



GOD'S CREATURES TELL THE STORY

Elijah and the Prophets of Baal

Teacher's Packet

FREE ♦ PHOTOCOPY FREELY FOR YOUR CLASS

Five lesson plans, discussion questions for two age bands, a reproducible Bible Detective worksheet, a ten-question quiz with answer key, background notes for the teacher, and activities that use what is already in your kitchen drawer. Built for readers ages 11–17 from the full narrative of *Elijah and the Prophets of Baal*.

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How to Use This Packet

Three tracks, one book. Pick the one that matches your setting and ignore the other two — nothing here depends on doing all three. Everything in this packet may be photocopied for your own class or family.

Track One — Family Devotions (two weeks)

- Read one chapter per night. Thirteen chapters plus the epilogue fills fourteen evenings.
- Close each reading with one question from page 4, chosen for the age at your table.
- Assign each family member a reporter to follow — Penny, Professor Hoot, or Dominic — and have them report what their reporter noticed that the others missed.
- Use the four devotion starters and the prayer on page 6 for the two Sunday evenings.

Track Two — Sunday School (four weeks)

- **Week 1 — The Problem.** Chapters 1–4. A nation that has quietly changed gods, and a drought aimed squarely at the god of rain.
- **Week 2 — The Preparation.** Chapters 5–7. Ravens, a widow’s last meal, and a challenge delivered to a hostile court.
- **Week 3 — The Power.** Chapters 8–10. Carmel, the twelve stones, the fire, and the cloud the size of a hand.
- **Week 4 — The Presence.** Chapters 11–13 and the epilogue. A threat, a collapse, and a whisper.

Lesson plans one through five on page 3 map onto these four weeks with one week doubled; most teachers combine lessons four and five if they have only four sessions.

Track Three — Homeschool (across subjects)

- **History.** Slot Ahab’s reign into a ninth-century-BC ancient Near East unit.
- **Geography.** Map Cherith, Zarephath, Samaria, Mount Carmel, Jezreel, Beersheba, and Horeb. The distances are the story.
- **Science.** The water cycle, evaporation, and why a multi-year rain failure collapses an agricultural economy. See page 8 before you teach the fire.
- **Writing.** A first-person account from Obadiah — a believer employed by a hostile administration. See page 7.
- **Art.** Twelve stones, one per tribe. See page 7.

Before the First Session

- Read page 8 first. Three of the science claims in the book’s own appendix are stated more precisely there, and the Carmel numbers are worth having in hand.
- Decide in advance how you will answer the question about the prophets of Baal at the end of chapter 10. Page 8 gives you language for it. Older students will ask.
- Photocopy pages 5 and 9 — one per student. Everything else is for you.
- Have a map available for every session. Nearly every turn in this story is a journey.

A NOTE ON THE AGE BANDS

This packet is banded 11–13 and 14–17. The book’s own appendices still use younger bands from an earlier edition; where the two differ, follow the packet. The narrative includes a queen ordering executions, a public confrontation, and a prophet in genuine despair. It rewards readers who can sit with that.

Five Lesson Plans

Each lesson names a key verse, the chapters to read, one main point, and one activity that can be done in the room. The lessons require the book; the verses are ones the narrative itself puts on the page.

1. The Word That Stopped the Sky

READ Chapters 1–2 · **KEY VERSE** 1 Kings 17:1

Main point: Elijah has no power of his own. He announces what God has decided, and the drought lands on the one thing Baal was worshiped to provide. The confrontation begins three years before anyone lights a fire.

Activity: Read Deuteronomy 28:23–24 aloud. Ask what Israel had been told would happen, and how long ago. Drought here is not weather; it is a covenant God keeping His word.

2. Fed by Ravens, Fed by a Widow

READ Chapters 2–3 · **KEY VERSE** 1 Kings 17:16

Main point: God provides through what is unclean (ravens) and what is empty (a widow down to her last meal). Elijah asks her to feed him *first* — and the asking is the gift.

Activity: Read Luke 4:25–26, where Jesus brings up this widow and a hometown crowd turns on Him for it. Ask why. She was not an Israelite.

3. Standing in the Palace

READ Chapters 4–6 · **KEY VERSE** 1 Kings 18:21

Main point: Israel had not rejected God. Israel had added Baal and kept both, which Elijah calls limping between two opinions. Obadiah shows the cost of faithfulness inside a hostile institution.

Activity: Two columns on the board: what the crowd said they believed, and what the crowd's behavior showed. Then a private list, not collected, of the same two columns for themselves.

4. Fire on Carmel

READ Chapters 7–10 · **KEY VERSE** 1 Kings 18:37

Main point: Elijah's prayer is roughly thirty seconds long and asks for God's reputation, not his own vindication. Compare it to a full day of shouting. Volume is not faith.

Activity: Time both. Read 1 Kings 18:26–29 with a stopwatch running to represent the hours, then read Elijah's prayer in 18:36–37. Ask which one sounds more confident, and why confidence is quiet.

5. The Whisper After the Fire

READ Chapters 11–13 and the Epilogue · **KEY VERSE** 1 Kings 19:12

Main point: The greatest day of Elijah's life is followed by his worst. God does not rebuke him — God feeds him, lets him sleep, and only then asks a question. Correction comes after care.

Activity: Read 1 Kings 19:18 and then Romans 11:2–4. Elijah believed he was the last one. He was wrong by seven thousand. Ask when being alone is real and when it only feels real.

Lessons two and three can be swapped without loss. Lesson five should never be taught first — its weight depends on the class having already watched Elijah win.

Discussion Questions

Choose three or four per session. The best answers in the second band will not be tidy, and a question that ends in an honest “I don’t know yet” has done its work.

AGES 11–13

1. Elijah’s name means “My God is Yahweh.” He walks into a court that worships Baal and says his own name out loud. Why does that matter before he says anything else?
2. God sends ravens — birds the law calls unclean — to feed His prophet. Why might God have chosen those birds on purpose?
3. Elijah asks a starving widow to make his bread first. Was that fair? What would you have thought if you were her son?
4. Obadiah was a believer working for a king who hunted believers. He hid a hundred prophets and kept his job. Was he brave or was he hiding? Can both be true?
5. Elijah pours twelve jars of water on the altar during a drought, when water is the most valuable thing in Israel. Why waste it?
6. The people watch fire fall and shout that the Lord is God. Three verses later the story moves on. Do you think they meant it? What makes you think so?
7. After the fire and the rain, one angry message from the queen sends Elijah running. Have you ever felt brave and afraid about the same thing within a single day?

AGES 14–17

1. The drought targets rain, and Baal was worshiped as the god who sends rain. Explain the confrontation as an argument rather than a punishment. What claim is being tested?
2. Elijah asks, “How long will you waver between two opinions?” The crowd says nothing at all. Why is silence the most honest answer they could have given?
3. Elijah rebuilds an altar that already existed and had been torn down, using twelve stones for twelve tribes at a time when the kingdom was split in two. What is he arguing with architecture?
4. The prophets of Baal are sincere. They genuinely believe, and they suffer for it. Does sincerity count for anything here? What does the story say sincerity cannot do?
5. Immediately after the greatest public vindication in his life, one threat from Jezebel sends Elijah running for the desert. What does that tell you about the relationship between spiritual victory and emotional collapse?
6. God is not in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire — the very things He had just used on Carmel. What is being corrected in Elijah, and what is being corrected in us?
7. Elijah says twice, “I am the only one left.” God answers with a number: seven thousand. Why does God correct the arithmetic instead of the feeling?
8. God’s answer to Elijah’s despair is an assignment — go anoint three people. Why might purpose be a better answer to exhaustion than comfort would have been?
9. James 5:17 insists Elijah was a man with a nature like ours. Why would the New Testament bother to say that about the most dramatic prophet in the Old?

Bible Detective

“A good reporter always checks the details twice.” — Penny the Squirrel. Answer from the book, then verify each one against the verse listed. Answer key on page 10.

NAME _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 9

1. How long did the drought last, and which two verses tell you? (1 Kings 17:1; 18:1)

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2. What did the ravens bring Elijah, and how often? (1 Kings 17:6)

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3. What did Elijah ask the widow of Zarephath to make before she made anything for herself? (1 Kings 17:13)

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4. How many prophets did Obadiah hide, and where did he put them? (1 Kings 18:4)

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5. How many stones did Elijah use to rebuild the altar, and what did each one stand for? (1 Kings 18:31)

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6. How many times did Elijah send his servant to look toward the sea? (1 Kings 18:43)

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7. What did the cloud look like when it finally appeared? (1 Kings 18:44)

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8. **Challenge.** How many people in Israel had God kept for Himself, and how did Elijah find out? (1 Kings 19:18)

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9. **Super Sleuth.** Name the three powerful things God was *not* in at Mount Horeb, and what He was in instead. (1 Kings 19:11–12)

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Family and At-Home

Four devotion starters, a prayer, and one application to carry into the week. None of these require a whiteboard, a craft table, or more than fifteen minutes.

DEVOTION STARTERS

One — Provision you did not arrange. Elijah did not find the ravens; the ravens found him, twice a day, for as long as the brook ran. Go around the table: name one thing this week that arrived without anyone at this table arranging it. Read 1 Kings 17:4–6.

Two — Giving from the bottom. The widow had enough flour for one last meal and gave it away first. Ask what our family has that feels like the last of something — time, patience, money, energy — and what it would mean to give from there. Read 1 Kings 17:12–16.

Three — Two opinions. Elijah’s question is not “do you believe” but “how long will you keep both.” Ask each person to name one place where their words and their calendar disagree. No one has to answer out loud. Read 1 Kings 18:21.

Four — Cared for before corrected. When Elijah wanted to die, God let him sleep and fed him twice before asking a single question. Talk about what our family does first when someone is at the end of themselves. Read 1 Kings 19:5–8.

Five — The whisper. God was not in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire — the loud things He had just used Himself. Ask what our family treats as evidence that God is working, and whether we would notice Him at low volume. Read 1 Kings 19:11–12.

MEMORY VERSES

- *1 Kings 18:21* — the question the whole book turns on.
- *1 Kings 18:39* — what the crowd finally says.
- *1 Kings 19:12* — the gentle whisper.
- *James 5:17* — Elijah was a man with a nature like ours.

A FAMILY PRAYER

Father, You are God and there is no other. Keep us from carrying two loyalties and calling it faith. When we are afraid, feed us and let us rest before You ask anything of us. When we are sure we are the only ones left, correct our arithmetic. Teach us to listen for the whisper, and give us the courage of a man who was made of the same stuff we are. In Jesus’ name, amen.

APPLICATION FOR THE WEEK

Elijah’s servant went back to look at an empty sky seven times. Choose one thing this family is waiting on and pray for it seven times this week — once a day, out loud, together, even when nothing has changed. On the seventh day, talk about what the waiting did to each of you.

And if someone in the family is worn down this week, try God’s order instead of ours: feed them, let them rest, and save the hard question for later. Nobody has to be told it came from 1 Kings 19.

Activities and Projects

Ordinary household supplies only — paper, tape, a bowl, a map, a phone with a stopwatch. Nothing here needs a craft store.

AGES 11–13

Twelve Stones, Twelve Tribes. *Supplies: twelve rocks from the yard, or twelve paper circles and a marker.* Write one tribe on each stone and build the altar on a table. Then say the hard part out loud: when Elijah did this, ten of those tribes were in a different kingdom and had not worshiped at this altar in generations. He built for a nation that no longer existed. Ask what he was claiming.

The Seventh Look. *Supplies: a notebook and a window.* For one week, go to the same window at the same time each day and write one sentence about the sky. On day seven, read all seven entries in order. Then read 1 Kings 18:43–44 and ask what the servant felt on trips two through six.

Whisper and Shout. *Supplies: nothing.* One person shouts a sentence from across the room; everyone writes down what they heard. The same person whispers a different sentence; everyone leans in and writes again. Compare accuracy, not volume.

Raven Rations. *Supplies: bread, a plate, a kitchen scale or a measuring cup.* Portion out what one person could live on for a day, twice over — morning and evening, the way the ravens delivered. Set it on the table and look at it. Then ask how it would feel to receive exactly that much, every day, with no way to store any of it.

What the Names Say. *Supplies: paper and a marker.* Write three names large: Elijah, “My God is Yahweh.” Baal, “lord” or “master.” Obadiah, “servant of Yahweh.” Then arrange them on the table to show who is arguing with whom. The whole book is in those three words.

AGES 14–17

Map the Run. *Supplies: any map app.* Mount Carmel to Jezreel is roughly seventeen to twenty miles. Measure that same distance from your own front door and find where it lands. Then read 1 Kings 18:46 and 19:3 back to back — he ran that distance in triumph, then ran a hundred miles south in fear within about a day. Plot both.

The Cost of Twelve Jars. *Supplies: a measuring cup and a sink.* Pour out twelve jars’ worth of water, measured, into the yard. Then hold a five-minute debate: one side argues Elijah wasted a scarce resource in a famine, the other argues he did the only honest thing available. Judge on evidence from the text, not on who is louder.

Interview Obadiah. *Supplies: paper.* Write eight hundred words in Obadiah’s voice, the night after he met Elijah on the road. He has served a hostile administration for years, hidden a hundred prophets in two caves, and has just been asked to deliver a message that could get him killed. Do not resolve his conflict for him.

Rewrite the Fun Facts. *Supplies: the book’s Appendix E, and a pen.* Several figures in that appendix are estimates presented as facts. Have students find one, decide what the text can actually support, and rewrite it as a single honest sentence. Then read 1 Kings 18:38 and ask why the story does not need the exaggeration.

The Loyalty Audit. *Supplies: one sheet, folded, never collected.* Two columns — what I say I believe, and what my last seven days actually show. Students keep the sheet. The teacher never reads it. Discuss only the experience of writing it.

For the Teacher

Background you will want before a sharp fourteen-year-old asks. Every figure below has been checked.

WHO BAAL WAS, AND WHY THE DROUGHT IS AIMED

Baal was worshiped across Canaan as the storm god — the one who sent rain and made crops grow. A multi-year rain failure is therefore not a general judgment. It is a direct test of the one thing Baal was famous for. The contest on Carmel is the second round, not the first.

HOW LONG WAS THE DROUGHT?

1 Kings 18:1 places Elijah's return in the third year. James 5:17 says three years and six months. Both can stand: the six months likely covers the dry season already underway when Elijah first spoke. If a student catches the difference, they have read well — say so.

THE NUMBERS ON THE MOUNTAIN

Ahab is told to bring 450 prophets of Baal and 400 of Asherah (1 Kings 18:19), but only the 450 are ever described as competing. Obadiah had hidden 100 prophets of the Lord in two caves, fifty in each (18:4). Elijah's "I am the only one left" is how it felt, not how it was — and he knew about Obadiah's hundred.

MOUNT CARMEL

The ridge rises about 1,791 feet and runs to the Mediterranean coast, with the Kishon brook at its base. It is a natural amphitheater, visible from a distance, and it sat near the border of Phoenician influence — Jezebel's home territory. The location is an argument too.

THREE SCIENCE CLAIMS, STATED CAREFULLY

The fire. Scripture says the fire consumed the sacrifice, the wood, the stones, the soil, and the water in the trench (18:38). Consumed, not melted — and Carmel's rock is limestone, not granite. The point is not a temperature; it is that nothing was left to argue with. **The run.** Elijah ran ahead of Ahab's chariot to Jezreel, some seventeen to twenty miles over rough ground (18:46). That is a remarkable feat of endurance, not a footrace against a gallop. **The water cycle.** No evaporation means no clouds means no rain — a working demonstration is a bowl of water in a sunny window.

SEVEN, AND WHAT IT MEANS

Seven signals completeness in Hebrew usage — seven trips to look at the sky, seven thousand faithful. Worth saying accurately: God created in six days and rested on the seventh. The seventh day is the completing one, which is exactly the point.

IF A STUDENT ASKS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PROPHETS OF BAAL

1 Kings 18:40 records that they were taken to the Kishon Valley and put to death. Say that plainly and without detail. It is worth noting that these were court prophets of a state-sponsored cult under a king who had been executing prophets of the Lord, and that the account reports the event rather than celebrating it. Older students may want to sit with the difficulty; that is a better outcome than a tidy defense.

Professor Hoot's Quiz

Ten questions. Circle one answer for each. Scoring guide and answer key on page 10.

NAME _____ DATE _____ SCORE _____ / 10

1. What was King Ahab's wife's name?
a) Delilah b) Jezebel c) Bathsheba
2. Where did Elijah first hide during the drought?
a) The Brook Cherith b) A cave at Horeb c) The palace at Samaria
3. What never ran out at the widow's house in Zarephath?
a) Water and wine b) Flour and oil c) Bread and meat
4. How many prophets of Baal competed at Mount Carmel?
a) 100 b) 450 c) 850
5. What did Elijah pour over his altar and sacrifice?
a) Oil b) Wine c) Water
6. How many jars of water were poured out in total?
a) 3 b) 7 c) 12
7. How many times did Elijah send his servant to look toward the sea?
a) 3 b) 7 c) 12
8. What did the angel give Elijah in the wilderness?
a) Manna b) Bread and water c) Figs and honey
9. How long did Elijah travel to reach Mount Horeb?
a) 3 days b) 40 days c) One year
10. How did God finally speak to Elijah at Mount Horeb?
a) An earthquake b) A fire c) A gentle whisper

Bonus. How many in Israel had never bowed to Baal, and who told Elijah so?

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Answer Key and Where to Go Next

QUIZ ANSWER KEY — PAGE 9

1	b — Jezebel	6	c — twelve (four jars, three times)
2	a — the Brook Cherith	7	b — seven
3	b — flour and oil	8	b — bread and water
4	b — 450	9	b — forty days
5	c — water	10	c — a gentle whisper

Bonus. Seven thousand, and God Himself told him — at Horeb, after Elijah insisted twice that he was the only one left (*1 Kings 19:18*).

BIBLE DETECTIVE ANSWER KEY — PAGE 5

1. Into the third year (*17:1; 18:1*); James 5:17 gives three and a half.
2. Bread and meat, morning and evening (*17:6*).
3. A small loaf for him first, from the last of her flour and oil (*17:13*).
4. One hundred, hidden fifty each in two caves (*18:4*).
5. Twelve, one for each tribe of Jacob's sons (*18:31*).
6. Seven times (*18:43*).
7. As small as a man's hand, rising from the sea (*18:44*).
8. Seven thousand, and God told him at Horeb (*19:18*).
9. Not in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire — but in a gentle whisper (*19:11–12*).

SCORING GUIDE

9–10 correct — Senior Correspondent. Reading at the level of detail Penny would sign off on.

7–8 correct — Field Reporter. Solid. Send them back for the two they missed and let them find the verse themselves.

5–6 correct — Cub Reporter. The story landed; the details did not. Re-read chapters 8 through 10.

Under 5 — Back to the Newsroom. Not a failing grade. Read the book together rather than assigning it.

WHERE TO GO NEXT — MORE FREE DOWNLOADS

- **The Six Sacred Rules of Divine Reporting** — one-page classroom poster.
- **Meet the Divine News Team** — one page, four character cards.
- **The Divine News Team: An Origin Story** — Teacher's Packet.
- **David and Goliath** — Teacher's Packet.
- **Daniel in the Lions' Den** — Teacher's Packet.
- **52 Questions: A Year of Family Bible Conversations** — one a week, from across the series. Coming soon.

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