8

Elijah's Hand-Me-Down Cloak

Key References: 2 Kings 2:1-15; *Prophets and Kings*, chap. 17, pp. 217-228; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 5, pp. 55-60; Our Beliefs, nos. 5, 17, 14.















powertext

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 61.

powerpoint



God's Spirit gives us the power to live and work for Him.

Have you ever had to say goodbye to a good friend? Did you want to talk about it? Did you do anything to prepare for what you knew was going to happen?

The early morning sun brightened the path for the two travelers walking briskly along the dusty highway. The old man who strode firmly was the prophet Elijah. Following him was Elisha, whom God had appointed to succeed Elijah as a prophet and spiritual leader in Israel.

Elisha knew that his master would be taken to heaven that day. What an absolutely awesome thought!

Suddenly Elijah stopped. He looked at his friend and said to him, "Stay here; the Lord has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha was determined not to leave Elijah on his very last day on earth! "As surely as the Lord lives and as you live," he said, "I will not leave you."

When they arrived in Bethel, some of the students from the school of the prophets surrounded Elisha. "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master from you today?" they asked.

"Yes, I know," Elisha answered. The crowd jostled him, but his eyes never left Elijah.

8

Sunday

READ Read 2 Kings 2:1-8 and this week's lesson, "Elijah's Hand-Me-Down Cloak."

MAKE Use markers or glitter to write the power text. Don't forget to include the reference. Place it where you will see it often.

LEARN Begin to memorize the power text.

PRAY Ask God for power in your life to live for Him.

Monday

READ Read 2 Kings 2:9-15.

REVIEW Review the power text.

THINK How can you model to others a Spirit-filled life?

PRAY Ask God to fill you up with His Holy Spirit.

Tuesday

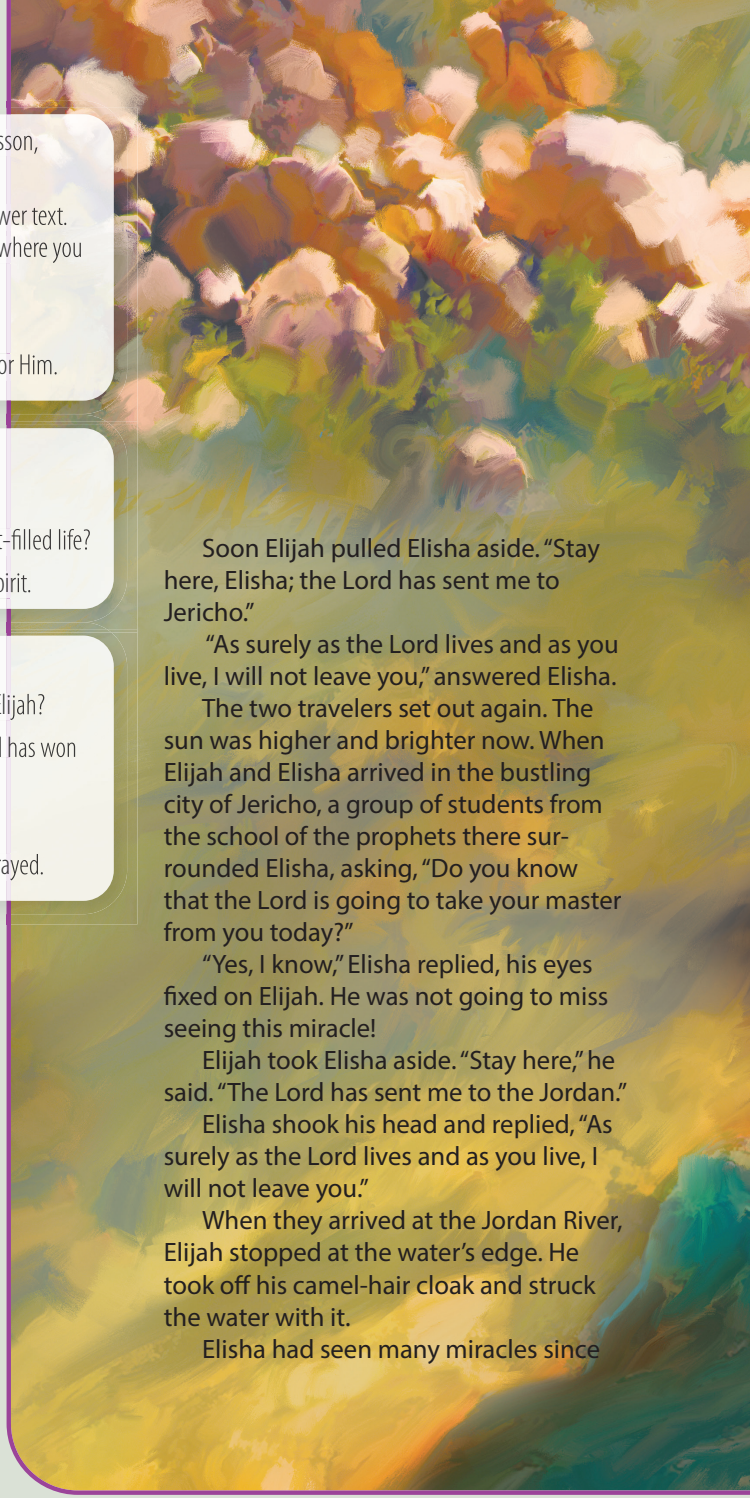
READ Read Psalm 68:17.

THINK What was the chariot that came for Elijah?

SHARE Tell someone about the victories God has won for you. Describe specific experiences.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray as you think Elisha might have prayed.



Soon Elijah pulled Elisha aside. "Stay here, Elisha; the Lord has sent me to Jericho."

"As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you," answered Elisha.

The two travelers set out again. The sun was higher and brighter now. When Elijah and Elisha arrived in the bustling city of Jericho, a group of students from the school of the prophets there surrounded Elisha, asking, "Do you know that the Lord is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, his eyes fixed on Elijah. He was not going to miss seeing this miracle!

Elijah took Elisha aside. "Stay here," he said. "The Lord has sent me to the Jordan."

Elisha shook his head and replied, "As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you."

When they arrived at the Jordan River, Elijah stopped at the water's edge. He took off his camel-hair cloak and struck the water with it.

Elisha had seen many miracles since

he had been called to follow Elijah. Now he watched the water of the river divide—just as when his ancestors had crossed this very same river to enter the Promised Land. Elisha followed Elijah across the river.

On the other side of the river, Elijah turned to the younger prophet and asked him, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

Elisha already knew. He wanted to be treated as elder sons were treated. The custom was that the firstborn son's birthright was to inherit two-thirds of the father's property. He wanted a double portion. Not a double portion of riches. Elijah had no riches. But Elijah had God's Spirit upon him. Elisha knew that only with a double portion of God's Spirit would he be able to carry on God's work of spiritual reform that was begun by the prophet Elijah.



8

Wednesday

READ Read Revelation 5:11.

THINK Have you ever been handed down a special family heirloom? If not, ask the adults in your family if they have. How did it feel to receive that gift?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to give you the gift of His Spirit.

Thursday

READ Read Acts 2:2-11.

THINK How did God's Spirit give those people the power to live and work for Him? Do you think that's what they expected from the Holy Spirit?

TALK Ask an adult to tell you about a time God's Spirit gave them power. Discuss what was the evidence of the Holy Spirit's power.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for the promise of His power.

Friday

READ Read John 14:26, 27.

SHARE Share with your family something you have learned from this week's story.

WRITE Write a poem about the power of God's Spirit.

SAY Say your power text from memory.

PRAY Ask God for the opportunity to reach out to others in His power with the message of His grace.

"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah answered, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not."

So they walked on and talked together. Suddenly a chariot of fire pulled by horses of fire separated the two travelers from each other, taking Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.

As his master was being taken to heaven, Elisha cried, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!"

Elisha stood gazing into the sky even when there was nothing to see anymore. Finally he picked up Elijah's familiar cloak. He turned and retraced his steps to the river. Elisha trusted that God's Spirit now rested on him and would guide him with wisdom and power. Elisha expected that God would accomplish great things through him, just as He had done through Elijah. So he stepped out in faith, empowered by God's Spirit. When he struck the Jordan River with Elijah's cloak, the water parted, and he crossed to the other side on dry land (see 2 Kings 2:1-14).



HE LEADS US

Instructions: Start with List 1 and alternately merge every other letter from both lists to make a Bible verse.

List 1

TEODILEPOFOALAMEILACOEYUL
FTEODILACOEYUCMNADONBTN
WNFRVROE

List 2

HLRWLKEYURMLHRHWLWTHVR
ORIEHLRWLWTHVROROIGNGIGO
HOADOEEMR

“— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — — —— — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —;
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — — — — — — —
— — — — — — — — — — —.”