



LESSON 5

REFERENCES: 1 KINGS 17:1-6; *PROPHETS AND KINGS*, PP. 119-128.

Birds to the Rescue

When you're hungry, who feeds you? God fed Elijah in a special way.

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ing Ahab, the king of God's own special people, was worshipping idols! God watched King Ahab bow his head in front of the idol Baal.

"Bring us lots of rain, O Baal!"

King Ahab prayed to the idol. "Give us rain so our food will grow in the fields, and we will have plenty to eat."

King Ahab prayed to the idol Baal every day. He even built a temple for the idol Baal so everybody could worship him. And many people did.

Was there anyone left who *wasn't* worshipping Baal? Was there anyone left who really loved God? Was there anyone God could use to tell

His special people to return to worshipping the true God? Yes, there was! Elijah and several others!



Memory Verse

"My God
will meet all
your needs."

PHILIPPIANS 4:19, NIV.

The Message

God loves us and
gives us everything
we need.

So God spoke to Elijah. God gave Elijah a very important message for King Ahab.

Elijah walked quickly into King Ahab's palace. Elijah spoke loudly, "My God says there will be no dew or rain for the next few years unless I say so." Before King Ahab could think of anything to say, Elijah hurried out of the palace.

Where should I go now? Elijah thought. *King Ahab is going to be very angry!*

God spoke to Elijah again. "Go to the east and hide by Kerith Brook," He said. God knew that King Ahab would try to kill Elijah. "Drink fresh water from the brook," God continued, "and I will send ravens to feed you."

Elijah hurried to Kerith Brook. He sat on the ground and thought about all that had happened.

Just as the sun began to disappear behind the mountains, Elijah heard birds calling. *Caw! Caw! Caw!* Big black birds swooped down. The ravens dropped the food they were carrying on a rock near Elijah. Then they quickly flew away.

Elijah watched the birds disappear.

Amazing! he thought. *When God said He was going to send ravens to take care of me, He meant it!*

Elijah bowed his head and thanked God. He sat on the rock and picked up his supper.

Then he looked at the sky in the direction the ravens had flown. God had kept His promise. God always keeps His promises.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week read the lesson story together and review the memory verse.

Write each word of the memory verse on individual pieces of paper. Let your child pretend to be a raven “flying” to pick up each paper. As each is retrieved, read each word, completing the verse. Ask the child to repeat it. Use the papers each day.

On a rainy day or night, set out a cup to catch the rain. Then measure how much rain fell. Ask: Why do we need the rain?



SUNDAY

Read 1 Kings 17:1-6 together. Ask: What message did Elijah give to King Ahab? What did God tell Elijah to do?

Help your child use two paper cups with dirt in them to plant a few fast-growing seeds. Ask: What do seeds need to grow? Have your child water only one, but place both cups by a window. Throughout the week, remind your child to water only the one plant.

MONDAY

Read the lesson story together. Ask: What did God give Elijah besides food? (safe place to live, water) Encourage your child to share the story with someone.

TUESDAY

Help your child act out the lesson story, using props such as toy birds, water, and bread. Help your child count some things God has given your family. Thank God for His care.

WEDNESDAY

Feed birds some bread or cracker pieces. Ask: How would you feel if birds fed you today?

To thank God that He gives us what we need, sing a thank-You song. Or sing “The Blackbird Song” on page 63.

THURSDAY

Talk about caring for pets. List the things pets need (food, water, love, etc.). Discuss how God gives us what we need. Sing a song about God’s care.



FRIDAY

During family worship, read about Elijah in *Prophets and Kings*, page 121 (first and second paragraphs).

Look at the seeds you planted Sunday. What is happening to those you watered? How about those you didn’t water? Explain that no water causes a drought, and that is what happened in Elijah’s time.

Sing songs of thanks for God’s care. Say the memory verse together.