

WEEK 1
LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

God helps me
find what I need.

BIBLE

Elijah And The Drought:
1 Kings 17:2–16

ABOUT THIS WEEK

With their years of experience, baking masters know exactly what their cakes and pastries need to become delicious treats. This week, we'll hear how God provided for Elijah and a widow during a drought. God provided for Elijah and this widow when they needed it, and you can trust God to do the same as you remember, **God helps me find what I need.**

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Hot Cross Buns

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, have kids sit in a large circle, give one kid a baguette or large pastry bun, and ask them to pass it around in one direction while the music is playing. When the leader pauses the music or calls out "Hot Cross Buns," have the kids switch the direction they are passing. Continue playing and switch directions faster and faster until time runs out. Play any song your kids like or something [like this](#) to stay on theme.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Sit with toddlers and show them how to tap each other's hands to play "Pat-A-Cake." Toddlers will not get the rhythm but will enjoy clapping their hands against yours. You can sing along with a video like [this one](#), too.
- I don't know about you, but playing a game like that gets my heart racing and my body fired up! I can't wait to share a Bible story with you that talks about bread. It might not have been hot cross buns, but what happened in the story is even cooler!

ACTIVITY | Baker Says

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, play a version of "Simon Says" using baking-themed motions: crack an egg, whisk the batter, lick the spatula, knead the dough, and decorate the cake. Make sure you demonstrate these motions and do them with the kids. If someone misses one of the instructions, allow them to come to the front to help you spot other people who missed something the Baker said!
- Thanks for helping out the baker in this game! In a bakery, the baker needs a lot of things like flour, eggs, milk, sugar, and all the tools to do the baking.
- In today's Bible story, we'll learn about a man who had to trust God to give him what he needed.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | 1 Kings 17:2–16 (Elijah and the Drought)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible

storybook, or using the talking points provided below. Dress as a chef with a white apron and hat. Prepare a pretend oven (it can be as simple as a cardboard box on its side) and place your Bible inside. You may even set up a fun kitchen timer, bring out the Bible, and begin teaching when the timer goes off.

- Welcome to the Bible Bakery, where we always get a taste of God's goodness and some yummy treats, too. I am so *fired up* for today's Bible story!
- Today's story comes from a book in the Bible called 1 Kings and is about a man named Elijah.
 - **Can you say, Elijah?**
 - Elijah was a prophet who delivered messages from God to God's people during a tricky time.
- Elijah was living in a time when there was no water and no food to eat. He was tired, hungry, and thirsty. But Elijah trusted God to help him.
 - In the morning and evening, these amazing birds called ravens came flying in with food in their beaks! Elijah had more than enough to eat and didn't even have to fire up a kitchen to get it!
 - **Let's pretend to be birds flying with food in our beaks for Elijah!**
 - God even led Elijah to a brook where he could find water. Bird food delivery and a never-ending supply of fresh water! God gave Elijah everything he needed! Isn't God amazing?
- But one day, the brook dried up. Oh no! Where was Elijah going to get food and water now? He had to keep trusting God to help him find what he needed.
- God sent Elijah to meet a woman who was struggling with food, too. She ran out of things she needed to make food for herself and her son.
 - But Elijah asked her for water and a piece of bread.
 - **Can you scratch your heads with me?**
 - Huh? She didn't have enough food to feed herself and her son. How would she make food for Elijah?
- Elijah was giving the woman and her son a chance to trust God like he did.
 - Even though she only had a little bit of flour and a tiny amount of oil left, she did what Elijah asked and made him some bread.
 - **What do you think happened?**
 - God made sure her jar of flour and jug of oil would not run out for as long as she needed it. That means she could make lots and lots of bread so she and her son would have food.
- God knows exactly what we need, and just like Elijah and the woman did in this story, we can trust God to help us find the things we need.

BIG IDEA | God helps me find what I need.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this month's Big Idea reveal, you'll need a large aluminum cookie sheet and each week's Big Idea [printables](#). Print the pages double-sided and cut out each "baked good." Arrange them on the cookie sheet so that the words are facing down. Invite one kid at a time to come up and flip over a baked good. If there is a word on there, read it aloud for them. After all the words are found, arrange them in order on the cookie sheet. Have kids repeat the Big Idea a few times, then teach them the corresponding hand motions.
- Ah! Something smells magnificent! I wonder what Big Idea is baking today!
- **Let's learn the Big Idea together:**
 - **God** (Point upward.)
 - **helps me** (Point to self.)
 - **find what I** (Place hand over eyes as in "searching.")
 - **need.** (Put both hands out in front, palms face up.)

VIDEO | *Fired Up*, Episode 1

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Raven Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, divide the group into two (or more) teams and have them stand in a line at one end of the space. At the other end, have a plate ready for each team. Then, give each kid a cracker and instruct them to flap their wings and “fly,” like a raven, down to their plate, where they will drop their cracker. Then, have them “fly” back to their team, where the next kid will go. The team that finishes first is the winner.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead of a relay, put some feathers into an empty plastic bottle and seal the top on. Let the toddlers shake and tip the bottle to watch the feathers. Talk about ravens’ feathers, just like the ravens in the Bible story.
- In today’s Bible story, God used ravens to provide for Elijah. We are loved by a creative God who knows our needs. Isn’t that amazing? Not only does God know what I need, but **God helps me find what I need!**
- Let’s give a group “caw-caw” as a raven praise to God, our provider!

PRAYER

- God, thank you for helping us find what we need. Help us trust that you will always take care of us. Amen.

SHARING TIME**SNACK | Mini Bread**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid three to five vanilla wafers, mini toasts, or slices of pound cake to represent the bread made for Elijah by the widow of Zarephath. Make sure to provide gluten-free options if needed.
- Our snack reminds us of the bread the woman made in the Bible story. She trusted God and never ran out of flour or oil!
- **Has anyone ever helped make bread before?**
- **What are some fun things you like to put on your bread or toast?!**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sit in a circle together. Pass around a slow-rising bread squishy (like [this one](#)) as kids take turns responding to the questions. The person holding the item gets to speak.
- **What was the name of the prophet in our story?** Elijah.
- **How did God deliver food to Elijah?** Ravens.
- **How did God help Elijah find water?** God led him to a brook.
- **How did God help the woman and her son?** She made bread for Elijah, and her flour and oil did not run out.
- **Does God help us find what we need?** Yes! God helps me find what I need.

ACTIVITY | Bird Delivery Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this craft, provide black paper dessert plates, large googly eyes, black construction paper, and orange and brown construction paper. Prep in advance by folding each plate in half and making a one-inch slit with a craft knife one inch below the folded edge. Cut the orange construction paper into triangles (pro tip: fold the paper into squares and diagonally cut the squares in half). To assemble, have kids glue on an orange triangle at one end of the plate, right along the fold, and googly eyes on either side of the fold on the same end of the plate. Fold the plate in half and help crease firmly so it can stand. Show kids how to accordion fold the black construction paper and insert it into the slit. Tear the brown paper into small pieces to be the “bread” you can attach to the beak. See worked example [here](#).
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Have toddlers [“paint” on brown construction paper](#) with paintbrushes and water to help them practice their fine motor skills. Cut or tear their paper afterward into an oblong oval to represent bread.

- God provided for Elijah during a time when there was not enough food by leading him to a brook and sending food through ravens. If God can do that, God can do anything. **God helps me find what I need**

MEMORY VERSE | Matthew 4:4 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words to the tune of "Yankee Doodle." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say it using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.
- **"It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"**

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Play Dough Station

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, provide play dough, feathers, and googly eyes for the kids to make their own raven or bread.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Omit the feathers and googly eyes for the toddlers. They will enjoy just playing with play dough. You can retell the Bible story as they play. Be sure to supervise closely to keep the toddlers from putting the play dough in their mouths. You could also provide taste-safe dough if you'd like.

ACTIVITY | Water Table Station

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, set up a shallow kiddie pool or large bins of water along with cups, bowls, funnels, and other vessels to allow them to pour and play. Make sure to have towels available for drying hands and to put down necessary floor coverage underneath.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Remember, any water play should be closely supervised as toddlers may try to put their faces into the water. Even just an inch of water can be dangerous for unsupervised toddlers.