GOD SENT RAIN



LEADER BIBLE STUDY



CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following pages.)

What is challenging for us is simple for God. Say that aloud.

The Israelites found themselves in a state of rebellion against God again. Under the rule of King Ahab, Baal worship was prevalent. The situation was so bad that the Bible points out, "Ahab did more to anger the LORD God of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him" (1 Kings 16:33).

As a result of their sin, it had not rained for three years. Famine was rampant. God chose the prophet Elijah to bring a message to Ahab and the people—He is God, and there is no other. God worked in miraculous ways to prove He is the one true God.

Imagine this scene. Elijah stood alone, facing the rebellious Israelites, the king, and all the prophets of Baal and Asherah. Even as the last remaining prophet of God, and how lonely he must have felt at times, Elijah trusted the Lord and stood his ground.

Despite the Israelites' total acceptance of idol worship, part of them clearly still understood who the one true God really was. When Elijah confronted them about their wavering beliefs, the people stood silent. No one said a word. There was nothing but silence, and sometimes silence speaks louder than words.

The silence that followed was even louder as the prophets of Baal cried out to a god that never answered. When Elijah called upon the Lord, God answered with fire—a fire that consumed the altar and everything around it. Finally, the Israelites found their voices. Everyone fell facedown, proclaiming, "The LORD, he is God!" Then God sent rain.

God showed that He is the one true God. God alone deserves our honor and worship. He can do anything because He is God. There is no other.

TEACHER TIP

A baby's vision is the least developed sense at birth. For the first 3 months, babies cannot focus on objects more than 8- to 10-inches away. Encourage a baby to focus on an object, then visually track it. By 5–8 months, babies are developing hand-eye coordination. Offer activities that involve moving objects from one hand to another. By 9-12 months, babies begin to use their eyes and hands together. Guide a baby to look at books and turn pages, and to find hidden toys.

GOD



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God helps me.

LIFE POINT

God helps us.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

1 Kings 17:1; 18:1-2,41-46

BIBLE VERSE

Who can bring the rain? Jeremiah 14:22

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