Parents Connect

Bible Story:

Elijah and the Great Rain (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1-2,20-45)

Bible Phrase:

"Elijah prayed and God sent rain" (James 5:18).

Bible Truth:

God is the only true God.

God's Unfolding Story



1. God created everything.



2. People disobeyed God.



3. God chose a special people.



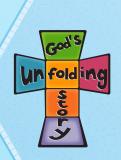
4. God sent Jesus to help us.



5. Jesus began the Church.



6. Jesus is preparing heaven for us.



Unfolding God's Story for Parents

The Bible is full of stories of God's leadership in the lives of the people in the Bible. This month take time to reflect on God's direction in your own life. Talk with your preschooler about how we can seek and pray, as God reveals next steps to us.

Ask: "What happens when it rains?" (we get wet,

plants get watered, lakes get filled up, etc.)

Ask: "What happens when it does not rain? (plants die, lakes and rivers dry up, food for people and animals won't grow)
Say: "The Bible has a story about when it did not rain for a long, long time."

Open your Bible to 1 Kings 18 and tell the story.

Bible Story

Elijah and the Great Rain (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1-2,20-45)

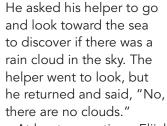
King Ahab was the king of Israel, but he was not a good king. Ahab led the Israelites away from worshipping God alone. Because of the people's disobedience, God sent a drought, so it didn't rain. Water was scarce, so crops didn't grow and people and animals lacked water.

For over three years no rain fell. The rivers and streams dried up as well as the grass. The people and the animals had only a little food and water. It was a very sad and difficult time.

God wanted the Israelites to choose to worship and serve only Him. God sent Elijah to speak to the king. Elijah asked the king and the people to come to the top of a mountain. On the mountain, God showed His power by sending down fire from heaven. The people realized they had not followed God's commands. They shouted, "Yahweh, He is God!"

Then Elijah told the king to prepare for rain.

Elijah and his helper went to the top of a mountain that overlooked the sea. Elijah bowed down and began to pray.



At least seven times Elijah prayed to God and asked for rain. After each prayer the helper would go look to see if there were rain clouds in the sky, but each time he would return and say, "No,

there are no clouds." Then at last Elijah's helper came back and said, "There is a cloud about the size of a man's hand coming from the sea!"

Elijah told his helper, "Go and tell the king the rain is coming!"

In a little while, the sky grew dark, the winds began to blow hard, and then a great rain fell on the earth. The rivers began to rise and the streams began to flow again. The drought was over! Now the people would have the water they needed. The Israelites were sad that they had disobeyed God. Elijah and the Israelites were thankful that God at last had sent rain.

Ask: "How long did it not rain?" (3 years)
Pray thanking God for hearing our prayers and giving us direction.

Activity SuggestionWater Play (or Make a Cloud)

Water Play: Provide a dishpan of water, funnels, plastic cups and bowls. Supervise and talk about the story while your preschooler free plays pouring and catching the water.

Make a Cloud - provide construction paper, glue and cotton balls. Talk about the story and Elijah's prayer as your preschooler glues cotton balls to make a cloud. Cut it out. Add rain with markers.



