

ELIJAH AND PROPHETS OF BAAL

Scripture:
I Kings 18:1-45

Materials Needed:
Pictures

Memory Verse: Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols.

Objectives: As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know: that when Elijah challenged Ahab and the prophets of Baal to a contest on Mt. Carmel, God demonstrated that He alone is the true and living God by sending down fire from heaven to burn Elijah's sacrifice and after the Israelite confessed He was the true God, He sent rain.

To Realize: Because God has demonstrated that He alone is the ONE, true God, He alone is to be acknowledged and trusted.

To Respond: by placing their confidence in the One, True God of the Bible and acknowledging Him openly.

Setting Up the Story—

Telling the Story—

Scripture: I Kings
18:1-19

I. Elijah Challenges Ahab and
Prophets to a Contest

A. He Meets Obadiah

1. Ahab looking for water

2. Elijah gives him message

B. He Talks to Ahab

1. Ahab has caused
trouble

2. Elijah wants to meet on
Mt. Carmel

3. with Israelites

As you tell the story—

The god Baal was supposed to provide good weather and good crops. Why were they looking for water? (give background how things had come to this point. Baal used to get credit for all the rain God sent, so God stopped sending the rain.)

Ahab saw Elijah. Ahh...there was the man causing the drought! Right? (no, Ahab was)

4. with 450 Baal prophets
5. with 400 other false prophets

C. Ahab Agrees

D. Elijah Explains Contest

6. To show true God
7. Prepare two sacrifices
8. The one who consumes with fire is true
9. People agree

Scripture: I Kings
18:20-24

They were going to prove once and for all who the real God was!

Who is the one who sends the rain? Who should they be trusting? Why did they not know the answer to those questions? Look in v. 21.

They were mixing the two. So how could they tell who was the right one? It had to be something only the true God could do. What about sending rain? But that might be coincidence. It had to be something that normally wouldn't happen.

II. God Demonstrates that He ALONE is God

10. Baal Prophets get no response

11. They prepare sacrifice
12. They cry 'til noon
13. Elijah mocks them
14. They cut themselves
15. They cry 'til evening

Scripture: I Kings
18:25-38

It didn't look like Baal was listening! Look what Elijah said in v. 27.

16. God Answers with Fire

17. Elijah prepares sacrifice

18. repairs altar
19. arranges wood
20. pours 12 barrels of water
21. Elijah prays
 22. So people will know
 23. So people will return

(act this out as you tell the story)

Elijah starts doing something.

"What are you doing?"

"Digging trenches."

"What for?!"

"For water."

"Water?! Why do you need water for your sacrifice?"

"Pour four barrels of water on the sacrifice."

"What?!"

"Again." "Again."

Then Elijah prayed that God would answer. And his prayer was very

to God
24. Fire consumes
everything

short. (Read v. 37)

Scripture: I Kings
18:39-46

III. People Confess the LORD
is God/God Sends Rain
25. They fall on faces
26. They kill Baal prophets
27. God sends rain

Did they KNOW who the true God
was now?! Was there any doubt?
What did they do with the false
prophets then?
AFTER the people acknowledged
who the true God was, then He sent
rain.

Concluding the story:

Let's pray.

Boardwork

ELIJAH AND PROPHETS OF BAAL HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Personal Application Questions:

1. What hinders your undivided love to God? (ex: loving things, pursuing advancement, forms of entertainment, besetting sin, etc.)
2. Many people do not mind having a discussion about God, but find it difficult to say Jesus is the only way to God. How does the truth of this lesson apply to this problem?
3. What sins do you need to repent of as a result of realizing God's exclusive authority?
4. What action will you take in light of this truth?

Application Questions to think through for your Students:

1. *Tolerance* is a key word in today's multi-cultural world. Where must your students draw the line on tolerance in their stand for Jesus?
2. What areas of your students' lives might be compromising an undivided love for God?
3. How does this truth help with confusion about "There are so many religions. How do we know which one is 'right'?"

Memory Verse:

Isaiah 42:8 I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols.

Write here which game you will use to teach this verse and any supplies you might need:

Post-Lesson Activity:

Divide your students into different parts of the story. Have them reenact the story scenes, ending with the declaration, "The Lord, HE is God! The Lord, HE is God!" (note: you may choose to use this as the story method instead of using picture cards.)

Homework Ideas:

Have your students do a search on 'religions' on the web. How many sites come up in the search? Have them write how today's lesson helps them know that the Lord, HE is God.