

F7. Elijah is Taken to Heaven

1 Kings 19:19-21, 2 Kings 2:1-11

Memory Verse

“But anyone who is joined to the Lord becomes one with Him in spirit.”
--1 Corinthians 6:17 (NIRV)

Bible Lesson

Message: *Stay close to Him.*

The Lord Chooses Elisha

Elijah left Mount Horeb. He saw Elisha, the son of Shaphat. Elisha was plowing in a field. He was driving the last of 12 pairs of oxen. Elijah went up to him. He threw his coat around him. Then Elisha left his oxen. He ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother good-by," he said. Then I'll come with you."

"Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?"

So Elisha left him and went back. He got his two oxen and killed them. He burned the plow to cook the meat. He gave it to the people, and they ate it. Then he started to follow Elijah. He became Elijah's assistant.

2 Kings 2 ~ Elijah Is Taken Up to Heaven

Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. The Lord was going to use a strong wind to take Elijah up to heaven. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here. The Lord has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "I won't leave you. And that's just as sure as the Lord and you are alive." So they went down to Bethel. There was a company of prophets at Bethel. They came out to where Elisha was. They asked him, "Do you know what the Lord is going to do? He's going to take your master away from you today."

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied. "But don't talk about it." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha. The Lord has sent me to Jericho."

Elisha replied, "I won't leave you. And that's just as sure as the Lord and you are alive." So they went to Jericho. There was a company of prophets at Jericho. They went up to where Elisha was. They asked him, "Do you know what the Lord is going to do? He's going to take your master away from you today."

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied. "But don't talk about it." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here. The Lord has sent me to the Jordan River."

Elisha replied, "I won't leave you. And that's just as sure as the Lord and you are alive." So the two of them walked on. Fifty men from the company of the prophets followed them. The men stopped and stood not far away from them. They faced the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan River. Elijah rolled his coat up. Then he struck the water with it. The water parted to the right and to the left. The two of them went across the river on dry ground.

After they had gone across, Elijah spoke to Elisha. He said, "Tell me. What can I do for you before I'm taken away from you?"

"Please give me a double share of your spirit," Elisha replied. "You have asked me for something I can't give you," Elijah said. "Only the Lord can give it. But suppose you see me when I'm taken away from you. Then you will receive what you have asked for. If you don't see me, you won't receive it."

They kept walking along and talking together. Suddenly a chariot and horses appeared. Fire was all around them. The chariot and horses came between the two men. Then Elijah went up to heaven in a strong wind.

Talk About It

In today's lesson, Elijah was taken to Heaven. He had a very close relationship with God. Ask your child what kind of relationship he/she has with God. Remind your child that we can become closer to God by reading the Bible, praying to Him, and finding time to worship Him each day. We always want to stay close to Him, because the farther away we become from God, the harder it is to have a relationship with Him. Encourage your child to do their best to stay close to Him and to make time for Him each day. Talk about it.

