

UNIT 3
SESSION 4
Bonus Teaching
Hour for
3s-Pre-K

A COUPLE HELPED ELISHA



TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

SNACK

Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Walk around the room and clap a rhythm. Invite the children to repeat the rhythm as they move to the group-time area.

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

A COUPLE HELPED ELISHA—BASED ON 2 KINGS 4:8-17

- » Open a Bible to 2 Kings 4. Tell that today's Bible story is about a man who was given what he needed while traveling and telling of God's love.

SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- » Elisha walked from town to town, telling people about God's love. When he came to a town, he often felt tired and hungry. He needed a place to eat and sleep.
- » Every time Elisha went to Shunem, he ate a meal at the home of a man and his wife.
- » One day the woman said to her husband, "Elisha helps people know about God. Let us build a room for Elisha."
- » The couple built the room on the roof of their house.
- » They placed a bed, table, lamp, and chair inside the room.
- » Elisha now had a special place to rest when he traveled to Shunem, and he was thankful.

REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- » Who walked from town to town telling people about God's love?
- » What did the man and his wife build for Elisha?
- » What did they place in the room?

EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- » Tell that people can give what they have to help others. Invite boys and girls to say the Life Point with you.

ROOM

YOUR TEACHING PARTNER(S)

DATE OF USE

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God helps all people.

LIFE POINT

People can give what they have to help others.

UNIT VERSE

Love your neighbors.
Leviticus 19:18

WEEKLY VERSE

Give to God's people when they need it. *Romans 12:13*

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of "Happy Birthday":

People give what they have.

People give what they have.

They give to help others.

People give what they have.

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open the Bible to Romans 12:13. Say: "Give to God's people when they need it. Romans 12:13."

Guide the preschoolers to say the verse. Direct them to clap their hands each time they say a word.

PRAY

Ask the preschoolers to tell any prayer requests they may have. Lead them to pray for the requests mentioned. Invite interested preschoolers to pray.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Emphasize: People can give what they have to help others.

1. **Play musical chairs.** Place the chairs in a circle facing outward. Place one less chair than the number of children. Guide the preschoolers to march around the chairs while you play or sing a song. Instruct them to sit in a chair when the music stops. Encourage the child who is still standing to mention a way that families can help others. Remind the boys and girls that the couple fixed meals for Elisha and prepared a room for him. Repeat several times, making sure to keep the same number of chairs in the game as when you started.
2. **Make heart chains.** Provide strips of different color paper and heart cut outs or heart stickers. Guide the preschoolers to attach heart shapes to several strips or paper. Suggest they use crayons or washable markers to add their own heart designs. Encourage them to draw pictures of someone being a helper. Help them to make loops with each strip taping them together one by one creating a chain. Ask the children what they think about when they see a heart (*love*). Invite the children tell ways they can show love. Suggest the children think of a place at home they could hang their heart chains to remember that we can love and help people by giving.

3. **Prepare a plate.** Give each preschooler a paper plate. Guide the boys and girls to use crayons to draw their favorite foods on their plates. Provide cut outs from magazines of different food items for boys and girls to glue to their plates. Remind boys and girls that a couple helped Elisha when he visited their town. They would cook meals for him, and they prepared a special room for him. Ask the children to name things they would like to cook for someone who might visit their houses.

4. **Play out the Bible story.** Encourage the children to play out the Bible story as you narrate. Urge the children to play out the story using their ideas. Encourage the children to take turns being different people from the Bible story. Comment that the couple gave what they had and helped Elisha.

CLEAN UP

Comment that the couple was kind to Elisha. Suggest that when we leave the room clean and neat, we are being kind to our friends at church.

PLAY A GAME

Place plastic hula hoops on the floor around the room. Play music or sing a song. Guide the preschoolers to move around the room while the music is playing. Explain that they need to stand in a hoop when the music stops. Stop the music. Repeat the Bible Verse. Start the music and lead the children to move around the room again. Stop the music and ask a child to recall a fact from the Bible story. Continue playing until pickup time.

DISMISS

Help children gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.

