**Bible Stories for Young Children** 

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

## ELIJAH RUNS AWAY / GOD SENDS ELIJAH BACK TO ISRAEL / ELISHA FOLLOWS ELIJAH

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1 KINGS 19:1–21 ELIJAH RUNS AWAY / GOD SENDS ELIJAH BACK TO ISRAEL / ELISHA FOLLOWS ELIJAH File no. 74

When the people saw God set fire to Elijah's sacrifice they cried out, 'The Lord is God! The Lord is God!'

But when King Ahab told Jezebel what Elijah had done and that her prophets had been killed, she was angry. She hated God.

She sent a message to Elijah saying, 'I will get rid of you before tomorrow is over.'



Elijah was frightened and ran away. He kept on running until he got to the desert.

Then he lay down under a tree and asked God to let him die. He went off to sleep.

Then Elijah felt someone touch him. It was an angel who said, 'Get up and eat.'

Elijah opened his eyes and, by his head, he saw a cake and a jar of water. He sat up and ate and drank then went back to sleep.





The angel touched him again and said, 'Sit up and eat.'

Elijah got up and had something to eat and drink. The food made him strong, strong enough to walk on further .

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He walked for forty days and forty nights until he came to Mount Horeb. This was the place where God had spoken to Israel, long, long ago. Elijah was very tired. He lay down in a cave and went to sleep.

He woke up when he heard a voice.

The Lord was asking him, 'Elijah! What are you doing here?'

Elijah answered, 'Lord, they have killed all of Your prophets. I am the only one left and they want to kill me.'

The Lord said to Elijah, 'Go and stand in front of Me on the mountain.' Elijah stood on the mountain and a very strong wind blew. The Lord was not in the wind.

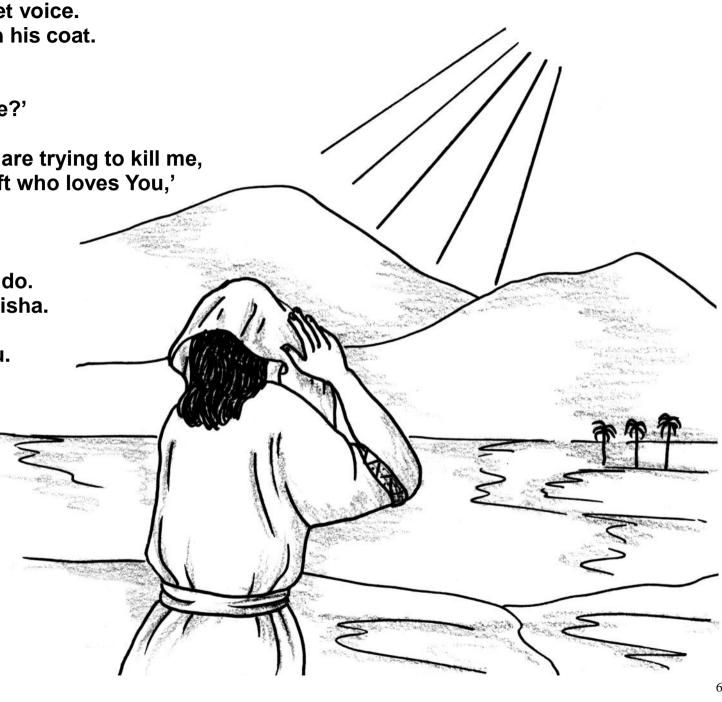
Then an earthquake shook the mountain. The Lord was not in the earthquake.

After that, a fire swept up the mountain. But the Lord was not in the fire. Then, Elijah heard a quiet voice. He covered his face with his coat.

The voice asked him, 'Elijah! Why are you here?'

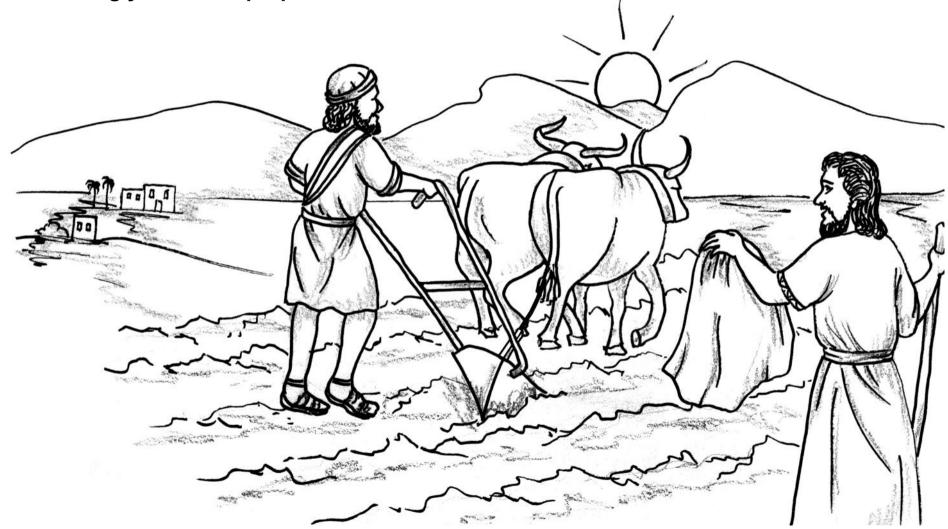
'I am here because they are trying to kill me, and I am the only one left who loves You,' answered Elijah.

'Go back,' said the Lord, 'I have things for you to do. One of them is to find Elisha. Anoint him to be a prophet after you. I have seven thousand people who love and trust Me.



Elijah found Elisha ploughing the ground with his team of oxen.

Elijah threw his coat over him saying, 'God is calling you to be a prophet.'



Elisha said goodbye to his father and mother and followed Elijah. He learned to become a prophet of God.

