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YOU ARE THE GOD WHO PERFORMS MIRACLES.



Inspire (for parents)

"Mommy, we just have to pray about it!" I will never forget those sweet words coming out of my daughter's mouth. We were in a very rough season. My oldest daughter was having heart problems. The doctors had just asked us about trying a brand new procedure, specific to her problem. This meant having to travel some distance to a teaching hospital, and the procedure included many risks. As we wrestled with the decision, our fear must have been quite obvious to her little sister. With complete confidence, she remembered what she had been taught; to pray about it.

God used the faith of a child to remind us at that moment that He was the One and only to turn to. He was the One we needed to put our trust in for the healing of our daughter.

So, together as a family, we did just what my youngest daughter had suggested, we prayed about it. At that moment the fear and anxiety disappeared, and we decided to move forward with the procedure. All went perfectly, and her heart

problems were healed. In fact, she has her own little section with a picture of her heart in a teaching manual for this procedure.

In Psalm 77:13–14, Asaph declares, "Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples."

God is waiting for us to turn to Him; to show us His power in our everyday situations. God is the One and only.

by Debbie Guinn

Getting Started

Scripture: I Kings 16–22 (King Ahab and Elijah)
Main Point: God Is Our One and Only

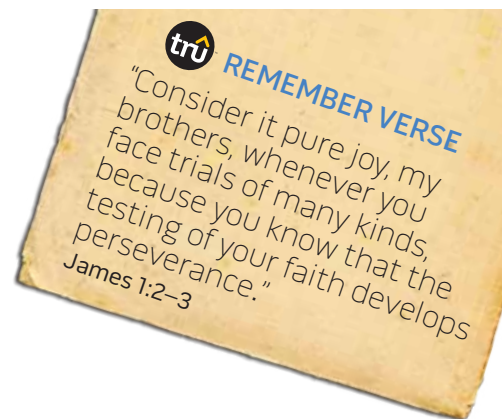
This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **before your children attend church**. Because God's plan is for parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers of their children's faith, we know that as you grow spiritually, your children will grow spiritually as well.

Equip (for parents)

God wanted to show His people He was their One and only when He made a covenant with His them. He promised He would bless them if they followed His laws, but also said He would chastise them if they did not (Deuteronomy 28:23–24; Leviticus 26:3–4, 18–19). In Israel, crops would not grow if the semiannual rains did not fall. Because the land belonged to the Lord, a drought would be God's way of staying true to His covenant, reprimanding His people for their apostasy, and punishing Israel's king for worshipping Baal instead of the one true God.

On Mt. Carmel, after the prophets had failed to get the attention of their false god, Elijah built an altar to the Lord using 12 stones. These may have symbolized the 12 tribes of Israel and affirmed their unity, even though the tribes were divided politically. Then he laid a sacrifice on it to the Lord. Elijah did this at "the time of sacrifice," which was 3 p.m., the hour of the regular sacrifice in the temple in Jerusalem (1 Kings 18:36). Similar to how God's people would have gathered for worship at the temple, Elijah gathered the people around him as he prayed that "these people [would] know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again" (v. 37).

God answered Elijah by sending fire from heaven and burning up the sacrifice that Baal could not consume. After this contest, God sent rain, at Elijah's request, showing that He—not Baal—had control over the weather. Through these two wonders, God showed that He is the One and only God, the One to whom His people should return, the One who can empower them to live a radical life of faith, even in the midst of a pagan people.



Support

(for parents & kids)

> **JUST FOR FUN**, create a "Masterpiece Theater" setting in your home. Find a comfy chair, and set a lamp up next to it. Gather your family and tell them that this part of The Big God Story is filled with excitement. Share with them that it ends with God being the Hero, showing His power, and proving He is the One and only God. Then, read **I Kings 17–18** together as a family, adding drama whenever possible.

Read it yourself first so you are familiar with this part of The Big God Story. When you are finished reading the passage, ask your children how God was the Hero. How did He show He was the One and only God? Ask them why they think God wants us to only worship Him.

Your conversation may lead naturally to a time of worship. What might that look like for your family? Tell your kids they will hear more about this part of The Big God Story this week at church.

