

- Song 79 and Prayer
- Opening Comments (1 min.)

TREASURES FROM GOD'S WORD

"A Fine Example of Training": (10 min.)

[Play the video *Introduction to 2 Kings*.]

Elisha watched as Elijah performed a miracle (2Ki 2:8; w15 4/15 13 ¶15; see cover picture)

(2 Kings 2:8) Then E-li'jah took his official garment and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they were divided to the left and to the right, so that both of them went across on the dry ground.

*** w15 4/15 p. 13 par. 15 How Elders Train Others to Become Qualified ***

15 The account of Elijah's successor, Elisha, also indicates how brothers today can show due respect for experienced elders. After Elijah and Elisha had visited a group of prophets in Jericho, the two men walked to the Jordan River. There, "Elijah took his official garment and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they were divided." After crossing the dry riverbed, the men kept on "speaking as they walked." Clearly, Elisha did not think that by now he knew it all. Until the moment Elijah left, Elisha took to heart each word spoken by his teacher. Then Elijah ascended in a windstorm. Later, back at the Jordan, Elisha struck the waters with Elijah's garment, calling out: "Where is Jehovah, the God of Elijah?" Again, the waters were divided.—2 Ki. 2:8-14.

- (2 Kings 2:8-14) 8 Then E-li'jah took his official garment and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they were divided to the left and to the right, so that both of them went across on the dry ground. 9 As soon as they had gone across, E-li'jah said to E-li'sha: "Ask what you want me to do for you before I am taken from you." So E-li'sha said: "Please, may I receive a double portion of your

spirit?" 10 He replied: "You have asked a difficult thing. If you see me when I am taken from you, it will happen for you that way; but if you do not, it will not happen." 11 As they were walking along, speaking as they walked, suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses made a separation between the two of them, and E-li'jah ascended to the heavens in the windstorm. 12 While E-li'sha was watching, he was crying out: "My father, my father! The chariot of Israel and his horsemen!" When he could no longer see him, he took hold of his own garments and ripped them into two pieces. 13 After that he picked up the official garment of E-li'jah that had fallen off him and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. 14 Then he took the official garment of E-li'jah that had fallen off him and struck the waters and said: "Where is Jehovah, the God of E-li'jah?" When he struck the waters, they were divided to the left and to the right, so that E-li'sha went across.

Elisha humbly used the fine training he received (2Ki 2:13, 14; w15 4/15 13 ¶16)

(2 Kings 2:13, 14) After that he picked up the official garment of E-li'jah that had fallen off him and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. 14 Then he took the official garment of E-li'jah that had fallen off him and struck the waters and said: "Where is Jehovah, the God of E-li'jah?" When he struck the waters, they were divided to the left and to the right, so that E-li'sha went across.

*** w15 4/15 p. 13 par. 16 How Elders Train Others to Become Qualified ***

16 Did you note that the first miracle performed by Elisha was an exact copy of the last miracle performed by Elijah? Why is that of interest? Apparently, Elisha did not feel that since he was now at the helm, he needed to change course right away. Instead, by continuing in the

way that Elijah had carried out his ministry, Elisha showed due respect for his teacher, which reassured Elisha's fellow prophets. (2 Ki. 2:15) Later, though, during Elisha's 60-year-long ministry as a prophet, Jehovah moved him to perform many more miracles than Elijah ever did. What is the lesson for you as a learner today?

- (2 Kings 2:15) 15 When the sons of the prophets at Jer'i-cho saw him from a distance, they said: "The spirit of E-li'jah has settled down on E-li'sha." So they went to meet him and bowed down to the ground before him.

In the congregation, Jehovah entrusts the elders with the responsibility of training others. (2Ti 2:2) If the elders offer you training, be willing, reliable, and humble.

- **(2 Timothy 2:2)** and the things you heard from me that were supported by many witnesses, these things entrust to faithful men, who, in turn, will be adequately qualified to teach others.

Spiritual Gems:

2Ki 2:11—Where did Elijah go when he "ascended to the heavens in the windstorm"? (w05 8/1 9 ¶1)

(2 Kings 2:11) 11 As they were walking along, speaking as they walked, suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses made a separation between the two of them, and E-li'jah ascended to the heavens in the windstorm.

*** w05 8/1 p. 9 par. 1 Highlights From the Book of Second Kings ***

2:11—What were "the heavens" to which "Elijah went ascending in the windstorm"? These were neither the distant parts of the physical universe nor the spiritual place where God and his angelic sons dwell. (Deuteronomy 4:19; Psalm 11:4; Matthew 6:9; 18:10) "The heavens" to which Elijah ascended were the atmospheric heavens. (Psalm 78:26; Matthew 6:26) Racing through earth's atmosphere, the fiery chariot evidently transferred Elijah to another part of the earth, where he continued living for a time. Years later, in fact, Elijah wrote a letter to Jehoram, the king of Judah.—2 Chronicles 21:1, 12-15.

- (2 Kings 2:11) As they were walking along, speaking as they walked, suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses made a separation between the two of them, and E-li'jah ascended to the heavens in the windstorm.
- (Deuteronomy 4:19) And when you raise your eyes to the heavens and see the sun and the moon and the stars—all the army of the heavens—do not get seduced and bow down to them and serve them. Jehovah your God has given them to all the peoples under the whole heavens.
- (Psalm 11:4) Jehovah is in his holy temple. Jehovah's throne is in the heavens. His own eyes see, his watchful eyes examine the sons of men.
- (Matthew 6:9) "You must pray, then, this way: "Our Father in the heavens, let your name be sanctified.
- (Matthew 18:10) See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my Father who is in heaven.

- (Psalm 78:26) He stirred up the east wind in the heavens And made a south wind blow by his power.
- (Matthew 6:26) Observe intently the birds of heaven; they do not sow seed or reap or gather into storehouses, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth more than they are?
- (2 Chronicles 21:1) Then Je-hosh'a-phat was laid to rest with his forefathers and was buried with his forefathers in the City of David; and his son Je-ho'ram became king in his place.
- (2 Chronicles 21:12-15) Eventually a written message came to him from E-li'jah the prophet, saying: "This is what Jehovah the God of David your forefather says, 'You have not walked in the ways of your father Je-hosh'a-phat or in the ways of King A'sa of Judah. 13 But you walk in the way of the kings of Israel and cause Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to commit spiritual prostitution like the prostitution of the house of A'hab, and you even killed your own brothers, the household of your father, who were better than you. 14 Therefore, Jehovah is dealing a great blow to your people, to your sons, to your wives, and to all your possessions. 15 And you will suffer with many sicknesses, including a disease of your intestines, until your intestines come out because of the disease, day after day.'"

What spiritual gems from this week's Bible reading would you like to share regarding Jehovah, the field ministry, or something else?

Bible Reading:) (4 min.)
2Ki 2:1-10 (th study 10)

(2 Kings 2:1-10) 2 When Jehovah was about to take E-li'jah up to the heavens in a windstorm, E-li'jah and E-li'sha went out from Gil'gal. 2 E-li'jah said to E-li'sha: "Stay here, please, because Jehovah has sent me on to Beth'el." But E-li'sha said: "As surely as Jehovah is living and as you are living, I will not leave you." So they went down to Beth'el. 3 Then the sons of the prophets in Beth'el came out to E-li'sha and said to him: "Do you know that today Jehovah is taking your master away from headship over you?" At this he said: "I already know it. Be silent." 4 E-li'jah now said to him: "E-li'sha, stay here, please, because Jehovah has sent me on to Jer'i-cho." But he said: "As surely as Jehovah is living and as you are living, I will not leave you." So they came to Jer'i-cho. 5 Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jer'i-cho approached E-li'sha and said to him: "Do you know that today Jehovah is taking your master away from headship over you?" At this he said: "I already know it. Be silent." 6 E-li'jah now said to him: "Stay here, please, because Jehovah has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said: "As surely as Jehovah is living and as you are living, I will not leave you." So both of them went on. 7 And 50 of the sons of the prophets also went and stood watching from a distance while the two of them stood by the Jordan. 8 Then E-li'jah took his official garment and rolled it up and struck the waters, and they were divided to the left and to the right, so that both of them went across on the dry ground. 9 As soon as they had gone across, E-li'jah said to E-li'sha: "Ask what you want me to do for you before I am taken from you." So E-li'sha said: "Please, may I receive a double portion of your spirit?" 10 He replied: "You have asked a difficult thing. If you see me when I am taken from you, it will happen for you that way; but if you do not, it will not happen."

APPLY YOURSELF TO THE FIELD MINISTRY

Initial Call: (3 min.) Use the sample conversation topic. Overcome a common objection. (th study 12)

Initial Call

Question: Where can we find practical advice for daily living?

Scripture: 2Ti 3:16, 17

Link: Why can you trust the Bible?

- (2 Timothy 3:16, 17) All Scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be fully competent, completely equipped for every good work.

Return Visit: (4 min.) Begin with the sample conversation topic. Explain our free Bible study program, and give the person a Bible course contact card. (th study 13)

Return Visit

Question: Why can you trust the Bible?

Scripture: Job 26:7

Link: What are some questions that the Bible answers?

(Job 26:7) He stretches out the northern sky over empty space, Suspending the earth upon nothing;

Bible Study: (5 min.) Iff lesson 07 summary, review, and goal (th study 14)

SUMMARY

Jehovah is an invisible Spirit with many appealing qualities, especially love.

Review

- Why are we unable to see Jehovah?
- What is the holy spirit?
- What are some of Jehovah's qualities?

Lesson completed on: _____

Goal

■ After reading Psalm 23, try to discern what it reveals about God's personality.

■ Other: _____

- (Psalm 23:superscription-6) A melody of David.
- 23 Jehovah is my Shepherd. I will lack nothing. 2 In grassy pastures he makes me lie down; He leads me to well-watered resting-places. 3 He refreshes me. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of his name. 4 Though I walk in the valley of deep shadow, I fear no harm, For you are with me; Your rod and your staff reassure me. 5 You prepare a table for me before my enemies. You refresh my head with oil; My cup is well-filled. 6 Surely goodness and loyal love will pursue me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of Jehovah for all my days.

LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

Song 53

“Helpful Features of Enjoy Life Forever!”: (15 min.) Discussion. Briefly interview a publisher who is conducting a Bible study using Enjoy Life Forever! Ask the publisher: What have you enjoyed about using this study tool? How are the videos and viewpoint questions affecting the student?

Helpful Features of Enjoy Life Forever!

Do you appreciate the videos and viewpoint questions in the Enjoy Life Forever! book? How about the features “Some People Say,” “Goal,” and “Explore”? What other features might you find helpful as you participate in the disciple-making work?—Mt 28:19, 20.

- (Mt 28:19, 20.) 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things.”

Media: If you prefer to conduct a Bible study using a printed book, how can you easily access all of the videos and other media in one place? In the digital book, select one of the four main sections. At the bottom of the list of lesson titles, you can select all the media for that particular section. (See picture 1.)

“Printed Edition” setting: If you are studying with someone from an electronic device, you may find it helpful to use the “Printed Edition” setting at various times during the study. While in the lesson, tap on the three dots in the toolbar at the top of the page and select “Printed Edition.” This layout may help you to keep clearly in mind how the material you are discussing relates to the overall theme of the lesson. To return to the digital edition, tap the three dots again and select “Digital Edition.”

“Am I Ready?”: These boxes near the end of the book outline the basic qualifications for preaching with the congregation and getting baptized. (See picture 2.)

Endnotes: Endnotes provide explanatory material regarding certain important subjects. The digital book includes a link at the end of each endnote that will take you back to where you left off in the lesson. (See picture 2.)

[Blurb on page 13]

Be sure to study Enjoy Life Forever! to completion with progressive Bible students, even if they get baptized before you finish. You may continue to count the time, the return visits, and the study even after the student is baptized. If a publisher accompanies you and participates in the study, he too may count the time

What have you enjoyed about using this study tool?

How are the videos and viewpoint questions affecting the student?

Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**Congregation Bible Study: (30 min.)**

Iff lesson 24

(Job 38:7) When the morning stars joyfully cried out together, And all the sons of God began shouting in applause?

(Hebrews 1:14) Are they not all spirits for holy service, sent out to minister for those who are going to inherit salvation?

(Revelation 5:11) And I saw, and I heard a voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders, and the number of them was myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

(Psalm 103:20) Praise Jehovah, all you his angels, mighty in power, Who carry out his word, obeying his voice.

(Revelation 12:9) So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth; he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him.

(Revelation 12:9) So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth; he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him.

(Revelation 12:12) On this account be glad, you heavens and you who reside in them! Woe for the earth and for the sea, because the Devil has come down to you, having great anger, knowing that he has a short period of time."

(Leviticus 19:31) "Do not turn to the spirit mediums, and do not consult fortune-tellers so as to become unclean by them. I am Jehovah your God.

(Revelation 14:6, 7) And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, and he had everlasting good news to declare to those who dwell on the earth, to every nation and tribe and tongue and people. 7 He was saying in a loud voice: "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of judgment by him has arrived, so worship the One who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the springs of water."

(Luke 9:38-42) And look! a man called out from the crowd, saying: "Teacher, I beg you to take a look at my son, because he is my only one. 39 And look! a spirit seizes him, and suddenly he cries out, and it throws him into convulsions with foaming at the mouth, and only with difficulty does it leave him after bruising him. 40 I begged your disciples to expel it, but they could not." 41 In response Jesus said: "O faithless and twisted generation, how long must I continue with you and put up with you? Bring your son over here." 42 But even as he was approaching, the demon hurled him to the ground and violently threw him into a convulsion. However, Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.

(Deuteronomy 18:10-12) There should not be found in you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, anyone who employs divination, anyone practicing magic, anyone who looks for omens, a sorcerer, 11 anyone binding others with a spell, anyone who consults a spirit medium or a fortune-teller, or anyone who inquires of the dead. 12 For whoever does these things is detestable to Jehovah, and on account of these detestable practices Jehovah your God is driving them away from before you.

(Acts 19:19) Indeed, quite a number of those who practiced magical arts brought their books together and burned them up before everybody. And they calculated their value and found them worth 50,000 pieces of silver.

(1 Corinthians 10:21) You cannot be drinking the cup of Jehovah and the cup of demons; you cannot be partaking of "the table of Jehovah" and the table of demons.

(Revelation 12:7-9) And war broke out in heaven: Mi'cha-el and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon and its angels battled 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them any longer in heaven. 9 So down the great dragon was hurled, the original serpent, the one called Devil and Satan, who is misleading the entire inhabited earth; he was hurled down to the earth, and his angels were hurled down with him.

(James 4:7) Therefore, subject yourselves to God; but oppose the Devil, and he will flee from you.

- Concluding Comments (3 min.)
- Song 66 and Prayer