

I AM - The Greatest Battle of Your Life

Unit 6: God's Dream

Lesson 9: Celebrate – Communicating with God

The Cave of Wisdom

Cave Opening: The Burning Bush: Celebrate God having a relationship with you.

Welcome back to the cave of “Celebration”. Elijah had quite a relationship with God. He lived in a very tough time of history for a prophet. Most of the Yahweh prophets had been killed by Jezebel. But there is truly “No God like Jehovah!” Elijah proved this against the priests of Baal and a very wicked king and queen. Today we celebrate the relationship that God wants with each of us, the dream of God for you.

Circle of Fire: Rejoice for the Lord knows us and loves us.

Scripture: 1 Kings 19: 15-19; John 16:12-15 (New International Version, ©2010)

1 Kings 19:15-19 (New International Version, ©2010)

¹⁵ The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷ Jehu will put to death any who escape the

sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. ¹⁸ Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Call of Elisha

¹⁹ So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him.

John 16:12-15 (New International Version, ©2010)

¹² “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

1 Kings 19: 15-19 “Go back the way you came ...” It is time for Elijah to move on to the next level of his relationship with God, to complete the dream.

Biblical Character: Elijah and the Holy Spirit

Act the part of Elijah and tell the story of God instructing you to “Go back” and face King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. Explain how difficult this command is to do, but you trust God to be with you. You are also anointing your replacement, Elisha. Your ministry is almost complete. Leave the cave to obey God’s instructions.

Your class members will almost panic when they are left alone in the cave without Elijah to guide them. But this action sets the stage for the next unit: “In Search of Elijah”. Tell the class that the next lesson will be taught in the palace of King Ahab. They will become time travelers; meet King Ahab and begin the search for Elijah. And if they are very lucky, they will avoid Queen Jezebel. She can be very bad!

Show the video: “Elijah – Go back the way you came.”

Explain that today we have the Holy Spirit to speak to us and help guide us on our journey to the Dream of God for us.

Show the videos related to the Holy Spirit in Appendix 2 for this lesson.

Modern Character(s): Michael Vick

The story of Michael Vick is not complete, but the turnaround he has made in his life is very encouraging. Michael has gone from serving time in prison for dog fighting to his best season so far in the NFL with the Eagles, and trying to prevent animal abuse. It certainly appears that Michael has “come out of the cave”.

Show the video: “Michael Vick talks to New Haven students” in Appendix 2 for this lesson.

The Tribe: God communicates with us through the Holy Spirit, but are we listening.

Craft: “Turn around Time Machine”. See Appendix 8 Craft for instructions and material. This craft is needed for the next unit. When the members depart the cave at the end of this lesson, they will not be returning to the cave. They must “Go back the way you came.” The “Turn around Time Machine” will be the transportation used to seek Elijah and the way home. Beginning with the next lesson, the cave will become the Palace of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. They have reached this location using the time machine from the cave exit. When the time machines are complete, place them outside of the cave for the next lesson.

Recreation Activity: Sing and dance to “No God like Jehovah”. See Appendix 2 for the “No God like Jehovah” video selections.