Preschool–Grade 6

Elisha and the Shunammite Woman

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: We can trust God when things are hard.
Bible passage: 2 Kings 4:8–37. Read it yourself before class.
Memory verse: "is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well." *2 Kings 4:26 (KJV)*. **Is it well** means "Is everything all right?"
You need: a Bible, a pillow, a small box, a small chair, a flashlight, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at 2 Kings 4. Hide the pillow, the box, the chair and the flashlight around the room.

1. Opening game: Make a Little Room (5 minutes)

Kids hunt for the four hidden things and bring them to one corner. Help them set up a "little room": the pillow is the bed, the box is the table, the chair is the stool, and the flashlight is the lamp. Count them together: one, two, three, four! Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a lady who made a little room for a man of God."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to 2 Kings 4. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Elisha was a man of God. He served God (2 Kings 4:9). *(Fold your hands.)*
A kind lady gave him bread to eat (4:8). *(Pretend to eat.)*
She made him a little room (4:10). *(Make a roof with your arms.)*
A bed, a table, a stool and a lamp (4:10). *(Count four fingers.)*
God gave the lady a baby boy (4:17). *(Rock a baby in your arms.)*
One day the boy said, "My head, my head" (4:19). *(Hold your head.)*
He sat on his mother's knees till noon, and then he died (4:20). *(Make a sad face.)*
She went fast to the man of God (4:24–25). *(Run in place.)*
Someone asked, "Is it well?" She said, "It is well" (4:26). **Say it with me: "It is well!"**
Elisha shut the door and prayed to God (4:33). *(Fold your hands.)*
The boy sneezed seven times (4:35). *(Say "Achoo!" seven times and count.)*
The boy opened his eyes (4:35)! *(Open your eyes wide.)*
"Take up thy son." His mother took up her son (4:36–37). *(Hug yourself.)*
Say it with me: "God hears me when I pray!"

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. What did the lady make for Elisha? *(A little room, 2 Kings 4:10)*
2. What did the lady say? *("It is well," 4:26)*
3. How many times did the boy sneeze? *(Seven times, 4:35)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Someone asked the lady, 'Is it well with the child?' And she said, 'It is well.' That means, 'Everything is all right.'" You say the question: "is it well with the child?" The kids answer with a big thumbs-up: "And she answered, It is well." Do it three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "2 Kings 4:26" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! When we are sad, we can run to God and pray. Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: The Little Room (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw the little room with a bed in it. Then they add the table, the stool and the lamp. While they color, ask: "What did the lady say? Who hears us when we pray?" Kids who finish early can set up the little room in the corner again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for hearing me when I pray.
When I am sad, I will run to You. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: tell the sad part gently. "He sat on his mother's knees till noon, and then he died" is enough; little ones don't need more. Keep the happy ending big: the boy opened his eyes! Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child is sad about someone who died: let them talk, and say it is all right to be sad. God cares. Don't guess about any person. Let the child's parents know.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post