

### **Bible Story for Toddlers**

Elijah was God's prophet, and Elisha was his helper. It was time for Elijah to go to heaven. Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away." Elisha said, "I want the same spirit that gives you power." Elijah said, "If you see me when I am taken away, you will have it. If you do not see me, then you will not." As they kept walking, a chariot of fire came down and separated them. Elisha saw Elijah taken to heaven in a whirlwind! Then Elisha put on Elijah's cloak and became the next prophet to Israel. God was with Elisha and gave him the spirit he had asked for.

### **Babies Gospel Gems**

Elisha was Elijah's helper.

God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind.

God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.

### **Sing a Bible story song**

Sing to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" :  
There is just one God; He is the One we serve!  
He sent His Son to rescue us; there is just one God!"

**Say** • *There is one God. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah. The Holy Spirit helps us when we trust in Jesus.*

### **Play peekaboo**

Place a baby in a highchair or on the floor facing you. Use a receiving blanket to hide your face; then lower the blanket and say peekaboo.

**Say** • *There is one God. God took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elijah disappeared. God gave Elisha the same spirit that was in Elijah.*

### **Move the water**

Cover a table and the floor below with towels. Place a plastic tub filled with a few inches of water on the table. Provide funnels, scoops, or cups for kids and other water play accessories. Challenge kids to attempt dividing the water into two sections.

**Say** • *None of you were able to divide the water into two sections! Only one Person can divide water like that. Can you guess who that is? [Allow answers.] That's right! Only God can do something like that! In today's Bible story, God parted the Jordan River when Elijah hit the water with his cloak. What other amazing things did God do in today's Bible story?*

### **Experiment with water and air**

Use an eyedropper to place droplets of water on a sheet of wax paper for each child. Give children straws. Demonstrate to them how to move water around on the wax paper by blowing through the straw.

**Say** • *Did you know you could move water with only your breath? Pretty cool! Now, this is not very much water. Do you think you could move a whole river with only your breath? No! In today's Bible story, God made the river split in two for Elijah and Elisha to go through. Only the true God can do that! How many gods are there? There is one true God.*

### **Activity: Talents to teach**

Invite each family member to brainstorm a talent that she has. Ask them to teach the rest of the group how to do whatever talent or skill they have come up with. Be prepared to help kids come up with talents and teach their talents to others.

**Say** • *Most talents and skills can be learned with good teachers and lots of practice, but today we will learn/learned about a time God gave a man named Elisha special power just as God had given special power to Elijah.*

### **Reflection and prayer (5 minutes)**

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?

What does this story teach me about myself?

Whom can I tell about this story?