



THE STORY BIBLE

This week, read and discuss these stories:

- **Elijah and the Prophets of Baal**, page 221
- **Elijah is Taken to Heaven**, page 224
- **Naaman and Elisha**, page 227
- **Jonah**, page 199
- **Isaiah Sees the Lord**, page 205

3 Aspects to Making Your Faith Part of Your Entire Life:

1. **Read the Bible and find Jesus in each passage.** When you finish your devotion, ask yourself, "What did I learn about Jesus today?" As we learn more about God's Word and His Son, we come to understand that we are all sinners and that Jesus lived, died, and was resurrected to forgive our sins. Understanding the purpose of Jesus mission helps us also understand our identify as sinners who are forgiven.
2. **Recognize your identity and calling.** Our identity as baptized, forgiven children of God never changes. After God fills us up with His love in His Word and Sacraments at church, He sends us out into the world to serve our neighbors and to share His message of salvation. Identify specific situations in which you can live out your identify as a child of God.
3. **Identify opportunities to serve God and your neighbors.** We can serve whomever we encounter wherever God has place us - at church, at home, at school or work. Identify situations were we can compassionately help our neighbors and tell them about Jesus.

Know the Bible Now (including Scripture references)

ELIJAH AND THE PROPHETS OF BAAL — [1 Kings 18:17-40](#) | KtBN page 136

- Early in the passage, Elijah asked Ahab, "How long will you limp between two different opinion?" What do you think he meant by that?
- What are some things that interfere with our relationship with God?

Prayer: *Lord, clear away those things in life which interfere with our relationship with you. Keep our faith strong in You. Amen.*

GOD TAKES ELIJAH TO HEAVEN — [1 Kings 19 & 2 Kings 2:1-14](#) | KtBN page 138

- Elijah wanted to give up and quit after being threatened with death. What did God do to reassure Elijah?
- In Matthew 28:20, Jesus said, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." How does that bring us assurance when times are tough?

Prayer: *When times are tough, Lord, assure me with your peace and love. Keep my eyes always fixed on you. Amen.*

NAAMAN AND ELISHA — [2 Kings 5:1-19](#) | KtBN page 140

- Why do you think Naaman was, at first, angry with Elisha?
- Why do you think God chose to heal Namaan quietly and simply, without a lot of hand waving and theatrics?

Prayer: *Be with me, Lord Help me when I struggle and grow sick to trust in you for everything in life. Amen.*

JONAH'S STORY— [Book of Jonah](#) | KtBN page 144

- Jonah didn't like Ninevah, and initially wanted God to punish them for their sin. God had other plans, though. What did he do to change Jonah's mind?
- How do you forgive someone who seems to be your enemy? Why is it good to forgive even our enemies?

Prayer: *Father, you care about everyone in the world. You want all people to be saved. Lord, give us opportunity to let your love and forgiveness shine to others. Amen.*

ISAIAH SEES THE LORD — [Isaiah 6:1-8, 7:10-14, 9:2-6, & 53:4-6](#) | KtBN page 150

- Isaiah wrote that Jesus' name would be Immanuel. Google/Search "Immanuel" and find out what it means. How is Jesus "Immanuel?"
- Isaiah also wrote "and with His stripes we are healed." Think about that wrong thing you have said, thought, or done. God has forgiven you through His son Jesus. What does that mean to you?

Prayer: *Lord, I am so thankful for the gift of forgiveness and life we have in Jesus. Teach me to live in the power of your forgiveness. Amen.*