



LITTLE KNOWN BIBLE STORIES

Curriculum Fall 2024



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

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LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Memory Verses

Week 1

PROVERBS 11:2

Pride leads to disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Week 2

2 CHRONICLES 32:7

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him.

Week 3

2 PETER 2:9A

So you see, the Lord knows how to rescue godly people from their trials.

Week 4

PSALM 119:105

Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

Week 5

EPHESIANS 3:16

I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

Week 6

EPHESIANS 6:10

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 1: Absalom's Downfall

Passage

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2 SAMUEL 14-18

If we're popular, we shouldn't become prideful. Instead, we should use our popularity to serve God.

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today we're talking about King David's son, Absalom. Absalom was very popular, but he used his popularity for evil.

ABSALOM'S POPULARITY

Absalom was King David's son, and he was very popular.

- He was very attractive and had the best hair (2 Samuel 14:25-26)
- He "stole the hearts of all the people" (2 Samuel 15:6)

ABSALOM'S PRIDE

Because of his popularity, he thought he should be king instead of David.

He became very prideful. Pride is when we think we're better than other people.

- He thought he was a better judge than the king (2 Samuel 15:2-4)
- He made a statue for himself (2 Samuel 18:18)

Absalom gathered an army to start a rebellion against David (2 Samuel 15:10)

ABSALOM'S DOWNFALL

Because of Absalom's rebellion, Absalom and David's armies fought in a battle.

David's army was winning, and Absalom tried to escape on his mule.

"As he rode beneath the thick branches of a great tree, his hair got caught in the tree. His mule kept going and left him dangling in the air" (2 Samuel 18:9).

One of David's generals (Joab) stabbed him through the heart with 3 daggers, and then 10 more men surrounded him to kill him! (2 Samuel 18:14-15)

Trying to become popular, putting other people down so you look better, caring more about someone's appearance than their heart

We shouldn't think that we are better than others, like Absalom did! Instead, we should use our popularity to serve God. Build others up instead of yourself. Don't be a bragger.

- Have you heard this story before? What did you think about the ending?
- How could you tell that someone thought they were the best?
- What do you think of when you hear the word "popular"?
- What might happen to someone if they only cared about being popular?
- What are some ways you could do something nice for someone else this week, instead of yourself?



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 1: Absalom's Downfall

Craft

Meaning

Supplies

Instructions

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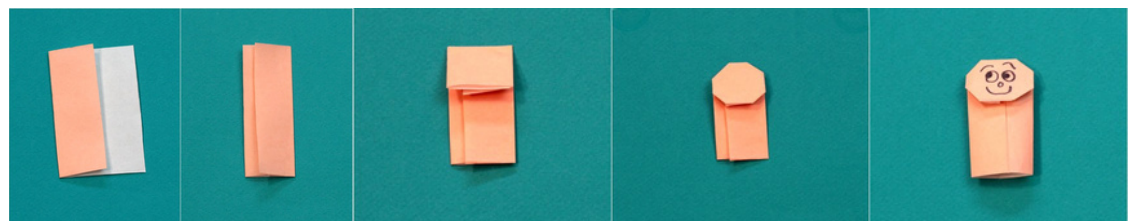
ORIGAMI FINGER PUPPETS

Absalom was popular with a lot of people. Today we're making a crowd of finger puppet people!

Sticky notes, markers

1. Take your sticky note and fold the non-sticky side approximately one third the way towards the middle. Keep the sticky side up.
2. Fold the other side down to match. You should now have a small, flat tube.
3. Fold down the top part of the tube down. This will make the head of the puppet, so make it as large or as small as desired.
4. Fold the top edges of the head back slightly.
5. Fold the bottom corners of the head up and behind. Now you have a blank face!
6. Give your origami finger puppet a face and decorate as you please.

NOTE: To create animals, fold the top edges of the head forwards instead of backwards (see step 4). This will create floppy ears!





LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 2: Hezekiah's Faith

Passage

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2 CHRONICLES 32, 2 KINGS 18-19

God does the impossible to protect his people! We should trust God to protect us like Hezekiah did, and pray when we're scared!

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today we're talking about a time when God protected Israel from an army that seemed impossible to overcome.

SENNACHERIB'S THREATS

Sennacherib (King of Assyria) sent a threatening letter to Hezekiah, the king of Judah. In the letter, Sennacherib said he would attack the city of Jerusalem.

Sennacherib's (and his official's) threats included:

- Your army is too small to overcome the Assyrian army (2 Kings 18:24)
- You will be so hungry/thirsty that you will drink/eat your pee/poop (2 Kings 18:27)
- God isn't powerful enough to save you and is just as weak as the "gods" of other nations (2 Chronicles 32:13-17)

HEZEKIAH'S RESPONSE

Hezekiah immediately cried out to God in prayer (2 Chronicles 32:20).

Hezekiah trusted in God and inspired others not to be afraid (2 Chronicles 32:7-8).

- They didn't have to be afraid because God is stronger than humans, and he desires to protect them!

GOD'S PROTECTION

God sent an angel to defeat Sennacherib's army before they entered the city of Jerusalem! After the defeat, Sannacherib went to the temple of his god and was killed by his own sons (2 Chronicles 32:21).

- "[God] took care of them on every side" (2 Chronicles 32:22)

Being scared that God isn't going to protect you, not praying when you're scared, trying to do the impossible without God, believing the threats of God's enemies

When we feel scared, we should pray to God and trust that he's going to protect us! If someone says that God isn't powerful, we shouldn't believe them!

- When was a time that you felt scared? Did you talk to God? What was that like?
- What would you say to someone who thought that God wasn't powerful?
- Can you think of another Bible story when God did the impossible?
- How do your parents protect you? In what ways is God like that?
- How could you help someone else who is feeling afraid, like Hezekiah did with the people living in Jerusalem?



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 2: Hezekiah's Faith

Craft

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Image

CUP TELEPHONE

Just like Hezekiah prayed when he was afraid of Sennacherib's army, we can pray to God! Today, we're making a telephone to remind us that we can call on God at any time.

Cups, yarn/string, sharpened pencil, paper clips, scissors

1. Use the tip of a sharpened pencil to poke a small hole at the bottom of 2 cups.
2. Thread the string through the hole of one cup.
3. Inside the cup, tie the string to a paper clip to hold the yarn in place.
4. Pull the string through the bottom of your second cup, securing it with a paper clip on the inside, too.
5. To use your cup phones the string must be kept taut. When one person whispers into one cup, the other should be able to hear their voice through the other cup!





LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 3: Ehud the Rescuer

Passage

Main Point

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JUDGES 3:12-30

God can use one faithful person to rescue many others.

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today we're learning about Ehud, a hero who battled a very fat king.

ISRAEL'S SUFFERING

Because Israel was unfaithful to God, King Eglon of Moab ruled over them.

- King Eglon was very fat (3:17).
- King Eglon oppressed the Israelite people, so they cried out for help (3:15).

EHUD'S RESCUE PLAN

God chose Ehud to be Israel's rescuer (Judges 3:15).

Ehud pretended to deliver money to the king. He hid a dagger in his pants (3:16-17).

Ehud told Eglon he had a secret message, so Eglon sent everyone outside (3:19).

While everyone was gone, Ehud stabbed Eglon's belly. (3:21)

- "The dagger went so deep that the handle disappeared beneath the king's fat" (3:22)
- Eglon pooped himself (3:22)
- Ehud locked the doors of the room and escaped down the toilet (3:23)
- Eglon's servants assumed the King was using the toilet, but were confused when Eglon didn't come out. Eventually they found him dead! (3:24-25)

VICTORY!

Ehud announced to everyone that the King of Moab was defeated! (3:27)

A band of Israelites attacked the Moabites and conquered them (3:27-30).

Feeling like we can't be used by God to do big things, forgetting God in our suffering

Like Ehud, we can be rescuers for God by sharing the message of Jesus, who rescues us!

- What was your favorite part of this story? What was the silliest/scariest/most surprising part?
- Have you ever seen God use you to help (rescue) someone else? What was that like?
- How has Jesus rescued us/what has Jesus rescued us from?
- Have you ever talked to God when you were suffering? Share about that experience.
- How might talking to God help when we're suffering?



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 3: Ehud the Rescuer

Craft

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Instructions

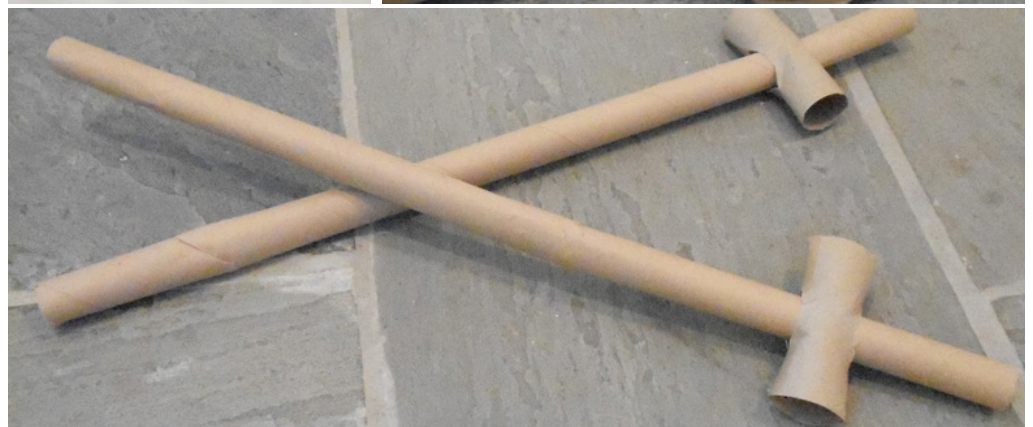
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CARDBOARD SWORDS

Just like Ehud use his sword to rescue Israel from evil King Eglon, we're making swords!

Paper towel rolls, scissors, tape, markers, aluminum foil

1. Flatten one end of a paper towel roll and tape it shut.
2. Cut the flattened end of the paper towel roll into a point.
3. Cut another paper towel roll in half to create the handle.
4. Cut 2 ovals into your handle large enough for a paper towel roll to fit through.
5. Put your pointed paper towel through the holes you've cut and position the handle about 1/4 of the way up the paper towel roll.
6. Decorate with markers or aluminum foil as you wish!





LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 4: Balaam's Talking Donkey

Passage

Main Point

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NUMBERS 22

God sees our hearts, and will interrupt our paths to direct us in the way we should go.

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today, we're learning about a story when God speaks to someone through a donkey!

KING BALAK'S OFFER

Balaam's job was to speak messages (prophecies) from "gods" that weren't really gods.

- He was famous for being a skilled "seer"

King Balak of Moab saw that the Israelites were very powerful because of God, so he offered Balaam money to curse the Israelites (Numbers 22:6).

God visited Balaam in the night and told him NOT to curse the Israelites (Numbers 22:12). Balaam had a big decision - would he curse the Israelites for money, or listen to God?

BALAAM'S DECISION

Balaam decided to go to Moab, and God knew Balaam's heart was evil (Numbers 22:32).

God sent the angel of the Lord to block Balaam's path (Numbers 22:26).

Balaam's donkey could see the angel, but Balaam couldn't, even though he was supposed to be a "seer"!

- Balaam beat his donkey 3 times, but the donkey talked back to him! (Numbers 22:28)
- God was showing Balaam that even a donkey was a better "seer" than he was!

GOD GETS THE FINAL WORD

Balaam was going down the wrong path, but God interrupted him and directed him

- God made it clear that He is in charge, not Balaam
- God does this because he loves us and he wants us to follow his path, not our own

Thinking that our path is the right way, not listening to God when making a decision

If God is directing us towards something, we should go there! We shouldn't be prideful and think that we know more than God does. Ask God if you're confused about what to do in a specific situation.

- Have you ever heard this story before? Why do you think God chose to speak to Balaam through a donkey?
- How does it make you feel to know that God can see our hearts?
- What would happen if you followed your own path instead of God's path for you?
- Have you ever had to make a decision between doing what you want vs. what God wants? What did you choose, and how did that turn out?
- Why can we trust that God's path is best for us?

Antithesis

Application

Discussion



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 4: Balaam's Talking Donkey

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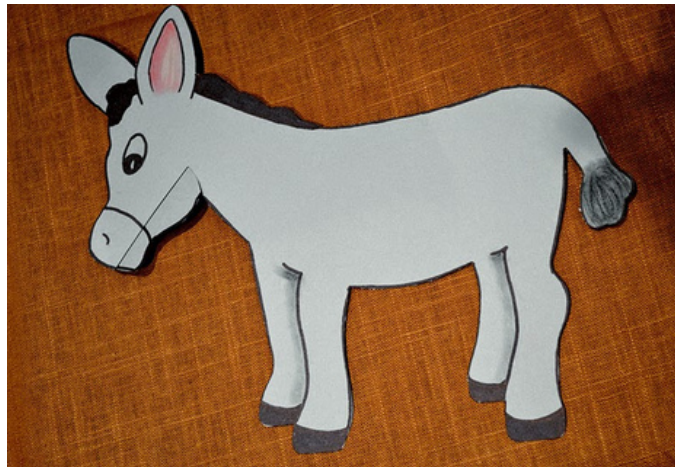
TALKING DONKEY

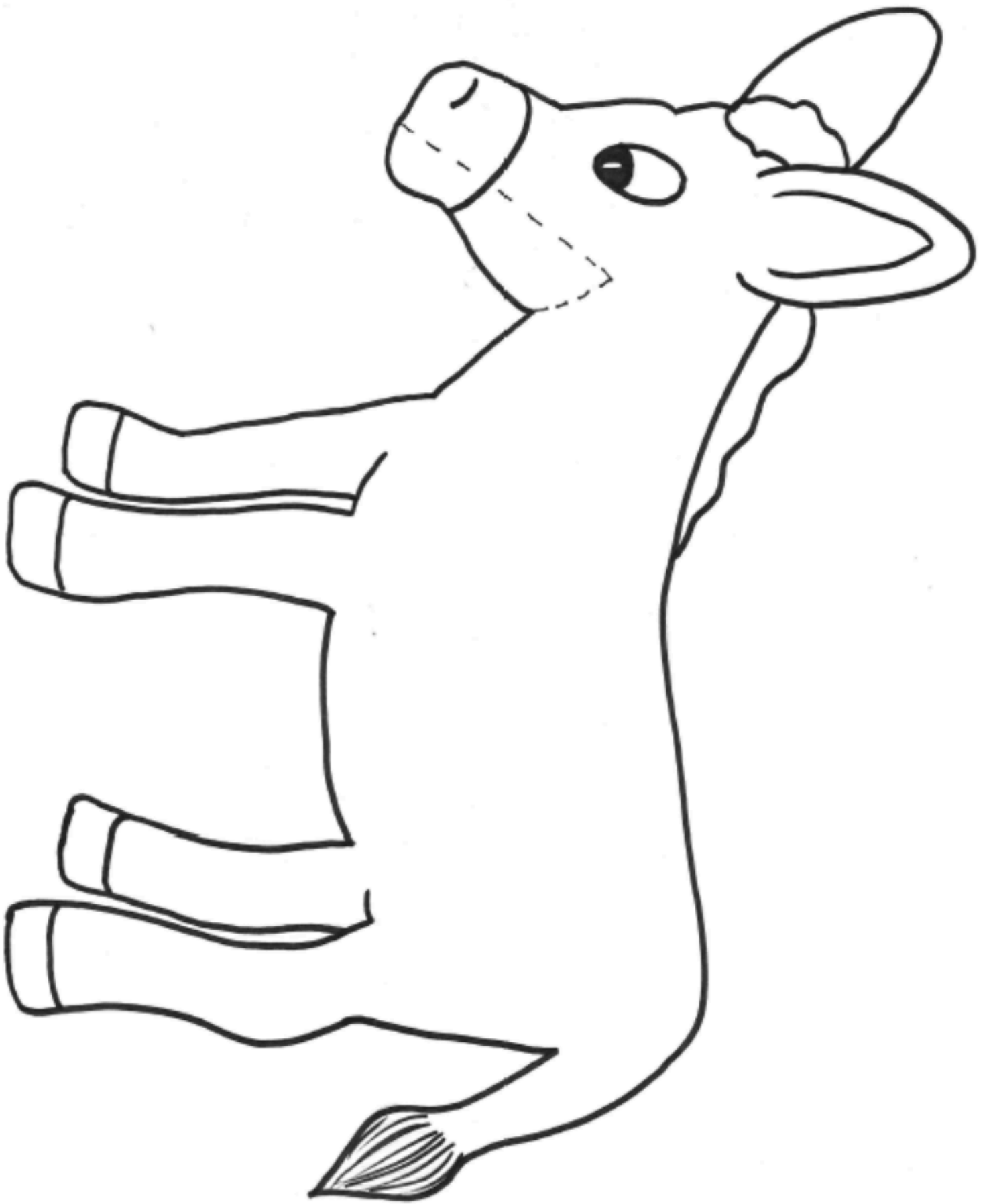
We're making Balaam's talking donkey!

Donkey printout, scissors, clothespin, tape, markers

1. Color the donkey
2. Cut out the donkey
3. Cut on the dotted line where the donkey's mouth is. Be careful not to cut it off!
4. Tape a clothespin on the back, lining up the center opening of the clothespin with the mouth.
5. Open and close the clothespin to make the donkey talk!

Image







LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 5: Elisha's Power

Passage

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2 KINGS 2

When God's followers are scared and feeling alone, God will give them power and protect them!

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today, we're learning about the prophet Elijah's dramatic exit, leaving Elisha (his new prophet) all alone. We'll see how God provides for Elisha.

ELIJAH TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN

Elijah was God's prophet. God did many powerful things through him.

Elijah was Elisha's good friend. When it was time for Elijah to die, Elisha promised Elijah 3 times that he would never leave his side. (2 Kings 2:2, 2:4, and 2:6)

- Nevertheless, Elijah was taken to heaven in a chariot of fire! (2 Kings 2:11)

Elisha tore his clothes in distress. Now that Elijah was gone, Elisha felt completely alone!

GOD GIVES HIS POWER TO ELISHA

God gave Elisha a double portion of His Spirit and the power to do miracles.

1. Elisha struck the the Jordan River with Elijah's cloak and parted it (2 Kings 2:13-14)
2. Elisha threw salt into dirty water and it immediately became pure (2 Kings 2:21-22)

God also protected Elisha from threats.

- When a group of boys mocked Elisha, calling him "baldy," they were mauled by bears! (2 Kings 2:23-24)
 - This was a gang of young men, not little boys
 - At this time, "baldy" wasn't just a silly insult of his hairstyle. This was a very offensive name.

Feeling completely alone or powerless, believing that God won't protect you

Just like God gave Elisha His power, God has also given us his power through Christ! Ephesians 1:19-20 says, "I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms." When we're feeling alone or scared, we should remember this power!

- Have you ever heard this story before? What did you like about it?
- Have you ever felt alone before? What was that like?
- How could you help someone who is feeling alone or like God isn't with them?
- Read Ephesians 1:19-20. What does it mean to believe in Jesus?
- Can you think of any other miracles in the Bible?



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 5: Elisha's Power

Craft

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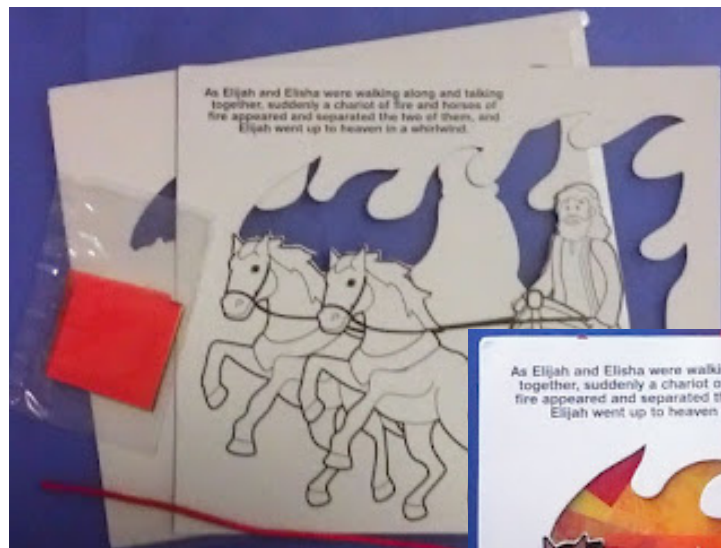
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FIERY CHARIOT

Today we learned about Elijah being taken to heaven in a fiery chariot. We're recreating the fiery chariot.

Scissors, cardstock, template, red/orange/yellow tissue paper, glue, markers

1. Glue red, orange, and yellow tissue paper flat on a piece of card stock
2. Cut out the flame portion of the printout
3. Glue the printout on top of the card stock with the tissue paper showing through the flame cutout.
4. Color the printout



As Elijah and Elisha were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.





LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 6: Gideon's Unlikely Army

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JUDGES 7

God wants us to rely on his power, not our own! We don't have anything to brag about.

For this series, we're learning about Bible stories you've probably never heard before. Today, we're learning about a story where God shrunk Gideon's army to display his amazing power!

TOO MANY WARRIORS

Gideon's army of 32,000 warriors was going up against the armies of Midian.

God said, "You have too many warriors... the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength!" (Judges 7:2)

God came up with a plan to put his power on display:

- First, the people who were afraid were allowed to leave (Judges 7:3). 22,000 left!
- Then, those who drank water with their mouths in the stream were told to leave, but those who drank with their hands stayed (Judges 7:5-6). 300 remained!
 - Ex: Imagine if I told everyone here to drink a slushee in 1 minute, and everyone who got a brain freeze wasn't allowed to be at TNT.

VICTORY!

With only 300 warriors, it seemed impossible for Gideon's army to win!

- The other army was "like a swarm of locusts." Even their camels looked like grains of sand on the seashore: too many to count! (Judges 7:12)

The 300 warriors walked to the edge of the enemy camp, blew rams' horns, broke clay jars, held torches and yelled "a sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" (Judges 7:20)

The Lord caused the warriors to start fighting each other and flee! (Judges 7:22)

Bragging about what we can do instead of relying on God's power

Instead of bragging about how powerful we are, we should learn about God's power and how he wants to use it in our lives! God's power can help us be a good friend or sibling, overcome evil with kindness, understand the Bible, and so much more!

- If you were Gideon, what might you think when God sent most of your army home?
- Why do you think God wanted Gideon to fight with such a small army?
- What do you think Gideon learned about God through this experience?
- Why do we like to brag about our own power instead of God's?
- In what ways might God's power help us? (*NOTE: you may have to give an example first, such as, "God's power helps us to love our friends."*)



LITTLE KNOW BIBLE STORIES

Lesson 6: Gideon's Unlikely Army

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GIDEON'S TORCH

Gideon's army held up torches when they declared "a sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" (Judges 7:20) Today, we're going to make paper torches!

Red, yellow, orange and brown construction paper, tape, glue stick, scissors

1. Begin by cutting one piece of red, yellow, and orange construction paper into large, jagged shapes.
2. Glue the layers onto each other, starting with red on bottom, orange, then yellow.
3. Glue the flames onto the top of the brown colored sheet of construction paper. Let the glue dry.
4. Roll the torch up. Tape to secure the ends.
5. Hold up your torch in the air!

