



BIG STORIES OF THE BIBLE 35

ELISHA + ARAMEANS (2 KINGS 6)

Scripture: 2 Kings 2:1-14

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Dense object, salt, blindfolds

Ask:

- What happened in our story last week? (God used Elisha to provide for a widow)
- Does anyone remember how God took Elijah up to heaven? (A flaming chariot pulled by flaming horses.)
- That would have been incredible to see, wouldn't it? Today, we're going to learn of another story that is fun to imagine.

Read: 2 Kings 6:1-7

Explain:

I love that God cared enough for a man to be able to return a borrowed ax head. I can't make iron float by throwing a stick into water, but I can make this object float. Let's check it out.

Choose an Experiment:

1. Place a dense object in water (like an egg), allowing it to sink to the bottom. Ask the kids to retell you the story about the ax head. As they are explaining that Elisha threw a stick into the water, pour salt into the water. Enough salt will allow the object to float.
2. Use oil and water. Place oil in the bottom of a cup. Add drops of food coloring (optional). Ask them how you can get the oil to the top without adding any more oil. (Allow for answers). Pour water into the cup and watch the oil rise.
3. You can also go the route of the old Aesop's fable. Fill a cup halfway with water, then add rocks to make it to the top.

Read: 2 Kings 6:8-23

Ask, Explain, and Apply:

After verse 11: How would you feel if, in a game of hide-and-seek, someone told the person who was IT where you were hiding every time? You would get pretty annoyed, wouldn't you? Let's see what happens next.

After verse 12: Elisha knew all of this because God told him. This is such a god reminder that God knows every word we speak and every thought we have. He is SO big!

After verse 15: Would you be afraid if you woke up and saw an army surrounding you? What would you do?

After verse 23: God protect Elisha against what looks like incredible odds. But the odds only look to be against him when the servant and others don't see. When their eyes are opened, they realize that God's vast army is there and ready to fight. We might be facing a really scary situation that seems impossible. But God is also fighting for us. His Word promises that he never leaves us nor forsakes us. He fights for us. This doesn't mean that everything will go perfectly and simply in our lives, but it does mean that we can trust in him, follow him, and feel peace even in scary situations because we know that he is with us.

Play a Game:

Play Blind-man Walking tag. Make sure you have a wide-open space, clear of any obstacles. Have half the kids put on blindfolds. The kids blindfolded will be it. They have to try and tag those who aren't blindfolded. After a time, have the teams switch as to who is blindfolded. Make sure the kids walk so they don't hurt themselves.

Ask and Explain:

How hard was it to catch anyone while blindfolded? Imagine an entire army being blinded and unable to fight! All because Elisha prayed and asked God to do that. Then, Elisha showed them grace. These men were trying to kill him, but he led them to Samaria and could have had them all put to death, and he gave them a feast instead. We can learn so much from this story! First, that God is with us. He has armies fighting for us that we can't even see. Second, that we are called to show forgiveness. Even when people hurt us and are mean. We can show grace and mercy. We can feed them, maybe not with food, but with kindness, and not return evil for evil.

Comic Book Bibles:

Have the kids color the story of Elisha and the Arameans in their comic book Bibles.

Memorize: 2 Kings 6:16

Close in Prayer

