have already heard this messaging and think that there are other gods. Our world says there are many gods. But in today's Bible story, kids will learn that the Lord is the one true God.

Be sensitive to kids who come from other backgrounds or who might have relatives from another religion. Speak truth in love so kids feel safe with asking questions and learning how to tell others about the one true God.

PRESCHOOL GLOSSARY:

Altar: a place where people worship

Prophet: a person who gives God's messages to His people

*For more resources on this topic, check out: britecurriculum.com/resources

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Use the Bible story cards to teach the Bible story or read the script to the kids.

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Altar: a place where people worship

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Say: Israel had a very bad king named Ahab and a bad queen named Jezebel. Jezebel believed in a fake god. She wanted everyone to stop worshiping the real God. Sadly many people did. Can you make a sad face? But God sent Elijah to speak true things to people and show God's power. Elijah told the king and queen to invite everyone to a big mountain. Say, "Come here!"

Say: Elijah said, "It's time to choose—whom will you believe in?" No one answered. So Elijah said, "Let's see whose God is real. We will pray and the real God will send fire from the sky." Let's all wiggle our fingers like a dancing fire!

Say: The people who believed in the fake god went first. They shouted and prayed all day, but nothing happened. Elijah teased them: "Maybe your god is taking a nap!"

Say: Then Elijah built a place for the fire to fall and poured water all over it. Let's all pretend to pour out water! He prayed, "God, please show everyone that You are real and true!"

Say: Immediately, fire fell from the sky! It burned everything Elijah had built– even the water. The people shouted, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!"



POINT TO JESUS

Say: God showed He is the One true God. He is the only One who can rescue us from our sin. He loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us.

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WRAP-UP:

BIG QUESTION

Say: Now it's time to answer our Big Question. Can you all help me do a drumroll? 1, 2, 3.. drumroll!

Show the Big Question and Answer Teaching Image.

Say: Who is greater than everything? God!



God is real.

We can talk to Him.

I can talk to Him.

VERSE VIDEO

Play Memory Verse Motion Video after the verse is read.

MEMORY VERSE MOTIONS:

Help kids recite and retain the memory verse by teaching it with motions. Before you teach the verse, be sure to explain what it means.

- Great *(make a V with your arms)*
- is the LORD, *(point to the sky)*
- and greatly *(bring arms in and extend out to one side)*
- to be praised. *(bring arms in and extend out to the other side)*
- Psalm 145:3 *(open hands like a book)*

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