

ELIJAH'S FIRE IS LIT BY GOD

1 Kings 18:16-39

1 Kings 18

¹⁶So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?"

¹⁸"I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD'S commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

²⁰So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. ²¹Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

But the people said nothing.

²²Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD'S prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³Get two bulls for us. Let them choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire—he is God."

Then all the people said, "What you say is good."

²⁵Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." ²⁶So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

²⁷At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." ²⁸So they shouted

louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed.

²⁹Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

³⁰Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which was in ruins. ³¹Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." ³²With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

³⁴"Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

³⁶At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command.

³⁷Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

³⁸Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

³⁹When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!"

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What was the problem in the story?
5		2.) How was Elijah going to prove that God was, and is, the one true God?
5		3.) What happened on the altar to Baal? What happened on the altar of the Lord?
5		4.) Why do you think the Lord lit Elijah's fire?

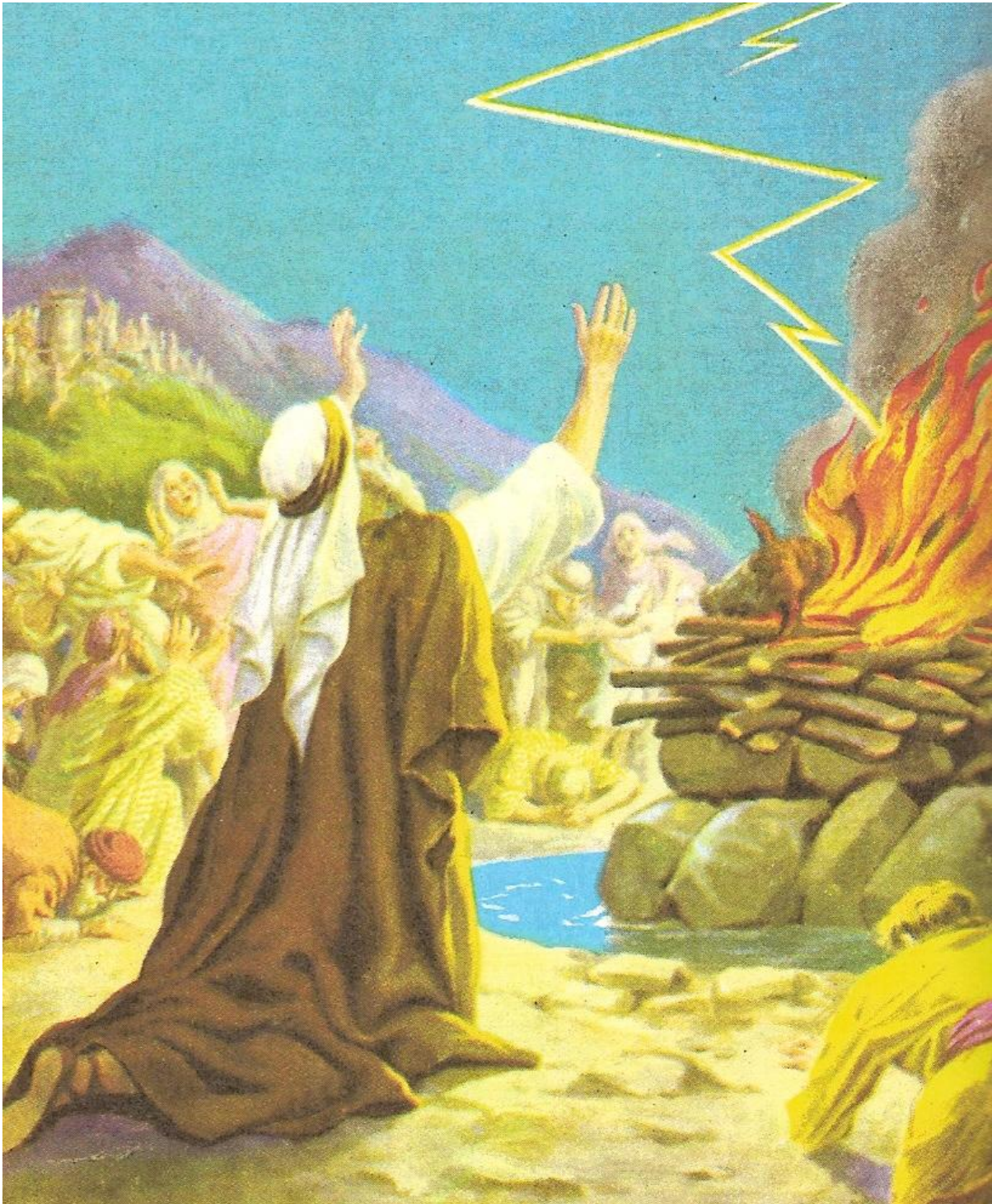
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Luke 4:8</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE __/__/__

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1 Kings 18:16-39



Picture from *The Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes* by Kenneth N. Taylor. Moody Press: Copyright © 1956.

ELIJAH'S FIRE IS LIT BY GOD

1 Kings 18:16-39



The fire of the Lord burned up everything on the altar

ELIJAH'S FIRE IS LIT BY GOD

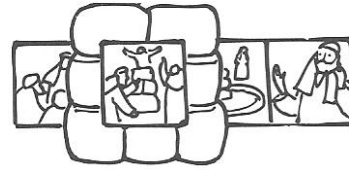
1 Kings 18:16-39

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: SLIDE SHOWS

Students will make slide shows to recall the key events from the story of God lighting the fire to show that he is the one true God.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. White Cardstock
2. Slide Show Pattern
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the “Slide Show Pattern” onto 67 lb. white cardstock for each student.
2. Have students color the four pictures and the slide show viewer with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Allow students to cut out the film strip (as one piece) and the slide show viewer. Cut the two slits on either side of the altar to allow the film strip to slide through.
4. Slip the film strip through the slits to retell the key events from the story.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their slide shows, remind them that God desires for us to worship him only. God demonstrated his power by lighting Elijah’s fire even though it was drenched by water. The people’s response was to cry out, “The Lord-he is God!”

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

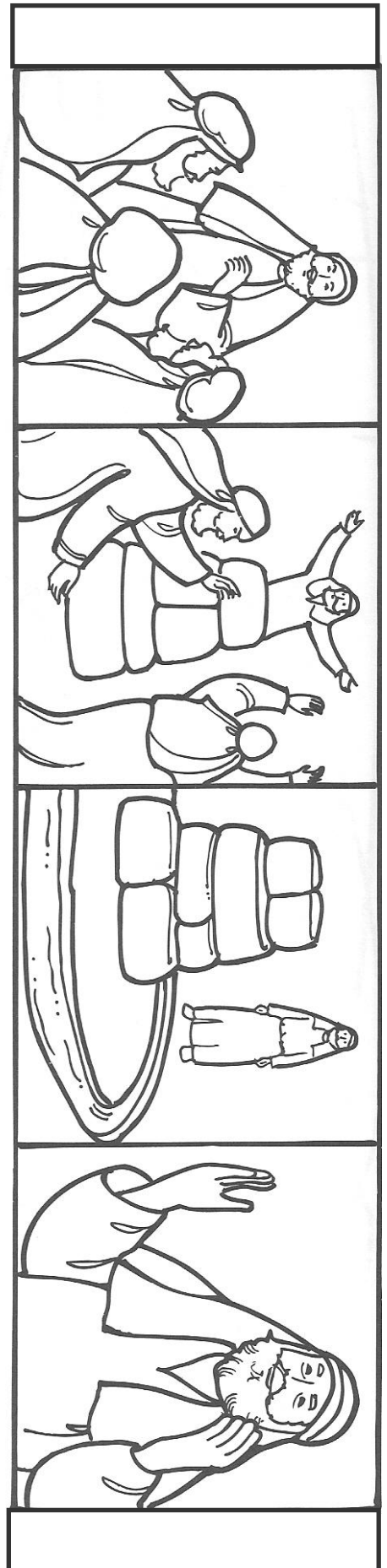
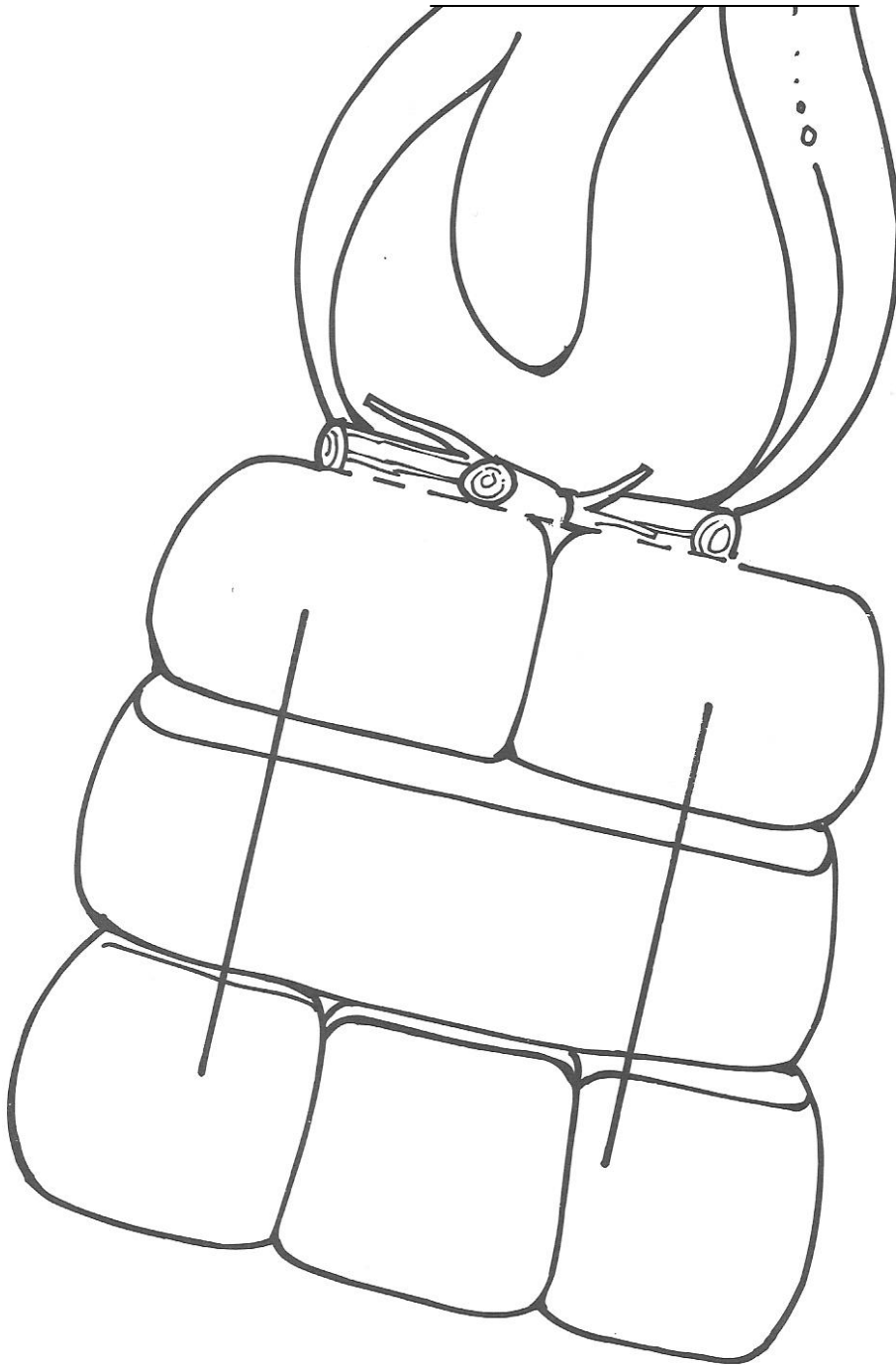
MEMORY VERSE

“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’”
Luke 4:8

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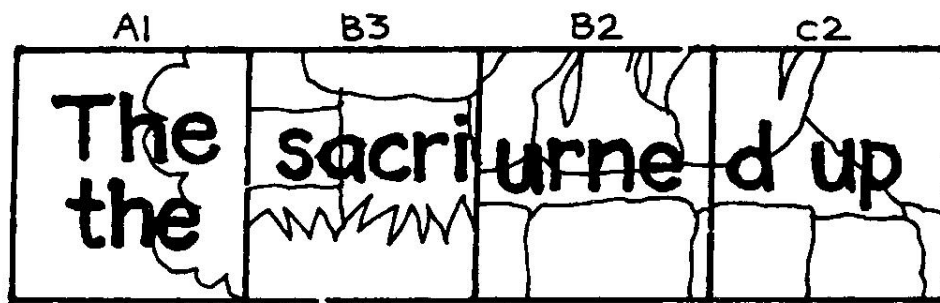
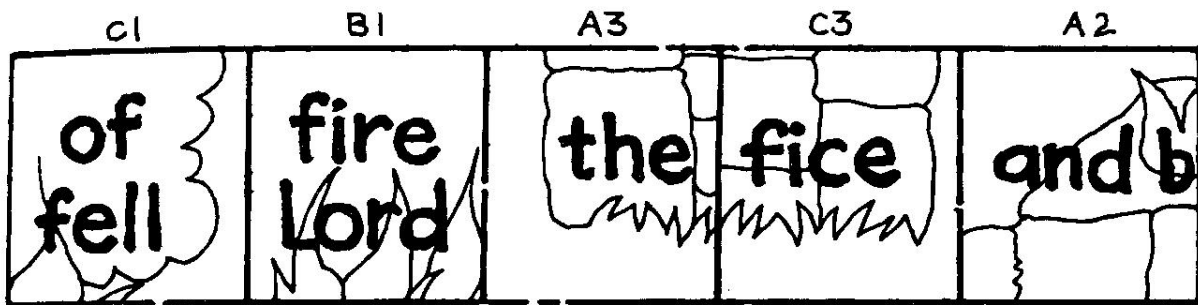
SLIDE SHOW PATTERN



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Find the box marked A1 at the top of the page. Copy what you see in the box into the empty A1 square in the grid. Fill in the other squares. (Or, cut the squares at the top of the page apart and paste them in their proper places.) Read 1 Kings 18:20-39 to learn about Elijah's contest.



	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON 1 KINGS 18:16-39

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King Ahab asked Elijah why he was making trouble for the Israelites. Elijah explained that it had not rained for a while because he and the people of Israel were worshipping idols.

Elijah told King Ahab to have the people of Israel join him on Mount Carmel. He also told the king to bring 400 prophets of Baal and 400

prophets of Asherah.

When the people of Israel and the prophets gathered on Mount Carmel, Elijah said, "If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."

Elijah wanted the people to see which god they should follow after. So Elijah had the prophets of Baal get a bull, cut it into pieces, and place it on top of an altar. Elijah was going to do the same thing.

Elijah said, "The god who answers by fire – he is God." The prophets of Baal called out all day, "O Baal answer us!" But nothing happened.

Elijah began to tease the prophets of Baal. "Shout louder!" he said. "Maybe Baal is sleeping and must be awakened." So they shouted louder and began slashing themselves with spears and swords until they began to bleed.

When nothing happened, Elijah called the people to come to him. He rebuilt the altar of the Lord which was in ruins and dug a trench around the altar. He arranged the wood on the altar, cut a bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. Then he had the people fill four large jars full of water to pour on the offering and the wood. This happened three times. Everything was completely wet!

Elijah prayed to the Lord that he would turn the hearts of the people back to Him. The fire of the Lord fell and burned up the bull, the wood, the stones, the soil, and all the water! The people watched and were amazed. They fell down and cried, "The Lord – he is God! The Lord – he is God!"

For more details, please read 1 Kings 18:16-39 in the Bible.

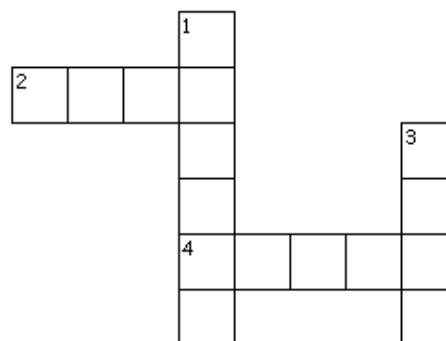
QUESTIONS

1. What was the problem in the story?
2. How was Elijah going to prove that God was, and is, the one true God?
3. What happened on the altar to Baal? What happened on the altar of the Lord?
4. Why do you think the Lord lit Elijah's fire?

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, "It is written:
'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" Luke 4:8

CROSSWORD



Across

2. a false god
4. built of stones

Down

1. a prophet of the Lord
3. what burned up the bull, wood, stones, soil, and water