

Elijah & Elisha

2 Kings 2-5



Elijah was taken bodily into heaven and Elisha served in his place.



The Story

Elijah was getting old. He served the Lord as a prophet for many years. He was ready to go to heaven. The Lord had chosen a replacement for Elijah. His name was Elisha. He followed Elijah everywhere.

It was time for Elijah to go to heaven. Elijah knew it was time. Elisha also knew it was time. Elisha did not want Elijah to leave him. Elijah made stops in two cities. Each time he told Elisha to stay in the city. Elisha said, "I will not leave you."

Elijah and Elisha traveled on. They came to the Jordan River. At the river, Elijah took off his coat, rolled it up, and hit the water with it. The water parted and Elijah and Elisha crossed the river on dry ground.

Elijah asked, "Elisha, what may I do for you before I go to heaven?"

Elisha answered, "I would like a double portion of your spirit." This means that Elisha wanted the Lord to be with him just like the Lord was with Elijah. Elisha asked for it to be done not one time, but two times.

Elijah knew that only the Lord could give that gift to Elisha. Elijah answered, "You will know if your question is answered if you see me go into heaven."

As they were talking, a chariot of fire and horses appeared between Elijah and Elisha. Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw it all happen and yelled, "My father, my father." Then he didn't see Elijah anymore.

Elisha picked up Elijah's coat and asked, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" He took the coat and hit the water like Elijah had done. The water separated and Elisha knew that the Lord's Spirit was with him.

Elisha performed more signs and miracles that showed that the Spirit of the Lord was with him. He made bad water good again. It was always pure and good tasting after that. He also helped a widow make money so that her sons wouldn't have to be slaves to pay her debts.

The Spirit of the Lord was shown through Elisha again when he raised a boy from the dead. Elisha also made a pot of poisonous stew able to be eaten. Another time, the Lord allowed Elisha to feed 100 men with a little sack of food. Through the signs and miracles Elisha performed, the people of Israel knew the Lord was with him.

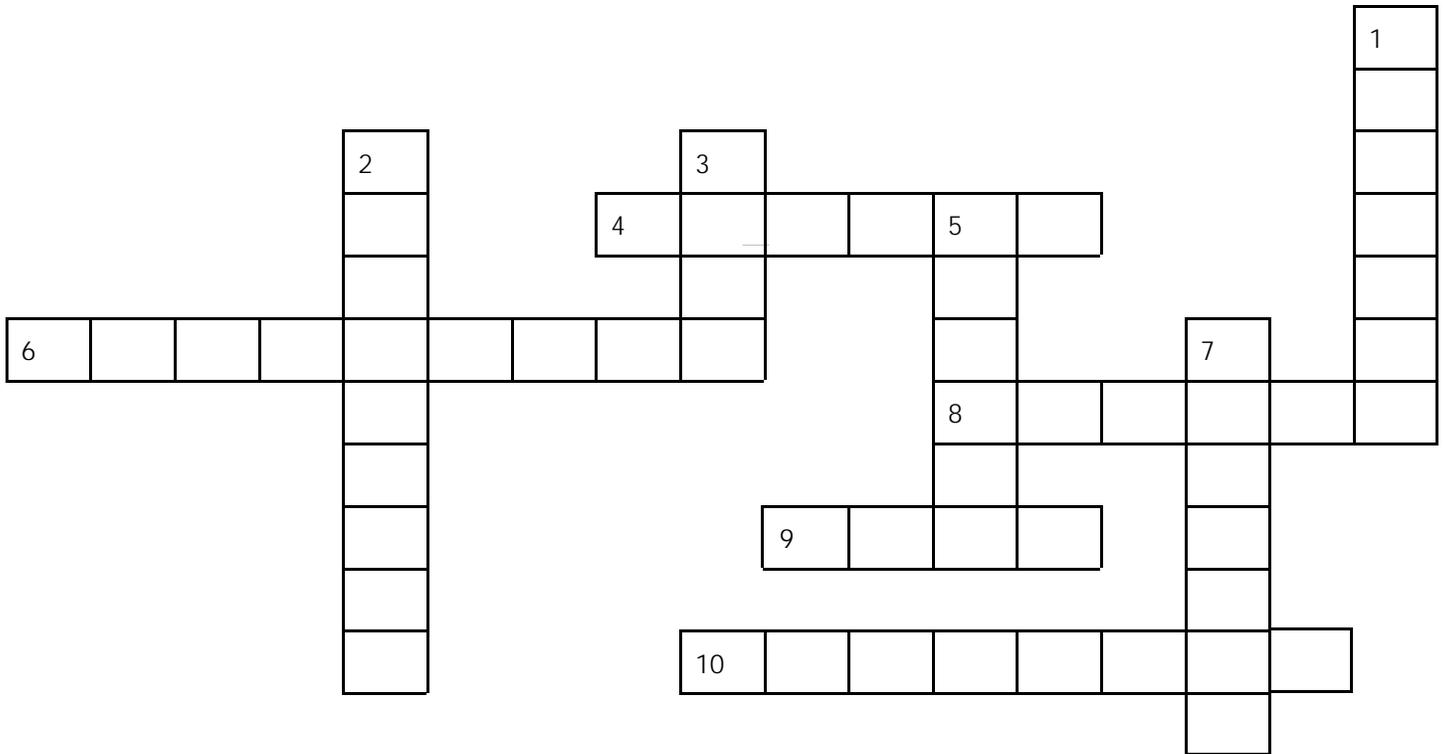
Activity One - Answer these Review Questions together.

1. Whom did the Lord choose to replace Elijah?
2. What did Elisha do to get ready to be a prophet?
3. Do you think Elisha was ready to be the Lord's prophet? Why or why not?
4. What thing did Elisha ask Elijah to give him? Could Elijah give this to him?
5. How did Elijah go up into heaven?
6. Why did a chariot separate Elijah and Elisha?

7. How did the people of Israel know that Elisha was the new prophet?

8. What signs and miracles did Elisha perform?

Activity Two - Find the answers to the clues in the Word Box. Write the answers to the clues in the blanks provided in the CROSSWORD PUZZLE.



Across

- 4. Where Elijah was taken
- 6. What the water did when Elisha hit it
- 8. What Elisha wanted a double portion of
- 9. What Elijah and Elisha hit the water with
- 10. What Elisha did to show the Spirit of the Lord was with him

Down

- 1. What separated Elijah and Elisha
- 2. How Elijah went to heaven
- 3. Elisha raised a boy from this
- 5. The replacement for Elijah
- 7. The job of both Elijah and Elisha

Word Box	
chariot	miracles
coat	prophet
dead	separated
Elisha	spirit
heaven	whirlwind

The same Lord who worked so powerfully through Elijah and Elisha has also promised to be with us today.

Activity Three - Answer the following questions about the passage.

Matthew 28:20 - Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

1. How did the Lord show that He was with Elisha?
2. How does the Lord show that He is with us?
3. Elisha did signs and miracles to show that the Lord was with him. We cannot do miracles like Elisha, but we can show that the Lord is with us. What are some things that we can do to show that the Lord is with us?

Passages

Hebrews 13:8 - Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Malachi 3:6 - For I am the LORD, I do not change.

Hymn - TLH #434 v. 1, 4

O God of Jacob, by whose hand
Thy people still are fed;
Who thro' this weary pilgrimage
Hast all our fathers led.

Oh, spread Thy covering wings around
Till all our wanderings cease
And at our Father's loved abode
Our souls arrive in peace.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Please be with me just like You were with Elisha. Help me to show that You are with me and in my life. I know that You will not change throughout my life. Amen.