LESSON 23

ELIJAH GOES TO LIVE WITH GOD FOR EVER



Aim: **To show the children how God took care of Elijah when he became afraid and how God took Elijah to live with him for ever.**

Scripture Reading: **1 Kings 19:1–21; 2 Kings 2:1–13**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 1**
Review the whole Psalm.

Presenting the Lesson

Starting point

If we win a race or get good examination results we feel proud and full of joy. Everyone congratulates us. Usually this goes on for a few days and then everything returns to normal and what we have done is forgotten. Sometimes a person can feel sad and lonely after a great achievement.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. This happened to Elijah. He had won a great contest and defeated the false prophets who served Baal. Queen Jezebel heard what Elijah had done and sent a message to him: She would kill him as he had killed Baal's prophets (19:1–2).
2. **Show Picture 22.** Elijah, who had stood up against 450 Baal prophets, suddenly was very frightened of one wicked queen. The power of evil is great. Elijah ran away to another country and just wanted to die (19:3–4).
3. God was very firm but very kind to Elijah. First, God let him fall into a deep sleep and sent him food to refresh him. Then God sent Elijah on a long journey away from his problems to Mount Sinai, where God had spoken to Moses (19:5–8).
4. God asked Elijah how he was. Elijah replied that he felt lonely and frightened (19:9–10). It is good to be honest with God. It shows that we trust him. God helps those who put their faith in him.
5. God made some wonderful and frightening things happen in front of Elijah. Elijah saw the power of God displayed in a mighty wind, earthquake and fire. He experienced God's presence when God used his quiet voice to speak to his servant. Then Elijah was afraid no longer. He was filled with the strength to continue with the task God had given him (19:11–16).
6. God gave Elijah a companion called Elisha to help him and learn from him (19:19–21).
7. Elijah had become an old man by then and it was time for him to die. He tried to say farewell to Elisha, but Elisha would not let him go. He kept following Elijah from place to place, even across a river (2:1–10).

Look,Listen&Live_Book4.indd 54 2012/09/10 11:05 AM

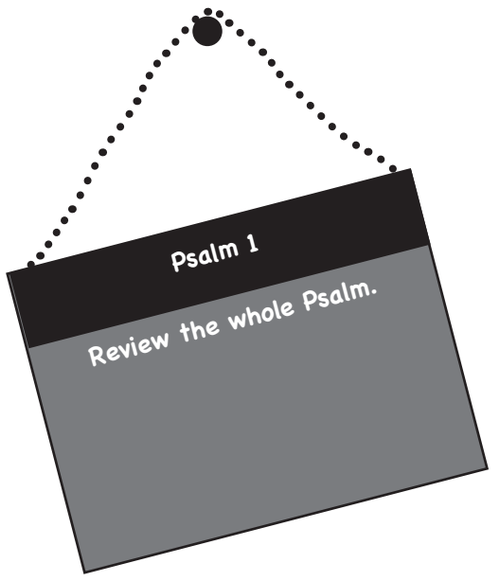


8. As they were walking together Elisha saw a chariot and horses of fire come between them and take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind. **Show Picture 23.** Elisha would never see Elijah again (2:11–12). But as Elijah had left, his cloak (the cloth he wrapped himself in) fell to the ground. Elisha picked it up. This was a sign that he was to take on Elijah's work (2:13–15).

Our Response to the Story

Think of the different ways God took care of Elijah. He gave Elijah food, water, and protection from Jezebel. He showed his presence to Elijah and then gave him Elisha as a companion. Think of the ways God takes care of us. He gives us food, shelter, friends, and the promise of eternal life with him.

Instil the Memory Verse



Look,Listen&Live_Book4.indd 55 2012/09/10 11:05 AM