

WEEK 5 | ELEMENTARY (4-5)

Need to Know: God Is My Defender

Bible Story: Elisha

Bible Reference: 2 Kings 6:8-23



READ THE BIBLE

- DO**
- Assign the following roles for kids to act out while you read, and tell them what to say when they hear their character's name.
 - King of Aram [pronounced: Air-um] (2 kids) - Say, "Grrrr!"
 - King of Israel (2 kids) - Say, "Hello!"
 - Elisha (2 kids) - Say, "Look!"
 - Soldiers (remaining kids) - Say, "Hi-yah!"
 - Read the **Bible Story Sheet**, having kids say their line when they hear their name.

- SAY**
- *What were some of the ways God defended Elisha? (The angel army, answered Elisha's prayer)*
 - *Right! And just like God defended Elisha, God will defend you, too! God is always with you, and you can trust Him to protect you because He loves you!*

LET'S PRACTICE

OPTION 1: SAVE THE PANDAS

- DO**
1. Place **Bamboo Cards** in the center of the group, face down.
 2. Divide the group into two teams.
 3. Allow teams to take turns selecting one Card. If the Card has a panda on the back it, the team will keep it. But if it has a lemur, it will be returned to the pile, face down.
 4. The team with the most pandas wins!
 5. After game is over, have kids repeat:
God Is My Defender

OPTION 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What are some ways that God defends us, His people?*
2. *Do you think that God is working even when you can't see Him?*
3. *Why does God defend us?*
4. *When you feel like you need to defend yourself, how can you let God defend you instead?*
5. Have kids repeat:
God Is My Defender

LET'S PRAY

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for defending us! Please help us remember to ask You for help when we are facing times of trouble. We love You! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

MEMORIZE IT

SAY

In this series, we're learning all about the different names of God. That's because there is a promise in God's Word, the Bible, that tells us what happens when we know His name. This Bible verse says: (Pause to allow kids to repeat)

***"Those who know Your name
trust in You,
for You, O Lord,
do not abandon
those who search for You."
Psalm 9:10***

DO

Divide the group into two teams, "Captains" and "Passengers." The team that is "Captains" will say the verse while the "Passengers" do the motions. Repeat the game, having teams switch roles. Remind kids to work on memorizing the verse this week.

Give kids **drawing utensils** and allow them to complete their **Memory Verse Activity Sheet**.

BIBLE STORY SHEET

Wk 5 - K-5 - Bible Story Sheet

Read the Bible story aloud to your group. When you say one of the underlined characters, have the kid(s) with that assignment do the following:

- King of Aram [pronounced: Air-um]: Say, "Grrr!"
- King of Israel: Say, "Hello!"
- Elisha: Say, "Look!"
- Soldiers: Say, "Hi-yah!"

In the Bible, there is a story about two kings who were at war — the King of Aram, who was a really bad guy, and the King of Israel, who was a really good guy. The King of Aram had plans to attack God's people, the Israelites. But what the King of Aram didn't know was that there was a prophet named Elisha who was getting the inside scoop from God. God was speaking directly to him, telling him exactly what the King of Aram was planning! Elisha went straight to the King of Israel to tell him what God had said.

This happened several times, which made the King of Aram so mad. For example, if his army went north, the Israelites knew and went south! The King of Aram wanted to know who was telling all of his plans. One of his soldiers spoke up and told him about Elisha, who was telling the King of Israel what was going on. So the King of Aram devised a plan to get rid of Elisha once and for all.

That night he sent horses, chariots, and a strong army of soldiers to surround the city where Elisha was staying. Elisha's servant saw the army, got really scared, and ran to him asking what they should do. But what did Elisha do? He prayed to God! That's when God opened the servant's eyes to see that they were surrounded by another army with horses and chariots made of fire! That army was God's army of angels that He had sent to defend the Israelites.

Not only that, God made the King of Aram's army blind — they couldn't see a thing. His soldiers walked right up to Elisha without knowing it was him and asked where they might find Elisha. He was able to trick the soldiers and sent them straight toward the Israelite army. When they got there, Elisha prayed for God to open their eyes. They were so confused when God opened their eyes and they realized where they had ended up. But instead of fighting, the King of Israel whipped up a special feast for the soldiers, and after that, the King of Aram didn't bother God's people for a long time. God defended the Israelites once again! God is powerful, and He's protecting us all the time. That's why we call God our Defender!



Why do you think God would defend us?

(Because He loves us, because we are His, because He wants what's best for us) **That's right! God loves each and every one of us. So, even when we can't see Him, we can know He's defending us!**

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Ecclesiastes 4:12 says, "An enemy might defeat one person, but two people together can defend themselves. A rope that has three parts wrapped together is hard to break." What do you think this verse helps us to understand about our Defender, God? (Allow responses) Thanks for sharing! God knew that we would have times of trouble in our life, so one way He defends us is by sending others to help! And when two people are working together, God will be that third part, like in the rope, that will help us be strong.

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



When are some times that you need God to protect or defend you? (Allow responses) Because God is always with us, He's always protecting us. God is defending us, even when we aren't thinking about how much we need Him.

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Who remembers what we need to know today? (Allow responses) Let's all say it together!

God Is My Defender

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



The Bible says in the book of Psalms that, "The Lord defends those who suffer. He protects them in times of trouble." What does it mean to suffer? (Allow responses) There are many different types of suffering, but we can count on this promise from God's Word that He will defend us in our times of trouble.

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Now that you know God is your Defender, can you look back and see ways that God was protecting you even when you didn't know it then? (Allow responses) In the book of the Bible called Matthew, it says, "... In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." When we look back on our lives, we can see that God has been defending us, and we'll be encouraged that He'll defend us the next time something happens.

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



The Bible tells us to speak up for those who cannot defend themselves. When you see someone who is suffering, what can you do? (Speak up to someone who can help them, help them in any way you can, encourage them, pray for them) God wants us to grow to be more like Him every day. One way that we can do that is to help defend those around us.

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



When someone says mean things to you or about you, how do you respond? (Allow responses) When people do that, we may want to defend ourselves, but who can do a better job of defending you — you or God? (God) 1 Peter 2:3 the Bible says that people shouted at Jesus and made fun of Him, "But He didn't do the same thing back to them ... instead, He trusted in the God who judges fairly." So, how can you be like Jesus when this happens to you? (Let God defend you, don't argue or be mean back, pray, trust that God sees and will take care of it)

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Proverbs 3:26 says, “The Lord will keep you safe.” Do you believe this? (Yes) Why? (Allow responses) **That’s right! God’s Word is true, and it can be trusted! That’s why we can believe that God is our Defender!**

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



In today’s Bible story, when Elisha heard the bad news that the enemy army was coming, what did he do? (Pray) And when he prayed, what did he see? (God was defending him) So what are you going to do the next time you get some bad news? (Pray and trust that God is there defending you)

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



In Psalm 12:7 David prays, “Lord, keep us safe. Always protect us ...” When you need God to defend you, what can you do? (Pray, worship, read God’s Word) That’s right! Praying is just our way of talking to God. Worshipping God and reading His Word helps us to spend time with Him and think about the truth of who He is — our Defender. We can talk to Him anytime, about anything. He loves us and wants to defend us!

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



What does it mean that God is your Defender? (He is always with us, He is taking care of us even when we can’t see it, He is powerful) **That’s right!**

Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



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Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards



Wk 5 - 4-5 - Bamboo Cards

Find the missing words to complete the memory verse below.

I	I	J	H	R	O	C	N	Y	X
I	R	T	R	U	S	T	B	I	C
R	X	S	Y	Z	C	N	O	F	K
O	H	E	Y	O	U	D	O	J	Z
T	D	A	I	N	J	T	V	P	R
N	Y	R	Y	N	V	A	P	P	X
A	H	C	K	N	O	W	U	D	M
M	R	H	L	O	R	D	T	J	D
E	S	T	M	E	A	T	Q	U	B

Word Bank:

Lord

name

trust

know

You

search

"Those who _____ Your _____
 in You, for You, O _____, do not abandon
 those who _____ for _____." Psalm 9:10

Week 5 • Need to Know: God Is My Defender

Today's Bible Story: Elisha (2 Kings 6:8-23)



Name _____