

# LESSON 8

## GOD'S ARMY PROTECTS ELISHA AND HIS SERVANT

### OBJECTIVES

1. To teach students that God is in control of all events.
2. To ask God to open our spiritual eyes to see God's work around us.
3. To encourage students to trust in God and praise Him in all circumstances.

### MEMORY VERSE

"My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

(Psalm 121:2)

### PRAYER

Thank You, God, for keeping us safe for the past week and for bringing us here on this Sabbath day to worship You together. Lord, we know that everything, good or bad, is in your control. Please give us an unmovable faith so that we can place our trust in You in everything we do.



### Overview

#### 1. Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

- a. The King of Syria Seeks to Kill Elisha
- b. Elisha's Servant Sees God's Army of Angels
- c. The Syrians Become Blind

#### 2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—One true God

#### 3. Life Application—Elisha Demonstrates God's Power

#### 4. Activity—Yes, I Will Trust Him; Chariots of God and Man of God



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

While the servant 2 Kings 6 is not explicitly named, this servant may have been Gehazi, the same servant who traveled with Elisha to Shunem.

In 2 Kings 6, the king of Syria was upset with Elisha for revealing the location of the Syrian army to the king of Israel each time they relocated. He sent an army to find him, and Elisha found an entire army surrounding the city of Dothan the next morning. Assured of God's protection, Elisha turned to God for help. Instead of finding a violent resolution to this situation, God chose to help Elisha find a peaceful resolution.

When the king had the army of Syrians in his midst, under his authority, he asked Elisha if he should kill them. But Elisha ordered the king not to take their lives; the king was not to take credit for what God alone had done. Instead, Elisha instructed the king of Israel to "set food and water before them," so he prepared a great feast for the Syrian army. In giving food and water to them, the king was heaping burning "coals of fire on [their heads]" (Prov 25:21-22).



## Reaching Out to Your Students

### God Protects Israel

This lesson should reinforce your students' faith about God's protection over us. Since they have not yet developed the ability to grasp abstract concepts, they often don't think about an invisible God or the invisible spiritual world. Your students may take for granted God's everyday protection and only think of God when they are in trouble or when they are in church. Don't forget to show them how our faith enables us to praise God, especially in situations that we cannot control. Use Elisha's faith in God to illustrate this. Elisha was able to praise God in such a hostile environment because of his strong faith and fullness of the Holy Spirit. Use today's lesson to show how trust, praise, and the Holy Spirit are integral to our faith.

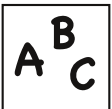
Teach your students to praise God by reminding them that God is always in control of the environment. Humans cannot live without air, water, sunshine, or plants. God has always been protecting us, but we may not have noticed because our eyes are blinded. Encourage your students to think about God's power and protection by asking them if there are things that God doesn't have control over in their lives. You can take this opportunity to correct some of their misconceptions about God's omnipotence.



### Opener

*5 Minutes*

It is not easy to trust another person to be in control when we're in danger. Sometimes we feel afraid and as if no one can help us at all, so we find it difficult to trust in God—especially since we can't see Him. Has that ever happened to you? [Ask students to share a few experiences of their own.] Of course, if you could see God standing right beside you, you wouldn't be afraid. The truth is that God is right here with us, even though we can't see Him. God is in control even when we feel afraid. In this lesson, we will hear how Elisha trusted in God when he was in danger, and how God, in turn, sent His angels to protect him.



### Vocabulary

**spy:** :a person whose job is to find out secrets about an enemy



### Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

*30-35 Minutes*

During Elisha's time, the country of Syria was one of Israel's most threatening enemies. Geographically, Syria was right next to Israel, and they constantly moved their army to find places where they could safely attack Israel. The king of Syria wanted to surprise the king of Israel and attack before Israel's army could get there to defeat him. Each time the king of Syria was ready, he told his officers, "Move the army to that place over there." This move was supposed to be a secret. However, somehow the king of Israel always seemed to know where the Syrians were going to attack! Can you guess why? [Let students answer.] God was helping Israel, His people! Every time the king of Syria made a new move, God would reveal it to Elisha so that he could tell the king of Israel where to be watchful for the Syrian army.

#### The King of Syria Seeks to Kill Elisha

Because of numerous failures, the king of Syria became furious. How did the king of Israel know where he was going to attack? He would tell his officers, "I'm going to move the army to this location." However, as soon as the king of Syria made the decision to move, the king of Israel knew to avoid that location. The Syrian king moved his army again and again. But every time he did so, the Israelites knew his secrets and always remained vigilant. No wonder the king of Syria was angry. He shouted at his officers. "There's a spy here! Someone is telling the king of Israel where we're going to move. Who's doing this?" Then one of his servants answered, "There's no spy here. The prophet Elisha tells the king of Israel everything that

you say." So the king of Syria sought to kill Elisha.

Soon a whole army set out for Elisha's hometown of Dothan. They came to the city at night, and while everyone was still sleeping, the Syrian army surrounded the town. The next morning, the Syrians would capture Elisha for sure!

### **Elisha's Servant Sees God's Army of Angels**

When morning came, Elisha's servant got up early. He went outside the house and was shocked by what he found. An army of Syrians surrounded the entire city. The servant could hardly believe his eyes. The whole Syrian army was here to kill Elisha! Elisha was in terrible danger, and the servant was terrified. Students, if you were Elisha's servant, how would you feel at this time? How do you think Elisha would feel when he finds out? [Allow students to answer.] Right away, the servant rushed in and informed Elisha. "There are enemy soldiers out there. They've surrounded the town. What are we going to do?"

"Don't worry, we have more on our side than they do on theirs," Elisha told his servant. Elisha's servant looked around. He didn't see anyone there at all. There were just the two of them—and thousands of Syrian soldiers! Was Elisha out of his mind? Elisha saw how puzzled his servant was. So he prayed, "Dear Lord, open my servant's eyes so that he can see."

Suddenly, the servant was able to see what Elisha knew was there all along. All around them, situated between Elisha and the enemy soldiers, was God's army in chariots of fire! Elisha trusted in God, and he wasn't afraid at all. He knew that God can do anything and that the danger he was facing was all in God's control. Indeed, God won't let us down when we place our trust in Him. He sent an army to protect Elisha! And God's army was far more powerful than the Syrian army. God was protecting Elisha and his servant at all times.

### **The Syrians Become Blind**

Then Elisha prayed, "Lord, please make the Syrians blind." God struck the Syrian army with blindness, and then Elisha walked right up to the commander. "You're in the wrong place," Elisha told the commander. "Follow me, and I'll take you to Elisha."

So the Syrians followed Elisha, and Elisha led them right to Samaria, where the king of Israel was. Elisha led them through the city gate, behind the city's great stone walls. And then Elisha prayed again. "Lord, please allow the Syrians to see again." God opened their eyes and the Syrians realized that they were inside Samaria! Now the tables were turned and the soldiers of Israel surrounded

the army of Syrians!

The king of Israel must have been really excited. "Shall I kill the Syrians?" he asked Elisha. "Of course not," Elisha replied. "Would you kill those whom you have captured? Rather, feed them and send them back home." So, the king of Israel prepared a great feast for them. After the soldiers ate and drank, the king of Israel sent them back to Syria and they came no more in the land of Israel.

Students, how do you think the king of Syria felt when he heard what had happened to his army? [Pause and allow students to think and share their answers.] He must have been very surprised, as it was difficult to believe what had happened. He believed that his army could have captured Elisha in Dothan, but instead, they were led by Elisha himself to their enemies. They were temporarily blind. How was that possible? The king of Syria quickly realized that God was with the Israelites.

God had always been helping Israel. He had always been the one protecting the Israelites from getting attacked. Now that the king of Syria knew that there was a powerful God behind the Israelites, he stopped sending his soldiers to attack them anymore.

#### **FOR TEACHERS**

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1 to the students now. Guide them to complete it, and keep a copy for reference when teaching. After the students have completed Worksheet #1, continue with Bible Discovery Worksheet #2. Divide the students into groups of 2 or 3, and instruct them to look up the verses and discuss the questions within their groups. Then, come together as a class to share the answers.



## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

### One True God

Jesus Christ is the only Savior of mankind, the Creator of the heavens and earth, and the only true God. His power is above all things. Everything is in His control and we can rely on Him in times of helplessness.

When Elisha learned that an army of Syrians had surrounded Dothan, did he panic? No, he did not. Actually, he was extremely calm for someone in his situation. An entire army wanted to capture him, most likely so that the king of Syria could do something bad to him. However, Elisha knew God's nature. He knew that God is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Elisha had complete faith in God and did not doubt God's protection for one second. Nowadays, when we encounter difficult situations for which we cannot find the solution, we must have faith as Elisha did. If we are lost, if we are scared, if we are mad, or if we simply feel helpless, God will always help us find our way. We must be comforted and remind ourselves that He is always using His great power to protect us at all times!



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **The king of Syria moved his army many times trying to find a good place to ambush the Israelite army.** True.
2. **Each time the king of Syria was ready, he told his officers to tell Elisha.** False; through God's power, Elisha knew where the king of Syria was planning to place his army.
3. **The king of Syria was happy that the Israelites knew his secrets.** False; the king of Syria was furious that the Israelites knew his secrets.
4. **An army of Syrians surrounded Elisha's hometown of Jerusalem.** False; they surrounded him at Dothan.
5. **What kind of army was protecting Elisha and his servant?** An army with horses and chariots of fire was protecting Elisha and his servant.
6. **Why do you think Elisha wasn't scared when he saw the Syrian army?** Elisha knew that God was in control of all things.
7. **What did Elisha do to the Syrian army?** He prayed to God to make them blind so that he could lead them to Samaria.
8. **The Syrians followed Elisha, and Elisha led them to the battlefield.** False; the Syrians followed Elisha, and Elisha led them to the king of Israel in Samaria.
9. **The king killed all those in the Syrian army when they arrived at Samaria.** False; he wanted to, but he did not in the end.
10. **What did Elisha tell the king to do?** He told him to feed them with food and water and send them home.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### ELISHA DEMONSTRATES GOD'S POWER

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet to the students. Go over one point at a time with the students. First, explain the teaching, and then read the verses. Then, allow the students to read the scenario on their own. When they have finished reading the scenario, come together as a class to discuss the question provided for each scenario.]

#### 1. God has an invisible army!

His protection is upon us. We are as protected when we stick close to Jesus as Elisha's servant was when he stayed close to Elisha.

*"So he answered, 'Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.'" (2 Kgs 6:16)*

*"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7)*

### Scenario

"Are we there yet?" Meredith's family was finally taking a road trip to visit different national parks! She had been planning for this trip for a long time, choosing which areas to visit and which places to stay at. However, when they finally set off on the trip, they ran into bad weather. The sound of the rain falling on the windshield sounded frightening, and yet soothing. Before she knew it, Meredith had fallen asleep. Then, a quick jerk forward and Meredith's eyes shot wide open. What was happening? In an instant, everything was spinning in front of her eyes, and she realized that it wasn't the world that was spinning, it was their car! Suddenly, she heard her father shout, "Hallelujah!" from the driver's seat and heard her mother pray loudly in the front passenger seat. Her younger brother, who had also been asleep next to her, looked at her with terror in his eyes, and she grabbed his hands, closed her eyes, and started praying with her mother. It seemed like forever before it happened, but the car finally came to a rest. Meredith didn't dare to open her eyes. "Is everyone OK?" Her father sounded both worried and relieved. "It's OK. We're OK. No one hit us. I braked hard to avoid hitting the car in front of me and the car spun out of control. But we're OK now. Thank God. Let's all say a prayer to thank God for His unfailing protection."

- How could Meredith feel God's unfailing protection?

## 2. Open My Eyes!

Ask the Lord to continue to open our spiritual eyes to His truth and presence in our lives so that we can see and discern what is right and wrong.

*"Lord, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." (2 Kgs 6:20)*

*"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints." (Eph 1:18)*

### Scenario

Landon had always enjoyed playing the most popular shooting games, which were usually violent and bloody. He didn't think that it was a problem because video games weren't real. He was just shooting the bad guys in the game; no one was getting hurt. But slowly, he started becoming addicted to these games and to violent movies. If there wasn't any violence, then it wasn't interesting to him. He started playing even more violent games, and spent more time playing games than doing homework, reading the Bible, and praying. When his parents told him that he needed to limit his time, he'd yell at them. This went on for a while. But then one day, his mother came into his room and told him to start doing his homework. She politely asked him to turn off his video games, but he ignored her and kept playing. Then, she went over to turn off the system for him. As soon as she pressed the power button, Landon ran at her and pushed her really hard. She stumbled backwards a bit, but was otherwise fine. Landon didn't know what had come over him. "Mom, I'm sorry..." Landon's mother looked at him with sadness in her eyes and walked away without saying a word. That night, as he passed by his parents' room, he could hear her crying behind the doors and talking to his father about what he had done. Landon now saw what kind of influence these games had on him, and he did not like who he had become. Before going to bed, Landon prayed to God. "God, I am sorry for what I did. I am sorry that I didn't know how bad it was. And...thank You for opening my eyes to see the truth."

- How were Landon's eyes opened to the truth?

## 3. God's love enables us to bless our enemies.

The king of Syria sent a very large army with horses and chariots. They arrived in Dothan at night and surrounded the city. They planned to capture Elisha and kill him.

But Elisha was a man of God, and he had a deep understanding of God. Even though Elisha's enemy wanted to capture him, God wanted Elisha to show love and bless his enemy instead. Elisha showed Israel's enemies God's love. The enemies weren't expecting kindness from Israel. Elisha told the king to give them a big feast and send them home after. That's a blessing!

**Scenario**

Kaley used to enjoy going to school every day, but recently, she found it difficult to get out of bed and on to the school bus. Janet, a classmate of Kaley's, had started bullying her, and Kaley didn't even know why. They used to be good friends until a new girl came to their school and started telling Janet that Kaley was "uncool" and "boring." After that, not only would Janet refuse to hang out with Kaley, she would also call Kaley horrible names every day. Once, as Kaley was walking in the cafeteria with her food tray, Janet walked up to her and flipped the tray into Kaley's face. The food was all over Kaley's clothes. When Kaley's mother asked her what had happened, Kaley simply said that she had tripped in the cafeteria. Instances like this continued for a few months. Then, one day at school, Kaley found Janet sitting in the corner at the end of the hallway, crying. Looking at Janet, Kaley suddenly thought about all the times that Janet had made her cry. However, instead of smiling and ignoring Janet, Kaley walked up to her. "Janet, what's wrong? Can I help?" Kaley asked softly. Janet looked up and couldn't believe who was talking to her. "Why are you being so nice to me, Kaley? I've been so mean to you the past few months," said Janet, tearfully. "Yeah, you hurt my feelings a lot, but that doesn't mean I stopped caring. We used to be good friends, and I don't think you're a bad person." Kaley extended her hand to Janet, and together, the two of them walked down the hallway.

- How did Kaley show love to her enemy?

**Activity****1. Yes, I Will Trust Him / 2. Chariots of God and Man of God***10-15 Minutes***1. Yes, I Will Trust Him**

**Objective:** To reinforce the teaching that we can place our trust in God.

**Instructions:** Write these following verses on the board. Then, guide the students to sing the lyrics to the melody of "Jesus Loves Me."

*God made everything I see,  
All the world, including me.  
He can help me when I pray,  
So I'll trust Him every day.*

Refrain:

*Yes, I will trust Him,  
Yes, I will trust Him.  
Yes, I will trust Him;  
I'll trust Him every day.*

*When I don't know what is right,  
Or when I'm afraid at night,  
Friend and helper He will be,  
For He knows what's best for me.*

(Refrain.)

*God sees all things everywhere;  
I can trust Him to take care.  
He is wise and kind and strong;  
I will trust Him all day long.*

(Refrain.)

## 2. Chariots of God and Man of God

**Objective:** To visualize the confrontation between God's army and the Syrian army.

### Materials

- Clay, various colors to represent Elisha, the Syrian army, and God's army
- Construction paper
- Empty Half-pint milk cartons
- Scissors
- Brass fasteners
- Glue, optional
- Cardboard, optional

### Instructions

1. Assign students to create and decorate different parts of the scene.
  - Elisha; Syrian army; God's army (clay)
  - Chariots of fire; Syrian chariots (milk cartons) + wheels (construction paper)
  - Elisha's house (construction paper)
2. Provide different colored clay each for Elisha, the Syrian army, and God's army, so that they can be easily distinguished. Students can make fewer Syrian soldiers than soldiers of God to illustrate that more were on God's side.
3. To make the chariots, help students cut them to create a chariot, then, using a brass fastener, fasten a wheel cut out of construction paper to the chariot.
4. When all pieces of the scene have been completed, you can choose to keep the scene by gluing it onto a piece of cardboard, or students can re-enact the story using the created pieces.

### HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. He knew that the Syrian army had come for Elisha.
5. He knew that an army of God's angels was on his side and that God's army was much more powerful. He knew that God was on his side to help him.
6. Answers may vary.

## AN INTERVIEW WITH ELISHA

God is in control. He is watching over us and He has an invisible army! (2 Kings 6)

**Reporter:** Hi, Elisha. We heard that the nation of Syria was always at war with Israel. Yet, every time they would move their army somewhere, God would tell you. Is that correct?

**Elisha:** Yes, God would tell me so Israel would win over and over again.

**Reporter:** So when Syria's king learned that it was you who was giving away his plans, he sent an army to get you.

**Elisha:** That's right. One morning, my servant went outside and saw that we were surrounded by enemy troops.

**Reporter:** What was his reaction?

**Elisha:** He asked me, "What are we going to do?" And I told him, (fill in the blanks by looking up verse 16) "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them," and I prayed, (verse 17) "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see."

**Reporter:** What did he see?

**Elisha:** You'd be amazed! The mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around me! I was not afraid. So, when the Syrians came down to me, I prayed to God, (verse 18) "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And I said to them, "Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And I led them to Samaria and the Lord opened their eyes."

**Reporter:** This is amazing guidance and protection from God, without ever firing a shot at them. So what happened?

**Elisha:** When the king of Israel saw them, he asked me if he should kill them. And I told him not to. I simply told him to set food and water before them, so the king prepared a feast and then sent them away. So, the bands of Syrian raiders came no more in the land of Israel.

**Reporter:** So what can we all learn from this?

**Elisha:** Well, there are four things that we can learn.

**Instructions:** Fill in the blanks by using the words in the word bank.

protects    invisible    spiritual    blind    good    righteous
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God always <u>protects</u> those who follow His commandments! We have an <u>invisible</u> spiritual protection, who is our God.
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We need to pray and ask God to open our <u>spiritual</u> eyes. When a person is <u>blind</u> to spiritual matters, only God can open the eyes.
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Repay "no one evil for <u>evil</u> " (Rom 12:21) "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with <u>good</u> ."
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God answers the prayer of the " <u>righteous</u> ".  (1 Peter 3:12)
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## GOD IS IN CONTROL

Close your eyes for a minute and imagine what Elisha had to face in today's story. [Ask your students to close their eyes.] In front of you, there are thousands of armed soldiers who are about to capture you to take you to the king of Syria, a person who really doesn't like you. At this point, it may be difficult to believe that God has everything under control. Is God's power greater than these trained soldiers and their weapons? Does God even know that you are in danger? Where is He? [Ask your students to open their eyes.] It takes a lot of faith for someone to stay calm and hopeful when facing danger. But Elisha had experienced God every day of his life. He had utmost confidence that God is greater than the army of Syria, and that He was right there to help him because He knew that Elisha was in danger. Elisha had no doubt, even when facing death, that God has power over everything.

This is the kind of faith that we should strive for as children of God—unshakable! No matter what we are facing, whether danger or difficulty, we can have faith that God is in complete control. Still doubting? Let's read a few verses to see how God reassured us of His almighty power!

For Teachers: Divide the students into groups of 2-3. Ask them to turn to the following verses and read them, and then discuss the questions with their group. They should write their answers down on the worksheet. The answers are provided below.

### 1. Matthew 19:26

"But Jesus looked at them and said to them, 'With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

**Is there anything impossible with God?** No. Everything is possible with God.

### 2. Psalm 22:28

"For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations."

**Each nation has its own authorities. But who rules over all nations?** God rules over all nations.

### 3. Jeremiah 32:27

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"

**Is there anything God cannot do? If so, list them.** No, there's nothing God cannot do. There's nothing too hard for God.

### 4. Proverbs 16:33

"The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

**Who makes every decision in our lives?** God makes every decision in our lives.

### 5. Isaiah 45:6-7

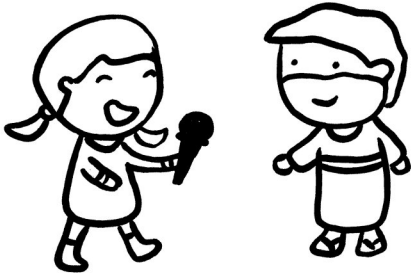
"That they may know from the rising sun to its setting that there is none besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other; I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things."

**Who makes everything around us happen? List some examples.** God makes everything happen. He forms light and creates darkness. He makes peace and creates calamity.

From the verses we just read, we can see that there's nothing too difficult for God—not our problems, not any sickness, not even a whole army! Furthermore, we know that God has promised never to leave or forsake us. Let's turn to Deuteronomy 31:6. [Ask students to read aloud together.] "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." God is always here for us. He is the One who is above all things and has control over all things. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Ps 46:1). We can rest assured that God is our protector.

# AN INTERVIEW WITH ELISHA

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**Reporter:** Hi, Elisha. We heard that the nation of Syria was always at war with Israel. Yet, every time they would move their army somewhere, God would tell you. Is that correct?

**Elisha:** Yes, God would tell me so Israel would win over and over again.

**Reporter:** So when Syria's king learned that it was you who was giving away his plans, he sent an army to get you.

**Elisha:** That's right. One morning, my servant went outside and saw that we were surrounded by enemy troops.

**Reporter:** What was his reaction?

**Elisha:** He asked me, "What are we going to do?" And I told him, (fill in the blanks by looking up verse 16) " \_\_\_\_\_"  
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**Reporter:** What did he see?

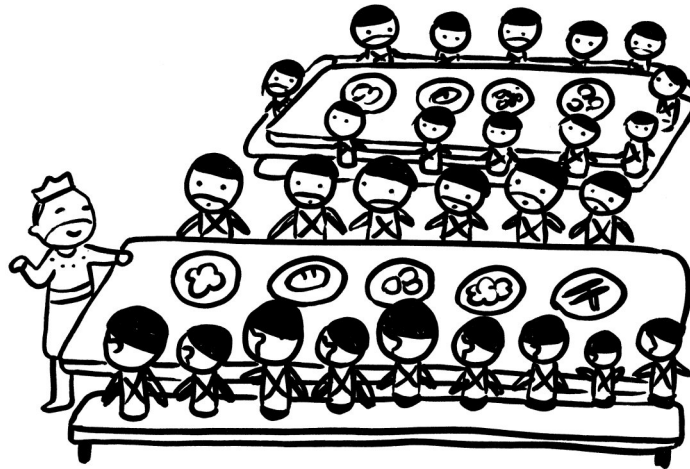
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And I said to them, "Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And I led them to Samaria and the Lord opened their eyes."

**Reporter:** This is amazing guidance and protection from God, without ever firing a shot at them. So what happened?

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**Reporter:** So what can we all learn from this?

**Elisha:** Well, there are four things that we can learn.

**Instructions:** Fill in the blanks by using the words in the word bank.

protects    invisible    spiritual    blind    good    righteous

God always \_\_\_\_\_ those who follow His commandments! We have an \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual protection, who is our God.

We need to pray and ask God to open our \_\_\_\_\_ eyes. When a person is \_\_\_\_\_ to spiritual matters, only God can open the eyes.

God answers the prayer of the " \_\_\_\_\_ ".

(1 Peter 3:12)

Repay "no one evil for \_\_\_\_\_"  
(Rom 12:21)

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with \_\_\_\_\_."



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**1. Matthew 19:26**

Is there anything impossible with God?

**2. Psalm 22:28**

Each nation has its own authorities. But who rules over all nations?

**3. Jeremiah 32:27**

Is there anything God cannot do? If so, list them.

**4. Proverbs 16:33**

Who makes every decision in our lives?

**5. Isaiah 45:6-7**

Who makes everything around us happen? List some examples.

# ELISHA DEMONSTRATES GOD'S POWER!



"Are we there yet?" Meredith's family was finally taking a road trip to visit different national parks! She had been planning for this trip for a long time, choosing which areas to visit and which places to stay at. However, when they finally set off on the trip, they ran into bad weather. The sound of the rain falling on the windshield sounded frightening, and yet soothing. Before she knew it, Meredith had fallen asleep. Then, a quick jerk forward and Meredith's eyes shot wide open. What was happening? In an instant, everything was spinning in front of her eyes, and she realized that it wasn't the world that was spinning, it was their car! Suddenly, she heard her father shout, "Hallelujah!" from the driver's seat and heard her mother pray loudly in the front passenger seat. Her younger brother, who had also been asleep next to her, looked at her with terror in his eyes, and she grabbed his hands, closed her eyes, and started praying with her mother. It seemed like forever before it happened, but the car finally came to a rest. Meredith didn't dare to open her eyes. "Is everyone OK?" Her father sounded both worried and relieved. "It's OK. We're OK. No one hit us. I braked hard to avoid hitting the car in front of me and the car spun out of control. But we're OK now. Thank God. Let's all say a prayer to thank God for His unfailing protection."

## • How could Meredith feel God's unfailing protection?



Landon had always enjoyed playing the most popular shooting games, which were usually violent and bloody. He didn't think that it was a problem because video games weren't real. He was just shooting the bad guys in the game; no one was getting hurt. But slowly, he started becoming addicted to these games and to violent movies. If there wasn't any violence, then it wasn't interesting to him. He started playing even more violent games, and spent more time playing games than doing homework,

reading the Bible, and praying. When his parents told him that he needed to limit his time, he'd yell at them. This went on for a while. But then one day, his mother came into his room and told him to start doing his homework. She politely asked him to turn off his video games, but he ignored her and kept playing. Then, she went over to turn off the system for him. As soon as she pressed the power button, Landon ran at her and pushed her really hard. She stumbled backwards a bit, but was otherwise fine. Landon didn't know what had come over him. "Mom, I'm sorry..." Landon's mother looked at him with sadness in her eyes and walked away without saying a word. That night, as he passed by his parents' room, he could hear her crying behind the doors and talking to his father about what he had done. Landon now saw what kind of influence these games had on him, and he did not like who he had become. Before going to bed, Landon prayed to God. "God, I am sorry for what I did. I am sorry that I didn't know how bad it was. And...thank You for opening my eyes to see the truth."

## • How were Landon's eyes opened to the truth?

Kaley used to enjoy going to school every day, but recently, she found it difficult to get out of bed and on to the school bus. Janet, a classmate of Kaley's, had started bullying her, and Kaley didn't even know why. They used to be good friends until a new girl came to their school and started telling Janet that Kaley was "uncool" and "boring." After that, not only would Janet refuse to hang out with Kaley, she would also call Kaley horrible names every day. Once, as Kaley was walking in the cafeteria with her food tray, Janet walked up to her and flipped the tray into Kaley's face. The food was all over Kaley's clothes. When Kaley's mother asked her what had happened, Kaley simply said that she had tripped in the cafeteria. Instances like this continued for a few months. Then, one day at school, Kaley found Janet sitting in the corner at the end of the hallway, crying. Looking at Janet, Kaley suddenly thought about all the times that Janet had made her cry. However, instead of smiling and ignoring Janet, Kaley walked up to her. "Janet, what's wrong? Can I help?" Kaley asked softly. Janet looked up and couldn't believe who was talking to her. "Why are you being so nice to me, Kaley? I've been so mean to you the past few months," said Janet, tearfully. "Yeah, you hurt my feelings a lot, but that doesn't mean I stopped caring. We used to be good friends, and I don't think you're a bad person." Kaley extended her hand to Janet, and together, the two of them walked down the hallway.

• **How did Kaley show love to her enemy?**



E2 Year 3 Book 2 Lesson 8—God's Army Protects Elisha and His Servant

# Homework Assignment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly Bible Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bible Reading:** Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

**Prayer:** Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

## What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (Psalm 121:2)

\_\_\_\_\_

## Multiple Choice

1. \_\_\_\_\_ : The king of Syria was angry because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. He found a spy in his army.
  - b. The Israelite army always seemed to know where he planned to attack.
  - c. The Israelite army defeated him.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ : When Elisha saw the Syrian army, he \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Ran to the wilderness
  - b. Was not afraid because an army of God's angels was on his side
  - c. Prayed to God for wisdom to know how to escape from them
3. \_\_\_\_\_ : When the Syrian army was led to Samaria, Elisha \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Told the king to feed them
  - b. Had them killed
  - c. Threatened the king of Syria so that he would never attack Israel again

## Short Answer

4. Why was Elisha's servant so afraid when he saw the Syrian army?
5. Why was Elisha not afraid when he saw the Syrian army?
6. Share a time when you felt God's protection.