

THE BIG IDEA | It's AMAZING! God knows what's best for me.

SCRIPTURE | Elijah and the Prophets of Baal: 1 Kings 18

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Retell the story from 1 Kings 18.*
- In today's story, we hear about how God sent a drought on the land where Elijah lived. A drought means there was no rain for a long time. Why did God allow a drought? Because the people there were worshipping idols, or false gods.
- God told Elijah to tell this news to King Ahab and his wife, Jezebel. They were not happy. King Ahab and Jezebel decided to take their anger out on God's prophets, or teachers, and began hurting them. Jezebel really wanted to hurt Elijah, so he went into hiding!
- After three years passed, God told Elijah it was time to come out of hiding. Elijah asked King Ahab to bring all the people from Israel to meet him at Mount Carmel. There, Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal, the false god the people had been worshipping, to a contest. Elijah and Baal's prophets would both present gifts – which is also called a sacrifice – to the false god and the real God, and whoever's gift, or sacrifice, was covered by fire was serving the one, true God.
- **Guess who won?** God, of course. The prophets of Baal did everything they could to call on their god, but there was no answer. When Elijah prayed to God, God sent fire – just like Elijah knew God would.
- God knew what was best for Elijah and for the people of Israel. God knew Elijah needed to come out of hiding to show that God was the one, true God. God knew the people needed to see this miraculous event to believe in God once again.
- Isn't that amazing?

ACTIVITY | Edible Candy Corn Play Dough

INSTRUCTIONS: *Mix three tablespoons of vegetable oil, one tablespoon of water, and two cups of candy corn in a glass bowl. Microwave the mixture for thirty seconds, stir, and continue to microwave for thirty seconds at a time until it's completely melted. Pour the mixture onto a surface covered with powdered sugar, and knead it eight to ten times using additional powdered sugar as needed to keep it from being sticky.*

- It is amazing when something can change into another thing. Our hard candy corn turned into soft play dough. In our story, God turned the hard hearts of the people who were worshiping Baal into believers of God.

DISCUSSION

Do you think anything happens when we pray to God?

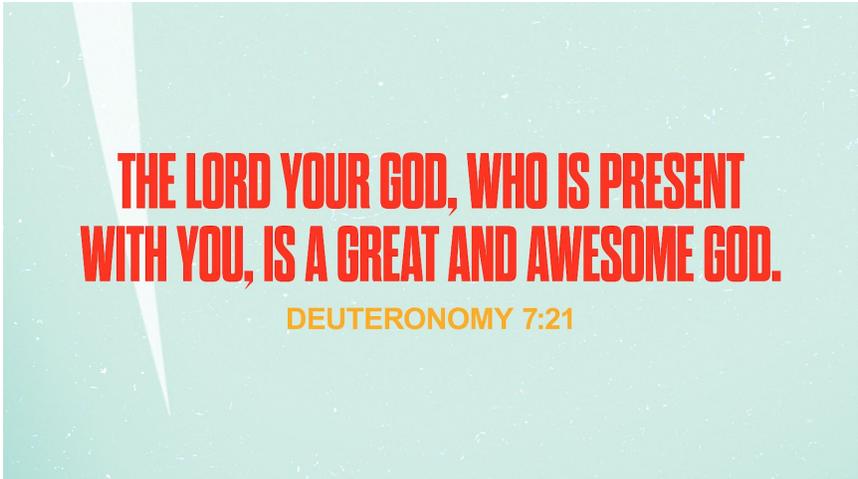
Read 1 Kings 18:39. How did the people respond when they saw God answered Elijah's prayer to burn up the sacrifice?

What needs do you pray to God about?

PRAYER

- God, thank You for being amazing! Thank You for always knowing what is best for us and for loving each of us.

MEMORY VERSE | Deuteronomy 7:21



**THE LORD YOUR GOD, WHO IS PRESENT
WITH YOU, IS A GREAT AND AWESOME GOD.**

DEUTERONOMY 7:21