

## Lesson 140: Elijah Challenges the Prophets of Baal

[1 Kings 18:16-40](#)

**Youtube Link for Teachers:** <https://youtu.be/F-L7tM5WJmg>

**Children's Bible Story Video:** <https://youtu.be/Y4e96RCdRnM>

**Worship Theme:** God is the one true God.

**Memory Verse:** "You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:3)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Our God Is So Good <https://youtu.be/JUMy8rZvqjY>
2. Our God Is Awesome <https://youtu.be/TU6HfxJXLvQ>
3. Jesus, I Trust You [https://youtu.be/Vq\\_yln2huAM](https://youtu.be/Vq_yln2huAM)

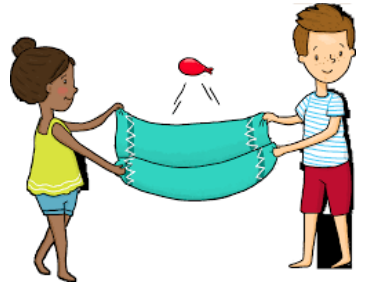
### Pray

**Song:** Select songs from the list above.

### Icebreaker: "Waterballoon"

Materials Needed: Balloons filled with water, 2 water buckets, 2 towels

1. Divide the children into two equal groups.
2. Let the first group choose 8 children to play the game. Two towels will be given to the group. They have to divide into two groups of 4 children and stand apart from each other.
3. Teacher will place 1 waterballoon on the towel, and the children have to throw it to pass to the other group. But, the other team will try to catch the waterballoon by standing in between them.
4. The team will get a point for each waterballoon they successfully pass to their group.
5. After the game, explain to the children that every game has a winner or a loser.  
Today we will learn about the challenge between God's prophet and the the prophets of the false god, Baal.



### Introduction:

If someone asked you to choose to take either a fake flower or a real flower, what would you choose? Or what if someone offered you fake food and real food? Or what if someone offered you fake money and real money? Today, we will learn about Israelites who chose to worship a fake god instead of the one true God. Who do you think you will choose?

### Bible Story:

The Israelites had stopped worshipping God and were worshipping a false god called Baal. At this time, Israel was suffering due to drought. The Israel's king, Ahab, and his wife Jezebel thought Baal was the true god. But Elijah, a prophet of the one true God, knew they were worshipping a false god.

So he called the people to Mount Carmel. He proposed a challenge between the prophets of Baal and himself, the only prophet of the true God. He proposed that they make an altar and offer sacrifices to Baal and to God. And they would each ask their god to send down fire to burn up the sacrifices.

Baal's prophets did everything they could. After they asked Baal for fire, they yelled and they danced. They even wounded themselves to show how serious they were, but they didn't get anything. Their god didn't send any fire. Baal was a false god.

Then it was Elijah's turn. Elijah built an altar to the one true God. But Elijah made it harder for himself so that people could see who was the one true God. He built a moat around his altar and poured water all over his sacrifice. He used so much water that it drenched the wood and filled the moat. Elijah asked God one time to burn up the sacrifice. God sent a fire that burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones that made the altar, the dirt under the altar, and the water that filled the moat.

After seeing this mighty act of the one true God, the Israelites remembered that their God was the one true God. They knew that they had been fooled by something that looked right but had no power. The Bible tells us that God is the Lord our God and we are to have no other gods before him.

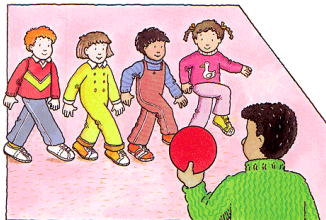
Sometimes, the world tries to tell us that there is something more powerful or better than God. But we have to remember that God created everything in this world. There cannot be anything more powerful or better than the Creator. Our God is one true God who deserves to be worshipped!

### Questions to discuss:

1. Which false god did the Israelites worship? (Baal)
2. What was the challenge between Elijah and the false prophets of Baal? (They will offer sacrifice and ask their god to send down fire)
3. What did Baal do when his prophets prayed to him? (Nothing)
4. Why did Baal do nothing? (Because he was a fake god; he was not a god)
5. What did God do when Elijah prayed to him? (He sent down fire strong enough to burn up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the water)
6. Who is the one true God? (Our God is the one true God!)

### Game: "One True God"

Materials needed: Different color chroma (or paper) to represent "One true God" and "idol"



1. Have all the students stand in line in the back of the classroom. (Or you can play this game outside)
2. When the teacher lifts up the sign for "One true God" and says, "I believe in the one true God," children can move forward. If the children don't move, they lose the game.
3. When the teacher lifts up the sign for "Idol" and says, "I believe in an idol," then everyone must stop. If the children move, they lose the game.
4. Teacher should change from "One true God" to "Idol" fast to make it harder for the children to follow.
5. The child who touches the wall first wins the game.
6. After the game, explain to the children that there is only one true God, and it is only for him that we will live our lives.

**Memory Verse:** "You shall have no other gods before me."(Exodus 20:3)

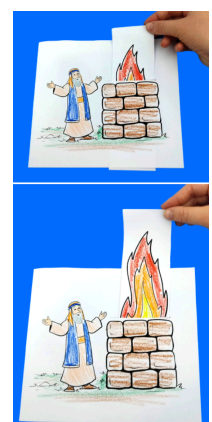
### Craft: (Coloring Page)

Materials Needed: Print craft paper, crayons, scissors



1. Cut the dotted line on the craft paper.
2. Cut out the flame and the box together.
3. Color Elijah, the altar and the flame.
4. Cut the top of the altar and slip in the flame with the rectangle so that it can move up and down.
5. Explain to the students that God has the power to do anything including setting fire and burning up on sacrifice and altar that was drenched in water. Our God is the one

true God!



**Song:** Select songs from the list above

### Pray

#### Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Jesus honors those who follow him. Having a relationship with Jesus always requires sacrifice but always brings peace and assurance. Today's passage makes clear that the culture of the time led many people away from the one true God and to the false god Baal. How does your culture lead you away from God? What specific beliefs, hopes, and philosophies try to take people away from God? Pray that God will lead you to a place of confidence in him and passion to serve him through leading this worship.

