



LESSON 8

REFERENCES: 2 KINGS 2:1-18; *PROPHETS AND KINGS*, PP. 224-228.

Up, Up, and Away!

Do you want to go to heaven? What do you want to see there? What do you want to do? The Bible tells us that Elijah was taken to heaven.

E

lijah woke up. A beautiful smile spread over his face. Today was the day! Today was his last day on earth. God had told him so. Today God would take

him to heaven!

Elijah and his special helper, Elisha, talked.

“I am going to Bethel to visit the school of the prophets,” Elijah said. “You stay here.”



Memory Verse

“God . . . gives power and strength to his people.”

PSALM 68:35, NIV.

The Message

God gives us power.

But Elisha also knew that this was Elijah’s last day on earth. “I will never leave you!” Elisha exclaimed. “I will go with you.”

Elijah and Elisha started on their journey. Elijah visited many of his friends that day. He told them goodbye.

Late that afternoon God told Elijah to cross over the Jordan River. The river was deep, and there was no bridge. Elijah stopped

on the riverbank and took off his cloak. He rolled it up and hit the water with it. The water divided, and there was a dry path for Elijah and Elisha to walk across!

“What can I do for you before the Lord takes me away?” Elijah asked his friend.

“I want to carry on your work,” Elisha said. “I want help from the Lord. I want Him to give me His power like He gave it to you.”

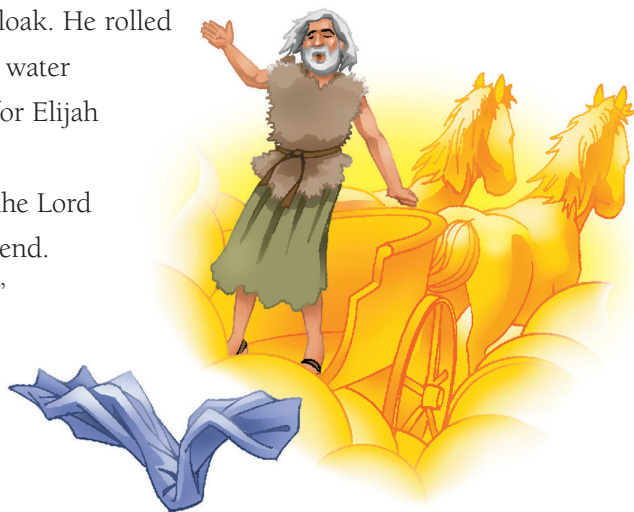
“If you see me when I am taken away, you will have what you are asking for,” Elijah answered.

Suddenly, out of nowhere, a chariot of fire appeared, pulled by horses of fire. The chariot drove right between the two men. Then Elijah was lifted up into the chariot and quickly carried to heaven by a strong wind called a whirlwind.

Elijah dropped his cloak as the chariot took him up. Elisha picked it up and held it close. He looked up into the sky. He looked as hard as he could, but the chariot of fire and the horses of fire and his friend Elijah had all disappeared.

Elisha walked back to the Jordan River. He stopped and rolled up Elijah’s cloak, just as Elijah had, and he struck the water with it. The water of the river divided! Elisha walked back across the Jordan River on dry land. Now he was sure that he would carry on Elijah’s work.

Elisha knew that God had given him power. He would serve God just as Elijah had. For all of his days he was God’s servant, and he used the power God gave him to help others. God will give you power too—power to obey Him and to do good all the days of your life.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Read the lesson story together every day this week and use the motions to review the memory verse. (See page 61.)

SUNDAY

Read 2 Kings 2:1-18. Ask: How would you feel if you knew you were going to heaven today?

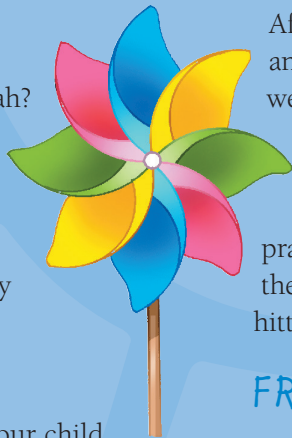
Help your child share the chariot made in Sabbath School with someone today. Encourage your child to tell about Elijah's trip to heaven when giving the chariot away.

Sing a song about heaven.

MONDAY

Ask: Where did God take Elijah? How do you think it felt to ride in God's chariot?

Hold a toy pinwheel in a breeze. Use a fan to blow things away (paper, leaves, etc.); then try to blow pebbles or rocks.



TUESDAY

Play the double game. Have your child ask you for a certain amount of coins. Give them double. Explain that double is twice as much. Help them understand that Elisha wanted double the power God had given Elijah.

Ask God for His power to do what is right; then thank Him for it.

WEDNESDAY

Compare God's power to electric power. Let your child turn a flashlight off and on. Then remove the batteries. Compare this to the connection we need to Jesus so we can receive His power to do good.



THURSDAY

Choose a distance about six or eight feet away. Ask your child to attempt to jump to that point. After several unsuccessful attempts, lift them up and carry them to the chosen point. Explain that we cannot do some things for ourselves and we need help. Ask: Whom will you ask when you need power to do good? What do you need God to help you do today? Talk and pray with your child about one thing for which they need God's power (obeying, being kind, not hitting, etc.).

FRIDAY

During family worship, read *Prophets and Kings*, page 226 (second paragraph), page 227 (first paragraph), and page 228 (last paragraph). Ask: What did Elisha ask for? Did he receive it? Use props as you act out the story together.

Sing "God Is So Good" or another praise song; then thank God for all He does for your family.