

# Welcome to SPC Kids Corner!

Sunday, November 5, 2023

## FIRE FROM HEAVEN

1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

**KIDS**  
**3RD-6TH**

NL

**Key Verse:**

When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “The LORD indeed is God; the LORD indeed is God.”

1 Kings 18:39

**The Point:**

A good leader leads us back to God.

**Making Connections:**

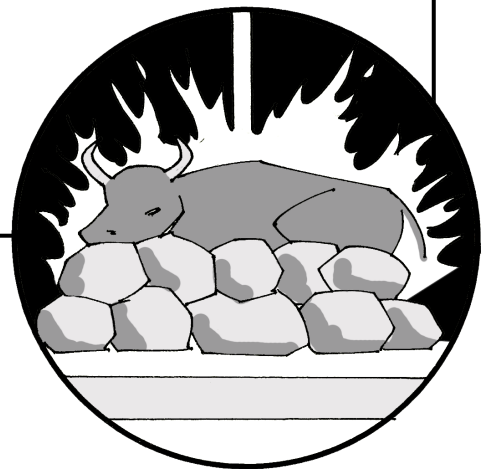
God’s Way of Leading

**Bible Nuts & Bolts:**

How Can We Understand Miracle Stories?

**Spiritual Practice:**

Worship



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# BACKGROUND

## Making Connections

Queen Jezebel and her husband King Ahab led the people to serve the Canaanite god, Baal. Elijah serves the Lord, leading the people back to God. The Lord is shown to be the one true God by sending fire from heaven and reigniting the people's faith in God.

## Story Summary:

### *Fire from Heaven*

God has called Elijah to return to the northern kingdom of Israel, where King Ahab rules. King Ahab and his wife Jezebel have pressured the people of Israel to follow the false god Baal. Led by God, Elijah challenges the priests of Baal to a prayer competition on to the top of Mount Carmel. The priests will pray to Baal and Elijah will pray to the God of Israel to send fire from the sky to burn up an animal sacrifice. Elijah allows the believers in Baal to go first and call on their god to send down fire to burn the sacrifice prepared on their altar. But no matter how loud the people cry out, their god does not answer. When it is Elijah's turn, he makes things more difficult by covering his sacrifice with buckets of water; yet, when he calls to God for fire, everything on that altar burns. In the end, the people of Israel fall down and proclaim their faith and belief in the power of the one true God.

## The Point

**A good leader leads us back to God.** Amazed and awed by the fire from heaven, the people of Israel fall to the ground and cry out their praises and newfound understanding of the power and the glory of the one true God saying, "The LORD

indeed is God! The LORD indeed is God!" Elijah could have easily taken the glory and praise for this miracle. Instead, Elijah focuses the people on the majesty and power of the true God and not on himself. God works through all of us in a variety of ways. It is our role to acknowledge the work as God's and not seek our own glory.

## Bible Nuts & Bolts:

### *How Can We Understand Miracle Stories?*

There are many miracles in the Bible. The miracles usually reveal something about God, such as God's power or how much God cares about God's people. Many of the miracles in the Bible include natural miracles. These miracles involve miracles where God demonstrates control over natural elements like earthquakes, water, or fire. Today's story includes a natural miracle where God sends fire from heaven. Another common type of miracle in the Bible is healing. These miracles include Elijah's raising of the widow's son from the dead and Elisha's healing of a man with leprosy. There are many people who perform miracles in the Bible, including Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Elisha, and Jesus.

## Spiritual Practice: Worship

A central focus of this story is worship. The people had begun to worship a false God, and needed to be reminded to turn their focus back to worshipping the God of the Israelites. Sometimes we lose our focus as well, and must be reminded to return to worshipping the one true God.





# Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!" 1 Kings 18:39 (NIV)

1. At the bottom of the page is a list of words. These words are hidden in the puzzle. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you find a word, draw a circle around it.

W N B H Y R Z V W O R H L Y U N D  
B N O D A F A Y W N E F I R E Q U  
J I S D T M O L K W K B B R S W H  
N F G U S K K N T R S Q U V I C K  
L N W O O D I B M A G G L Z E R M  
F C G Q L X K D X N R B L L R G K  
Y K Y U A K D Q I G A I S L Z O I  
R T R E N C H P K H B O A P H M H  
D X I S R A E L A E L I J A H D F  
V F R K R E T E C K R N M Y E T R  
N V Z T L V Q X M P T T W Y W E Q  
R C L S C V W B O U P Y A Z T W R  
R V L X A W T A R P P R H A B M N  
N I H I F U L A N Y P N W U C M A  
Y O S P O E E L I P W D C D U L R  
T W H H G J Q Q N Y P R O P H E T  
O M S P M J N B G I X P J K Y L E

BULLS  
PROPHET  
SLEEPING

TRENCH  
BAAL  
ELIJAH

WATER  
SHOUT  
PRAYED

ALTAR  
FIRE  
MORNING

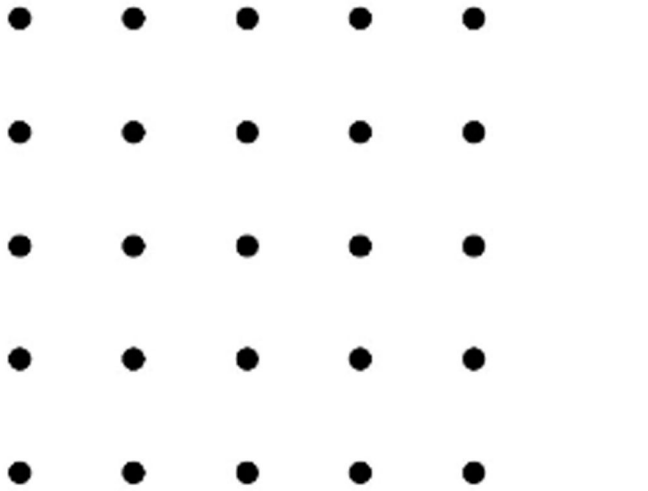
ISRAEL  
AHAB  
WOOD



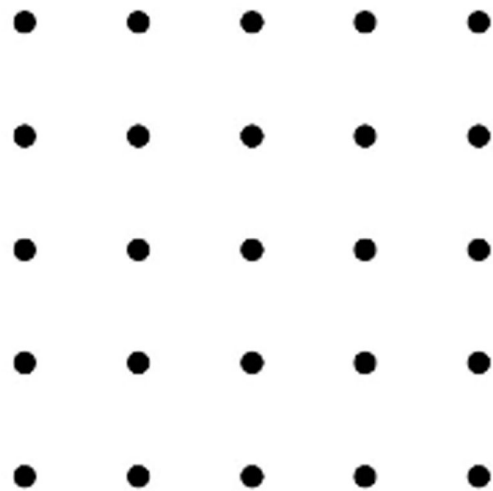


# DOTS AND BOXES

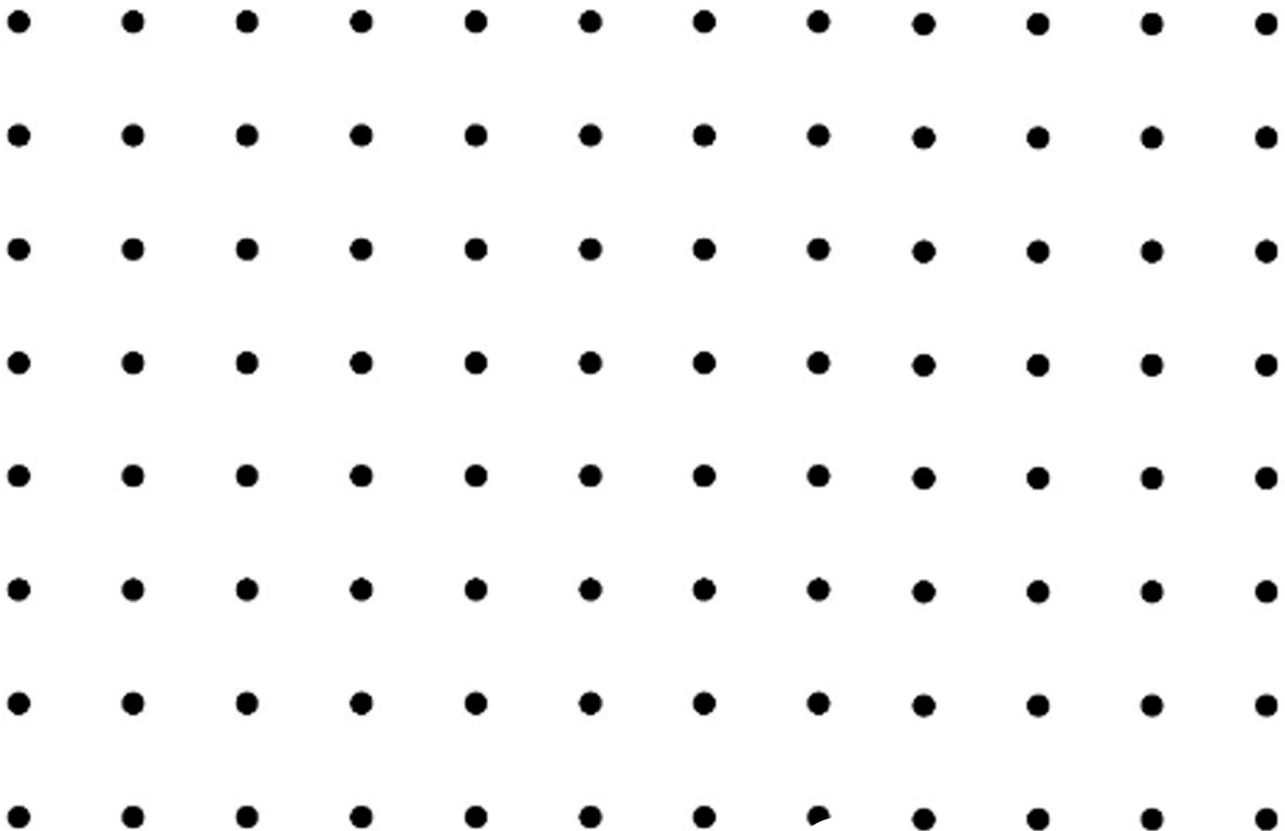
## GAME 1

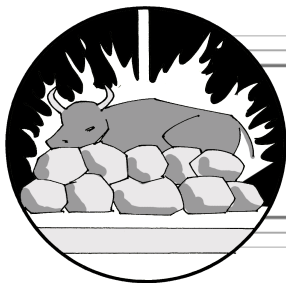


## GAME 2



## GAME 3





# THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS  
3RD-6TH**

**NL**

**Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story**

Narrative Lectionary, Year 2 (2023-2024)

1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

## LAST WEEK

A selfish decision by King Rehoboam, David's grandson, leads the ten northern tribes of Israelites to leave the united kingdom and form their own kingdom (1 Kings 12:1-17, 25-29).

## THIS WEEK

King Ahab has the people worship Baal. He is confronted by Elijah and a powerful display of the power of the one true God (1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39).

## STORY SUMMARY

King Ahab and his wife Jezebel have pressured the people of Israel to follow the false god Baal. Led by God, Elijah challenges the priests of Baal to a prayer competition on to the top of Mount Carmel. The priests will pray to Baal and Elijah will pray to the God of Israel to send fire from the sky to burn up an animal sacrifice. Elijah allows the believers in Baal to go first. But no matter how loud the people cry out, their god does not answer. When it is Elijah's turn, he covers his sacrifice with water; yet, when he prays to God, everything on that altar burns. The people of Israel proclaim their faith in the one true God.

## PRACTICE: WORSHIP

A central focus of this story is worship. The people had begun to worship a false God, and needed to be reminded to turn their focus back to worshipping the God of the Israelites. Sometimes we lose our focus as well, and must be reminded to return to worshipping the one true God. Create a small altar where your family gathers. Use it to worship together this week.

## NEXT WEEK

The prophet Hosea speaks God's message, showing God as a loving and anguished parent (Hosea 11:1-9).

## THE POINT

A good leader leads us back to God.

## BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

### *How Can We Understand Miracle Stories?*

There are many miracles in the Bible. The miracles usually reveal something about God, such as God's power or how much God cares about God's people. Many of the miracles in the Bible include natural miracles. These miracles involve miracles where God demonstrates control over natural elements like earthquakes, water, or fire. Today's story includes a natural miracle where God sends fire from heaven. Another common type of miracle in the Bible is healing. These miracles include Elijah's raising of the widow's son from the dead and Elisha's healing of a man with leprosy. There are many people who perform miracles in the Bible, including Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Elisha, and Jesus.



### Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✠ In what way does this text teach about the theme about God's Way of Leading?
- ✠ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✠ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

### Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

#### Sunday—Read 1 Kings 18:[17-19] 20-39

Fire from heaven.

Sometimes fans chant at sporting events the phrase, "We're Number One!" Chant together as a family, but this time change the words to those found in 1 Kings 18, "The Lord alone is God."

#### Monday—Read 1 Kings 18:41-46

The drought ends.

As you read this passage, drink a nice refreshing glass of water.

#### Tuesday—Read 1 Kings 19:1-8

Elijah on the run.

Walk and walk and walk as you hear this story. End in a cave: a closet, small room, or blanket fort. Talk about running away from things that you fear.

#### Wednesday—Read 1 Kings 19:9-18

Elijah at Mount Horeb.

Shhh. Listen to the silence. What do you hear God saying to you?

#### Thursday—Read 1 Kings 19:19-21

Elijah and Elisha.

Who do you admire enough that you would leave everything and follow?

#### Friday—Read 2 Kings 1:1-8

Elijah and Ahaziah.

When have you had to bring bad news to someone? How did you feel?

#### Saturday—Read 2 Kings 1:9-17

More fire from heaven.

Watch a candle flame or a fire in a fireplace as you read this passage. Make a list of things, both good and bad, that fire can do.