

THE OBJECT LESSONS CHANNEL!



Gimme a Minute

- Object Lesson/Game good for seven-year-olds and up •

Main Point: This combination game/object lesson is a good way to start a lesson on Bible prophets and/or prophecy in the Bible.

Presentation Outline:

- Play the Gimme a Minute game.
- Use the Transition to move to the topic of prophecy.
- Tell whatever Bible story or passage you prefer. We've given you the great tale of Elijah and the 450 Prophets of Baal, but its not necessary to stick with that.
- Do the Activity Page coloring activity if you have told the story of Elijah.

Objects Required: A stopwatch—the app on your phone is perfect.

The Object Lesson Game: *Gimme a Minute* is the name of a super simple game that your whole group plays as one. It only takes a minute or two but it's good fun. The one requirement: Be sure the players cannot see the time on any clock or watch.

Here's how to play. Have the kids all sit down. Explain that you will start a stopwatch to time one minute. Players are to stand as each thinks a minute has gone by. Don't let on when sixty seconds are up; run the stopwatch 10-15 seconds beyond a minute—the game doesn't stop until all or almost all kids are standing. The player closest to 60 seconds wins the game.

Transition: Thank the kids for doing their best to predict when a minute had ended. Although they did their best to prophecy the exact moment, the test failed. Tell how a true prophet of God had to be 100 percent accurate (see Deuteronomy 18:22 below). Now tell your Bible story.

Bible Story: 1 Kings 18:20-40 - Elijah and the 450 Prophets of Baal.

The suggested Bible story pages and the Activity Page are based on the wonderful story of God sending fire from heaven to prove His greatness to the rebellious Israelites.

Activity Pages: What Happened to the 450 Prophets of Baal? A drawing/coloring activity.

For Extra Fun: After playing the game, or later after telling the Bible story—your choice—tell the kids you are going to test them to see which one might have what it takes to be a great prophet. Give each person a paper and pencil. Each one is to write down the exact time they think the lesson ends and they are dismissed to go home. When that time comes, read the pages to see who came the closest. But point out Deuteronomy 18:22: "If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the Lord does not take place or come true, that is a message the Lord has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed," NIV. In other words, the player must be EXACTLY right!

Link to the Object Lesson Demonstration Video: <https://youtu.be/j3-or-gW7pg>

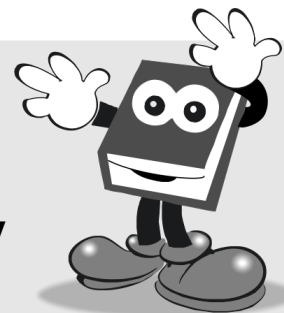
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Elijah and the 450 Prophets of Baal

Introduction and Commentary:

Super exciting story! It begins with a man named Elijah, a great prophet of God. He had many adventures in the Bible. But Elijah lived in Israel during a time when most people had walked away from God to follow a false god named Baal.

So Elijah did a brave thing. He challenged 450 prophets of Baal to prove that Baal was real. As we'll see, they could not. Wait until you hear what God did!



Elijah and the Prophets

From 1 Kings 18:21-39

Elijah said to the crowd, "How long will you run back and forth from one opinion to the other? If the Lord is God, stick with Him; if Baal is God, stick with him."

Then Elijah said, "Get two bulls for us, one for me, God's only prophet, and one for the 450 prophets of Baal. They will cut their bull into pieces to set on the wood on the altar of burnt offerings. I will do the same. But we will not set fire to the sacrifices. Then you prophets call to Baal to send fire. I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire is the true God!"

The crowd roared its approval.

The 450 prophets of Baal went first. They shouted the name of Baal from morning till noon. But no one answered. They danced around the bull on their altar with all their might.

At noon Elijah mocked them. "Shout louder!" he called. "Of course he is a god! Maybe he is lost in deep thought. He might be a little busy, or traveling. He may be sound asleep. Wake up!" The prophets screamed louder. They slashed themselves with swords, and stuck themselves with spears, as was their custom, until their blood gushed. They continued yelling frantically until it was evening. But there was only silence from above; no one answered, no one paid attention.

Elijah had the people come watch as he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold gallons of water. He arranged the wood,

A crowd was gathered at the base of a hill upon which stood Elijah, 450 prophets of Baal, and two stone alters.

Elijah challenged the people to choose one god to follow. He was telling them to make up their minds once and for all. God or Baal, one or the other. When we choose to follow Jesus, we are making up our minds. We are saying Jesus and Jesus alone. We are making a commitment to stick with the Lord faithfully and to do all the things He says to do.

Here's an easy question: Why didn't Baal answer? Right! He didn't exist!

cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he gave the order to fill four large jars with water and pour it on the bull and on the wood.

"Do it again," he said.

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

Then Elijah stepped forward and prayed loudly: "Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let everyone know today that you are God and I am your servant. I have done these things because you told me to. Answer me, Lord, so these people will know that you are God, and that you are turning their hearts back to you at last."

The fire of the Lord fell and burned up the bull, the wood, the stones and even the soil. It licked up the water in the trench.

When the people saw this, they fell face down and cried, "The Lord—He is God! The Lord—He is God!"

Elijah went to a great deal of effort to make it tough to start a fire under that dead bull!

Uh, oh! Is this prayer long enough to work? After all, the 450 prophets cried to their god all day long.

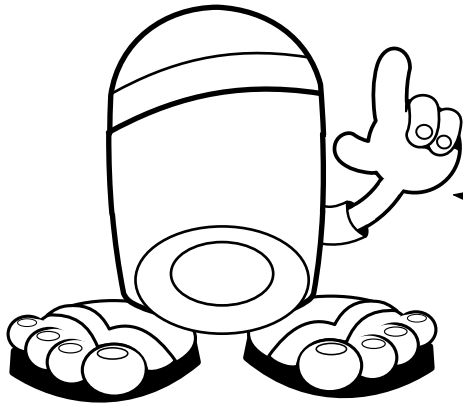
Yep, it worked!

Baal was just a fake, a fraud. Yet look at all the people that were fooled into following him, ignoring the true God, the Lord of all.

Let's make up our own hearts and minds. Let's choose to follow Jesus and stand tall like Elijah.

What Happened to the 450 Prophets of Baal?

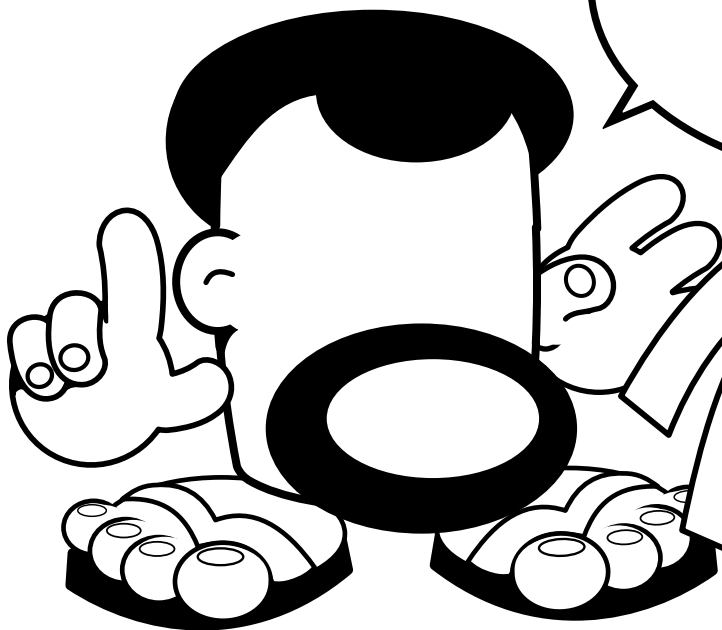
Draw in the faces and expressions and color.



Yeah. Anyone know what's going to happen to us 450 prophets now?

I wouldn't worry about it. Baal will save us!

Elijah



I wouldn't count on that.

ummm...Elijah ordered the crowd to seize the prophets. All 450 were put to death. So much for worshipping the phony god Baal!

