Exploring Our Faith • June 26, 2022

God's Special Messenger

A story based on 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

A long time ago there were two prophets who had names that sounded very much alike. One prophet was Elijah. The other prophet was Elisha.

One day when Elijah was travelling with Elisha, he stopped and said to Elisha, "I am very old. I will not be here much longer. I don't want you to travel with me anymore. Stay here."

But Elisha loved the older man, Elijah, and wanted to stay with him. Elisha said, "I will not leave you."

So the two men continued walking together. Finally, they came to the River Jordan. How were they to cross the river? Elijah knew. Elijah took off his cloak, rolled it up, and hit the water with it. Whoosh. Now there was a path in the middle of the water! Elijah and Elisha could walk through the river on a dry path!

Elijah and Elisha continued to talk as they walked. Elijah was teaching Elisha more about God's love. Suddenly,

out of nowhere a big gust of wind came out of the sky. A huge golden chariot pulled by four horses appeared. As Elisha watched, Elijah was whirled up into the chariot. Elijah was gone! Only Elijah's cloak was left on the ground. Elisha picked up the cloak and put it around his shoulders.

Slowly Elisha walked back to the river. And do you know how he crossed that river? Elisha called out to God for help and then Elisha did the same thing that Elijah had done. Elisha took off the cloak, rolled it up, and hit the water with it. Whoosh. A dry path appeared in the middle of the water, just like it had done for Elijah. Elisha walked through the river on that dry path.

Now Elisha knew that it was his turn to tell the people about God's story. Now Elisha would be God's special messenger. God's story would be told over and over and over again. And God's love would continue to grow and grow and grow.

Song: "Elijah Was a Prophet"

(tune: "Ring Around the Rosey")

Elijah was a prophet. Elisha was one too. Elijah, Elisha, Talked about God!

Elijah taught Elisha about God's love. As you decorate these drawings of Elijah and Elisha, think about people who teach you about God's love.





Activity: Showing God's Love

- 1. Copy this circle onto card stock or heavy paper.
- 2. Punch a hole at the top and add a string so it can be worn around the neck.
- 3. Decorate the other side of the circle with things you can do to show God's love.

