



# Winter Lesson 7

Bible Passage: 1 Kings 16—18  
(King Ahab and Elijah)

## God Is the One and Only

### Remember Verse

Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’” Luke 4:8

**RESPOND**//15 minutes



*Children reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through creative activities and games.*

### Reflect: God Is the One and Only

Encourage the kids to open their Bibles and read the suggested passages.

#### Questions for Younger Kids

- **Why did Elijah put water on the altar?** 1 Kings 18:38
- **What happened after God sent fire from heaven?** 1 Kings 18:39
- **Why do you think God desires for us to step out in faith and declare Him to be the one and only?**
- **Has God ever asked you to step out in faith to do something? Tell us about it.**

#### Questions for Older Kids

- **What is a drought? Why was there a drought in Israel?** 1 Kings 17:1
- **What did Elijah pray before he made a sacrifice to God?** 1 Kings 18:36–37
- **Why did Elijah cover the altar with water?** 1 Kings 18:38
- **What happened after God sent fire from heaven?** 1 Kings 18:39
- **How can you step out in faith and declare God to be the one and only?**
- **Has God ever asked you to step out in faith to do something? Tell us about it.**

### Fire from Heaven

Children decorate a “fire tube” to help them recall that God is the one and only. (Make a fire torch instead with Memory verse glued to the side.)

#### SUPPLIES

- Cardboard tube (paper towel-sized)
- Tissue paper (4–5 sheets, orange and yellow) Cut the tissue paper into four- to five-inch squares or triangles.

- Scissors
- Glue sticks

### RELATE

**In the contest between the prophets of Baal and Elijah, God showed Himself as the one and only by sending fire to burn up the wet altar. Let's create our own "fire" as we remember that God is our one and only.**

Today, guide your children to create a "fire tube" together. Invite them to take small pieces of tissue paper and glue them onto the cardboard tube. They can crinkle the paper before gluing it, glue down only a part of it, or glue it all down. When the kids finish decorating the outside of the tube, invite them to think about God's power and what He can do because He's the one and only God.

## Optional Activity: Altar Stack

Using building blocks, encourage kids to build the tallest altar they can. It must be free-standing.

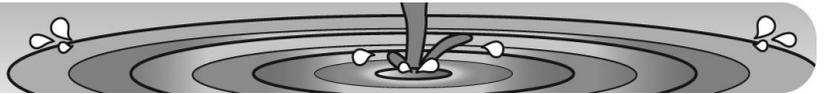
### SUPPLIES

- Building blocks (1 bin per grade)

### RELATE

**One way to worship God is by presenting offerings to Him on an altar. Let's see if we can build a mini version of an altar and get it to stand.** Invite kids to build an altar with the blocks. If the pile topples over, the kids can start again. See how high they can build the altar!

**BLESS//** 5 minutes



**Children receive a blessing from their leaders and sometimes one another. A blessing may be prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.**

### RELATE

Encourage each child to point to the sky with one hand and open the palm of her other hand as you read Psalm 115:1–3.

**Not to us, LORD, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Why do the nations, say, "Where is their God?" Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.**

End by praying the following blessing over the children.

**May you know that our God is the one and only God. May you turn to Him for everything you need.**

Send home Remember Verse cards and the At Home Weekly with your kids.

## LEADER PREP

**Each week you'll find encouraging articles that help you prepare your heart to present the lesson.**

**Inspire** Shares personal stories from fellow ministry leaders about how God has worked in their lives

One evening, some friends and I began talking about one friend's new relationship with a man who wasn't a Christian. She said that she didn't think his faith mattered; she'd decided that all religions worship the same God anyway. Then she

looked at me for my response.

What I said that day grieves my heart. A desire to be accepted by my friend, along with confusion over how she'd changed, led me to say, "Sure." Then my friend changed the subject. That night, I tried to shrug away the remorse I felt. I had implied that my God—the One who sent His Son to die for me—was the same One whom all religions worshipped! Tears flowed from my eyes as I considered how I'd blasphemed the God who'd done everything for me.

I'm overwhelmed by God's mercy—that He forgives me for sins as cowardly as this one. I'm floored by the fact that God allows me, through His love, to experience the one true God and His merciful love.

*Tori Funkhouser, Tru Team*

---

## **Equip** *Offers perspective and context to the lesson's Bible passage*

Hundreds of years after King David, King Ahab ruled over Israel. The Bible says that King Ahab "did more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him" (1 Kings 16:30). Because of this, God sent a drought over all of Israel that would prepare His people's hearts for the contest on Mount Carmel—a competition to prove, once again, that our God is the one and only.

On Mount Carmel, after the prophets had failed to get the attention of their false god, Elijah built an altar to the Lord using 12 stones, perhaps symbolizing the 12 tribes of Israel. Elijah did this at "the time of sacrifice" (1 Kings 18:36), which was 3:00 p.m., the hour of the regular sacrifice in the temple in Jerusalem. Similarly, God's people would be gathered for worship at the temple. So Elijah gathered the people around him as he prayed that "these people [would] know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again" (v. 37).

God answered Elijah in the contest on Mount Carmel by sending fire from heaven and burning up the sacrifice that Baal could not consume. After this contest, God sent rain at Elijah's request, showing that He—not Baal—controls the weather. Through these two displays of power, God showed the people that He is the one true God—the One who empowers His people to live a radical life of faith, even in the midst of a pagan culture.

---

## **Support** *Provides reflection and assessment through encouragement, prayer, and time in God's Word*

Sometimes God has to stretch us pretty far in order to get our attention. When He takes us to the places in our lives where we have no choice but to stop relying on ourselves or others and fall into His embrace—that's when we start to get at the concept that God is our one and only. Even as people who believe in and love God, we may not live as if God is our one and only. We might use television, music, or exercise to take the place of intimacy with God. We might live through our relationships with others. We might try to stuff the emptiness in our lives with packed calendars and constant busyness. This week, open your eyes and ears to where you might not be allowing God to be your one and only source of strength, love, hope, or life. Ask Him to draw you near to Him so He can heal and bring you into deeper relationship with Him.