

Animated (PreK)

Week 3

BIG IDEA

God gives me comfort when I feel sad.

BIBLE

Elijah Flees to Horeb: 1 Kings 19:1-13

WELCOME TIME

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with toys and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationships.*
 - *Get on the floor and be silly*
 - *Play along with what they're playing*
 - *Ask get-to-know-you questions*
 - *Learn names and use them as you interact*

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our spotify playlists to play some background music.*

CLEAN UP

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before moving onto the lesson content, play the "Clean Up" song and work together as a class to put all toys and activities away.*
 - *Place all toys in labelled tubs.*
 - *Place all tubs away in labelled cabinets*

Section

ACTIVITY | Emoji Hunt

- Welcome, friends! I'm so glad you're here today.
- **Who's ready to play a game?**
- Sometimes, it's hard to say how we feel, and today, we have emotions hidden all over the room. You're going to look around the room to find cards with faces of different emotions on them. Just find one and bring it back to your spot with you.
- When we're done, you'll have a chance to act out this emotion and tell me a time when you might've felt this emotion. (*Once each kid has found a card, have them take it back to their seat or seat them in a circle on the floor to wait for the others to finish.*)
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ahead of time, hide the emoji printouts throughout the room and invite the kids to hunt for them. Once all emojis have been found and each kid has one, invite each kid, one at a time, to act out or express their emotion for the group. Ask them to share a time or situation when they might've felt this emotion. Example: They find the sad face and act out crying and tell of a time when their favorite toy broke and they felt sad and cried.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Toddlers can hunt around the room to find the emoji printables (place them in very open, obvious places), but will need help identifying what the emotion means and how it looks. Show them each emotion and have them mimic the action after you. They will not share a time or experience when they felt this emotion.*
- We have all felt these different emotions before. Today, we're going to hear about a man named Elijah that also felt some big emotions.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | 1 Kings 19:1–13 (Elijah Flees to Horeb)

- So far this month, we've been talking about the word "animated," which can describe a cartoon or movie, but it can also describe our BIG emotions and feelings. We're learning that God loves us no matter how we feel!
- Today, we're hearing all about the prophet, Elijah, who was feeling very sad.
- *[Turn to 1 Kings 19 in the Bible]*
- Elijah loved God so much, and he knew God was real. But others believed in different gods. So, Elijah had a contest with a bunch of people who believed in a different god to prove who the real God was.
- Of course, it was no contest. The real God made the fake god and all its followers look silly. But then . . .
- A mean queen named Jezebel, who worshiped the fake god, got really mad at Elijah. So mad that she promised to kill him!
- Elijah was scared so he ran away!
- He ran and ran until he got so tired and so sad. He was ready to give up.
- But an angel came and gave him food and water and told him to get ready for the journey ahead.
- When Elijah heard this, he talked to God about how he was feeling. Elijah was sad because God had helped him when he went up against those people that didn't believe, but now God seemed far away.
 - Elijah was scared and felt alone. He knew those people were trying to kill him.
- God listened to Elijah and then told him to go out and stand on the mountain and wait for God.
 - Then, a mighty wind came, but God didn't appear with the wind. *[Ask kids to make wind sounds.]*
 - Then, an earthquake shook everything, but God didn't appear with the earthquake. *[Invite kids to stomp on the ground with you.]*
 - And then a fire burned, but God wasn't there either! *[Wiggle your fingers like a flame.]*
- Then, Elijah heard a gentle whisper. It was God speaking softly and directly to Elijah!

- This was God's way of comforting Elijah and letting him know he wasn't alone.

BIG IDEA | God gives me comfort when I feel sad.

- That's our Big Idea today!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce the Big Idea using the speech bubbles that say "God gives me comfort" on one and "when I feel sad." on the other. Invite volunteers to hold up each speech balloon and freeze in a funny, cartoon pose. Have the volunteers unfreeze when kids say the Big Idea.*
- Let's all say the Big Idea together: **God gives me comfort when I feel sad.**

MUSIC | Animated Praise

- Great job listening today, friends! I am so glad that **God comforts us when we feel sad**, aren't you?
- I think it's time to get up and move around! Let's worship God together because he loves us and comforts us!
- **SUPPLIES:**
 - *motion videos*
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play the motion videos and encourage kids to dance along! Here are the songs for this month:*
 - "God is With Me"
 - "Whole Lotta Bit"
 - "Perfect"
 - "Special"

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 15:13a (NLT)

- Each week we work together to memorize a verse from our Bible. The words from this verse remind us that when we trust God, we can have hope and joy and peace!
- Here's what our verse says
 - **"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him." Romans. 15:13a**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Kids will practice reciting the memory verse from Romans 15:13a in different animated voices that you call out (angry, excited, scared, sad, shy, surprised, etc.). Make sure you demonstrate for them and have them repeat the verse after you one chunk at a time.*
- We're going to say our memory verse five times. Every time we do it, I will call out a different animated voice that I want you to use to say your memory verse.

PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before prayer time each week, play this emoji music video, "[Jesus Loves Me](#)," and have kids sing along.
- God, thank you for your comfort when I'm sad. Show me what I can do to feel better when I'm sad. Teach me how to comfort others who are sad. Thank you for always being with me. Amen.

SHARING TIME

DISCUSSION | What We've Learned

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split kids into groups of 4-6 students. Review the Bible story together by asking and discussing the following questions.
- **Why was Elijah so sad?**
- **How did God appear to Elijah on the mountain?**
- **Have you ever felt alone when you were sad?**
- Today's Big Idea tells us that **God gives me comfort when I feel sad.**
- **What will you do the next time you feel sad?**
- Remind kids God is as powerful as a strong wind but is also as gentle as a whisper!

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons. As the kids color, you can review the memory verse, awarding prizes.
 - Kids may choose a second prize for bringing their Bible to class.

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PLAY TIME

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have all kids line up horizontally, shoulder to shoulder, on one end of the room. Kids will be running down to touch the opposite wall and come back. As they do, have them repeat the Big Idea after you while they play, such as saying, "God loves me" when they run to the wall and then saying, "Even when I feel sad" when they run back.*
- In today's Bible story, Elijah felt big things from nature like wind, earthquake, and fire. In this game, we'll act how we would if we were in the same situations Elijah was in!