

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **February 20, 2022** Family Theme | **Standing for Truth** Study Text | **1 Kings 18:19-46**

Objective: Children understand that sometimes we need to respectfully stand for God's revealed truth even when most other people don't.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 870 BC after the kingdom divided and Ahab became king of the northern kingdom of Israel.

Bible Basics: Review James 1:17 and work with family members to do so as well.

Read the Word: 1 Kings 18:19-46

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that they will sometimes face situations in which the people around them do not believe God's revealed truth. Talk with them about respectfully standing for truth even when others don't.



Key Truth: Standing for Truth Is Often Not Popular (1 Kings 18:19-24)

Elijah challenged Ahab to summon the people of Israel and the prophets of Baal and Asherah to a showdown with him. The actual contest would be 450 prophets of Baal against one prophet of God! That was the situation Elijah faced on Mount Carmel. He was in a very lonely position. Elijah challenged the people to end their double mindedness and decide whom they would worship, God or Baal. Both Elijah and the prophets of Baal were to prepare an altar and a bull for a sacrifice. Then, both sides were to call upon their god, and the one who answered by sending fire was to be acknowledged as the true God. As Elijah partnered with God to do His will, he was never alone and could withstand even the worst odds.



Key Truth: God Honors Our Bold Stance for Truth (1 Kings 18:25-40)

The prophets of Baal prepared an altar. Then they spent the morning praying to their god, but to no avail. They limped and danced around their altar. When Elijah taunted them for their god's silence, they mutilated themselves. But it was all in vain. Then Elijah built an altar and dug a trench around it. He cut a bull into pieces and instructed that the sacrifice and the wood be soaked in water three times, which caused the trench around the altar to fill with water. Elijah prayed and asked God to answer his prayer to show that He is the true God and turn the hearts of His people back to Him. The Lord responded and fire came down from Heaven and consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, and the surrounding dust and water. Many people recognized Elijah's God was indeed the true God! Elijah then put the false prophets to death just as God commanded.



Key Truth: God Hears Us When We Pray According to His Will (1 Kings 18:41-46)

Elijah told Ahab that heavy rain was coming. At the heart of prayer is understanding that we need God to meet our needs. This is powerfully seen in Elijah's prayer on the mountain. Elijah's prayer is a reminder that

it is not always the length of our prayer that is important, but our faith in God to accomplish His will. Elijah had taken a stand for truth and then prayed for God to do what He said He would do. Elijah kept praying and a small cloud appeared that quickly grew until the entire sky was dark and ominous. In fulfillment of Elijah's word, the clouds and wind arrived followed by torrential rains. Through this encounter, Elijah had not only defeated the prophets of Baal but had also disquieted and humbled Jezebel, a deed that would not go unnoticed.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What are some biblical truths we need to stand for in today's culture?
- Why is standing for God's truth difficult at times?
- How can we stand for truth in ways that are respectful and gracious? Why is this important?
- What role does prayer play in standing for truth?
- Why can we be confident God hears our prayers?
- What truth do you need to stand for at your school or with your friends this week?
- **For Elementary:** Why is standing for God's truth difficult at times?
- **For Elementary:** How can we stand for truth in ways that are respectful and gracious? Why is this important?
- **For Elementary:** How can you gain confidence from Elijah's example of standing up for God?

Everyday Extras

Find 450 of something at your house. Cheerios? Lego® bricks? Pennies? Paper napkins? How does one Cheerio stand up against 450? Those were the odds that Elijah the prophet faced when he stood against the prophets of Baal. But Elijah was victorious because he had God on his side! Because we serve the one true God, we do not have to be intimidated or afraid when we are outnumbered. We know that standing for truth takes courage, but we can count on God to help us.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned God sent a prophet named Elijah to meet with King Ahab. Ahab was evil and worshiped false Gods. Elijah told King Ahab to build an altar at Mt. Carmel, place a bull on it, and pray for his god to set the wood on fire. Nothing happened because Baal is not the one, true God. **God Hears When I Pray** because He is the only true God.