

### LESSON 4

## GOD PROVIDES FOR ELIJAH

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Can Provide in Unexpected Ways

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Kings 17

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** When the prophet Elijah is hiding from King Ahab, God demonstrates that He is the one true God by providing for Elijah's needs through unexpected ways.

**Activity: Exploring Bread**

**Activity: Feather Sensory Bin**

**Worship**

**God's Big Story**

**Prayer and Blessing**

**Activity: Find the Bread**

**Wonder@Home**<sup>TM</sup>

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

## Activity: Exploring Bread

**SUPPLIES:** resealable baggie (optional), flour (optional), tape (optional), bowl or pan (optional), toy bread (optional), crackers or bread (optional), play dough (optional), rolling pins (optional)

**Allergy Caution:** Be aware of any allergies or sensitivities among your kids and volunteers while doing this activity!

Set out supplies for exploring bread. You can fill a resealable baggie with flour and tape it shut so the kids can squeeze and feel the flour bag. You can also set out a bowl or pan of flour. You can set out crackers or bread for the kids to taste. You could also use play dough and small rolling pins for the kids to pretend to make bread.

**Hi! I'm so glad you're here with us today! We're going to hear how God provided for people in an unexpected way using ingredients to make bread! One of the ingredients in bread is flour. Let's play and explore flour and bread as we get curious about our story for today.**

Allow the kids to explore the bread items (or even taste the crackers and bread). Be aware of allergies, sensitivities, and choking risks when working with food and toddlers.

## Activity: Feather Sensory Bin

**SUPPLIES:** bin or box, feathers, toy food, toy people figures (optional)

Ahead of time, place the play food in the bin or box, then cover with feathers. Allow kids to explore and find the food.

**Look at all these feathers! Let's look at and feel the feathers.** Find one of the pieces of play food.

**Wow! That was unexpected. I found this piece of food. Can you help me find the rest?** Allow kids to find the rest of the play food. You could also have the kids pretend to feed the food to toy people figures.

**It was so fun to find these unexpected foods in our feather bin. The feathers are kind of like feathers on a bird. There are birds in our story today. Our story also talks about food. We'll learn how God provided using birds and food!**

**Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD CAN PROVIDE IN UNEXPECTED WAYS.****

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

**GOD CAN**—Point up.

**PROVIDE**—Open hands and extend arms out (like giving a gift).

**IN UNEXPECTED WAYS**—Place hands on cheeks (surprised face).

## Worship

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**Today, we're learning that God can provide in unexpected ways. God is so good to us! Let's sing and thank Him!**

Play songs from the [Unexpected Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and encourage the kids to sing and dance with you.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, crackers, jar, cotton balls (several handfuls), toy bread (or real bread, optional)

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** [God's Big Story Video](#)

**Allergy Caution:** Be aware of any food allergies or sensitivities among your kids and volunteers before doing this activity!

**Leader Tip:** If you don't have the pretend food or other objects needed to tell the story, you can print pictures of them instead, so the kids still have a visual while acting out the story.

God gave His people prophets, or messengers, to share His message with His people. Elijah was a prophet who told the evil king God's message that it wasn't going to rain for a long time. Without rain, there would be no food! This made the evil king angry at Elijah. So Elijah ran away.

God told Elijah to hide, and He would provide for Elijah. Even though food wasn't growing without the rain, God still provided another way for Elijah to eat. God sent birds called ravens to bring food to Elijah every day. Hold up the crackers.

I didn't expect God to provide food for Elijah with birds! Can you act like birds? Allow the kids to act like ravens. Then Elijah went to another town where a widow (someone whose husband had died) would take care of him and give him food. Elijah asked the widow for food and water. She didn't have much food left! She was going to use the last of her flour and oil to make one last meal of bread. Hold up the cotton balls, pretending they are flour, and the jar, pretending it has oil in it.

Elijah told her that God said she wouldn't run out of food! She used the flour and oil to make bread, and there was more flour and more oil! Pretend with the kids to pour the ingredients and knead the bread. Then hold up the toy bread (or real bread) to show the kids. She kept making bread, and God kept refilling the oil and flour so she could make more and more! God kept His promise! God provided food for Elijah in two unexpected ways in today's story. God provides for us too! He gives us what we need.

## Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. Dear God, thank You for providing us with so many things. We love You and thank You for the unexpected ways you give us what we need. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** May God provide for you in unexpected ways this week, and may you praise Him for all He does.

## Activity: Find the Bread

**SUPPLIES:** brown or tan paper (3–4 sheets)

Ahead of time, hide several sheets of brown or tan paper around the room. This will be pretend bread.

**Today, we learned how God can provide in unexpected ways! God provided bread for Elijah, a woman, and her son so they had food to eat. God provides for us too. Let's play a game to find some hidden bread to help us remember how God provided for Elijah, the woman, and her son. I have hidden some brown pieces of paper around the room. We're going to pretend it's bread and try to find it. Can you find the pretend bread?**

Allow kids to find the bread. You can play a couple more rounds if you have time.

**Our bread was hidden in some unexpected places! Just like we learned today, God can provide in unexpected ways!**