

Elijah in the Wilderness

1 Kings 19



The Story

What do you think God looks like?

Who has seen God?

Do you think God can make himself look like whatever He wants to look like?
Why can God do that?

In today's lesson, we are going to see that Elijah isn't doing what God wants him to do. Elijah thinks that there is no use for him to keep on preaching the Word of God to the people of Israel, because they worship the false god Baal anyway. Elijah wants to die. God has to come to Elijah to tell him that he is acting in a wrong way.

God sent four things in front of Elijah and said that He was in one of those four things. The first was a strong wind storm; the second was an earthquake; the third was a fire; and the fourth was a quiet small voice. Which one do you think God was in?

Listen carefully to today's story and we will see in which one of the four things God came to Elijah to tell him that he was acting in a wrong way.

After Elijah had killed all the prophets of Baal, Queen Jezebel found out. She was very upset and promised to kill Elijah before the next night. Elijah heard this and ran out into the wilderness where no people lived.

Elijah was not happy. He was worried. He sat under a tree and prayed to God that God would end his life. After Elijah prayed, he fell asleep.

Then, suddenly, an angel touched Elijah and woke him up. The angel said, "Get up and eat." Elijah looked and there was bread and a jar of water. So, he got up, ate the bread and drank the water.

Elijah fell back asleep after he was done eating.

Again, the angel came to Elijah and told him, "Get up and eat for you have to make a long trip." Elijah woke up and saw more bread and water. He ate the bread and drank the water. This food gave him enough strength so that he didn't have to eat for the next 40 days!

Elijah went to a mountain and stayed in a cave. It was the same mountain where God had talked to Moses in the burning bush. God talked to Elijah and asked, "What are you doing here?" Elijah complained to God and said, "I have served you Lord, but the children of Israel have worshiped other gods, and killed your prophets. I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me too."

The Lord told Elijah to stand on the mountain and He would pass by Elijah. A strong wind blew across the mountain and knocked down rocks. But the Lord wasn't in the strong wind. Then there was an earthquake, but the Lord wasn't in the earthquake. Next, came a fire that passed by, but the Lord wasn't in the fire either. Finally, a small voice whispered to Elijah. When Elijah heard it, he was afraid because the Lord was in that small voice.

God's voice said again to Elijah, "What are you doing here?" Elijah gave the same answer as before. Then the Lord told Elijah, "Go, and find Elisha. He will be the next prophet after you. There are also 7,000 people who have not bowed down to worship the false god Baal. You are not the only one left."

Elijah left the mountain and went to

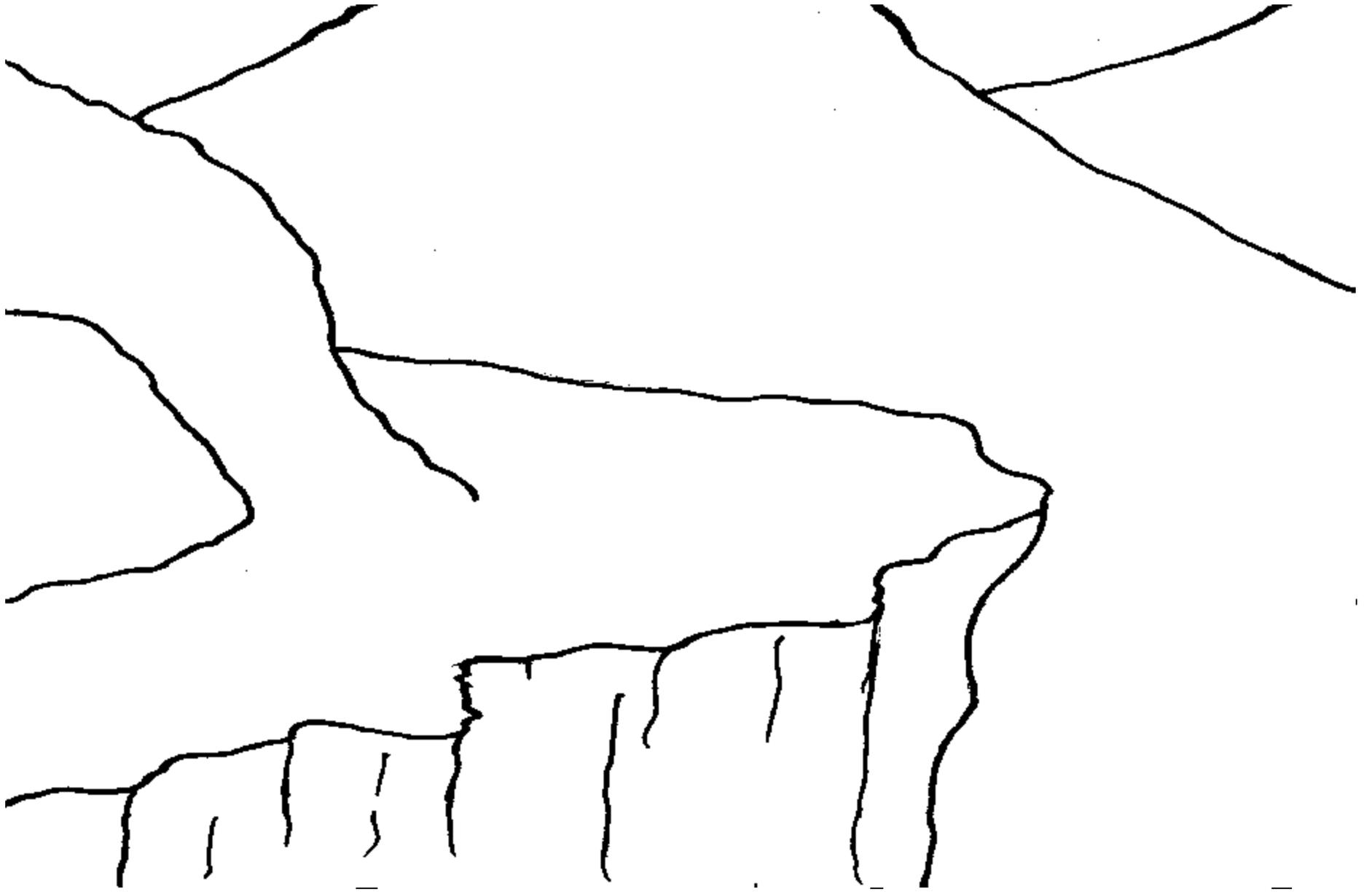
find Elisha. He found him and threw his coat on Elijah saying, "The Lord wants you to be the next prophet." Elisha knew that

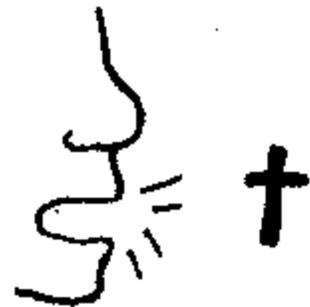
God was choosing him to be the next prophet, so he followed Elijah.

Activity One - Answer the following questions by drawing lines to the correct answer in the second column. If you need it, get help reading the questions and answers.

Why did Elijah leave to go into the wilderness?	◆	◆	<i>An angel.</i>
Why was Elijah so sad?	◆	◆	<i>He was getting away from Jezebel who was going to kill him.</i>
Was he the only one left?	◆	◆	<i>No, there were 7,000 people that believed in God.</i>
Who came to tell Elijah to eat?	◆	◆	<i>The still small voice.</i>
What was special about the food that Elijah ate?	◆	◆	<i>We learn about Jesus and how He saved us from our sins. This is the Gospel message.</i>
What did God have pass in front of Elijah?	◆	◆	<i>He uses His Word the Gospel.</i>
Which one was God in?	◆	◆	<i>He thought he was the only believer left in Israel.</i>
Why do think God was in the still small voice and not the powerful things?	◆	◆	<i>A windstorm, an earthquake, a fire, and a still small voice.</i>
What does God use to come to us?	◆	◆	<i>God used it to show that His power is the Gospel</i>
What is in God's Word that is so important for us?	◆	◆	<i>God blessed it so after he ate it he didn't have to eat for 40 days.</i>

Activity Two -Color the background picture on page 4. Then color the figures on page 5. After you have colored the figures, cut them out along the dotted lines. Glue the figures to popsicle sticks and use them to retell the story.





The Gospel message is the still small voice that has the power to save us from our sins.

Passages

2 Timothy 2:19 - "The Lord knows those who are His."

Should we ever worry that the Lord will leave us? *No he will always keep us safe.*

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

What should we do with this Word that God has given to us? *We should use it to tell others about Jesus dying on the cross for us.*

What does this Word, the Gospel message do for us? *It has the power to save us.*

Hymn - TLH #292 v. 1, 9

Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide;
Nor let Thy Word, that heav'nly light,
For us be ever veiled in night.

Oh, grant that in Thy holy Word
We here may live and die, dear Lord;
And when our journey endeth here,
Receive us into glory there.

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for giving us the Gospel so we can tell others that Jesus died on the cross to take away our sins. Thank You for sending Him as our Savior. In Your name we pray. Amen.