WEEK 2 **God's Good Plans: Elijah in the Wilderness**

We may feel lonely even when we aren’t physically alone. We feel emotionally alone, perhaps even abandoned. This is where Elijah found himself in our Bible story this week. He was running for his life, literally, and he felt abandoned by God. He wanted to die. But God was there. He sent an angel to meet Elijah’s physical needs and provided a spot for him to rest. He knew exactly what Elijah needed and He gave it. Elijah was never alone, regardless of how he felt.

It’s ironic that Elijah had just experienced a great spiritual victory (1 Kings 18). God had performed a miracle before Elijah’s eyes. He was no doubt on a spiritual high until he found out that Jezebel planned to kill him. Isn’t that so often how life goes? We see God work miracles, we may even be on a spiritual mountaintop, but the next thing we know the rug gets pulled out from under us and we feel like we’re in a pit we can’t climb out of.

God is there both in our valleys and our mountaintops, just like he was there for Elijah. He may not send us an actual angel, but he will provide for our needs and remind us of his presence. When you feel alone, trust in God’s plan and know he is walking with you.

**Early Childhood:**

**Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=119&v=sHMxIgmM490&feature=emb_logo>

Hey parents! Use these questions as a guide to talk over this week’s lesson about Elijah in the Wilderness with your child after they’ve watched the video service!

1. What was your favorite part of the video we just watched?

2. Why did Elijah feel alone? The king and queen did not like Elijah. They wanted to kill him. Elijah had to run away, and he felt so alone.

3. Who did God send Elijah to help him? An angel!

4. How does God help you when you feel alone? God loves you and he is always with you. You can trust him even if you feel alone. We learned from our videos that we are never really alone because God is with us and he has a really good plan for us even when we feel lonely. When we feel lonely, we can pray to God and ask him to help us.

Pray with your child and thank God for his love and good plans! Thank him that he is always with us and gives us the help and people we need. Ask God to be with other people who might feel lonely, so they can know God is with them and loves them, too.

**Elementary Kids:**

**Video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVbQPTmItH0&feature=emb_logo>

Hey parents! This week your child learned that they can trust God’s plans even when they feel alone. They heard the Bible story of Elijah in the Wilderness, too! Use these questions as a guide to talk over this week’s lesson after they’ve watched the video service!

1.What was your favorite part of the video we just watched?

2. Why did Elijah feel alone and want to give up?

King Ahab and Jezebel did not like Elijah. Jezebel had sent a message to Elijah telling him that she wanted to kill him, so Elijah had to flee for his life.

3. Why was Jezebel so angry?

God had just used Elijah to do an amazing thing. He showed everyone that God is the most powerful and the only true, real, and living god. You can read more about this amazing story in 1 Kings 18.

4. How did God help Elijah when he felt alone?

He sent an angel to help him. The angel encouraged him to “get up and eat” and to keep going on to do the good things and fulfill the good plans God had for Elijah.

5. Have you ever felt alone? How did it feel and what did you do?

It is not a fun feeling to feel lonely. But we can know that God is always with us and we can always talk to God through prayer. God

also gives us people to help us when we feel alone – like family, friends, teachers, coaches, and leaders at church. It’s important that we always talk to someone when we feel lonely. God loves us so much and he has good things planned for us.

6. What does it look like to trust God’s plans?

For Elijah, it was doing what God asked. He was asked to eat bread and drink water to regain his strength. Once he was ready, it was time for Elijah to take the next steps in his journey with God toward Mount Sinai. For us, it is the same thing; do the things God asks. When you do that, you are telling God, “I trust that your plans are best” (even if you don’t understand). With each direction you follow, it becomes easier to trust God.

7. What good plans does God have for you?

God plan is for everyone to choose to love and follow Him. His plan is to help us show goodness, kindness, and love to everyone so that they can know and love God, too. One way we can do that is by reaching out to people to let them know we love them and are thinking of them. We can remind people that they are never alone and tell them about God’s love.

Take some time to pray together as a family. Thank God that he is always with us and that he wants good things for us. Pray for anyone that feels lonely that they would know and feel God’s love and closeness. Thank God for his good plans that give us a future and a hope.