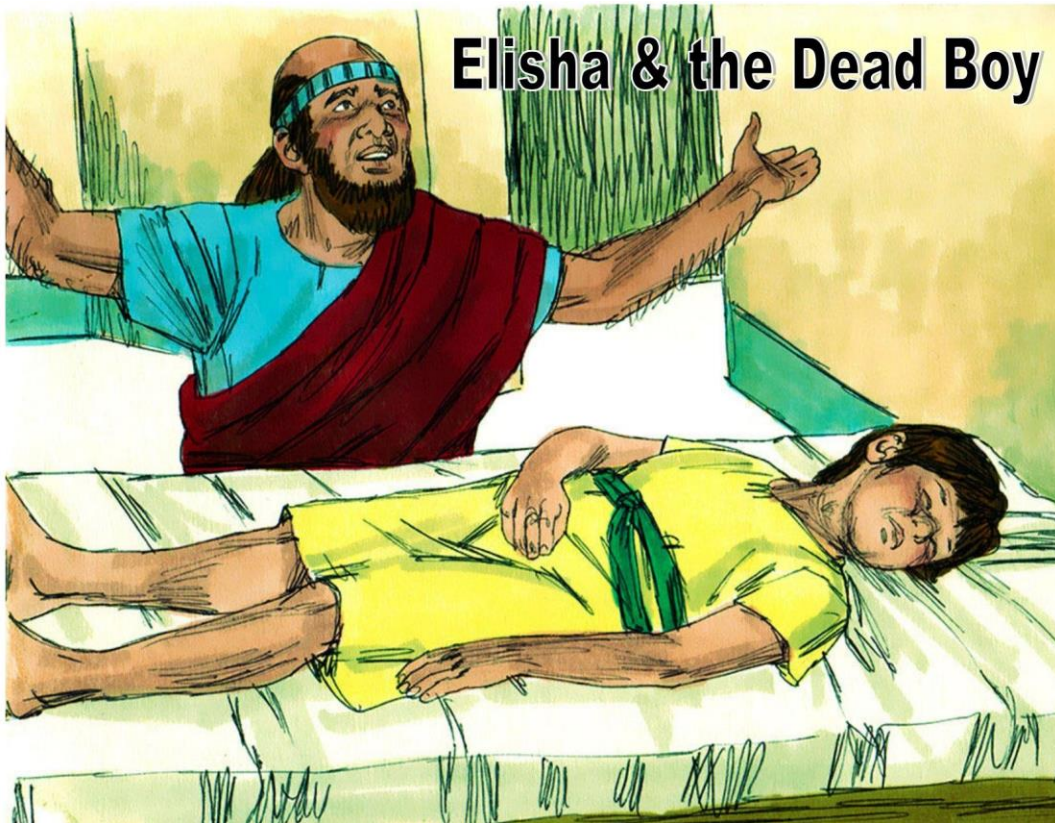


## A Couple Helped Elisha & a Dead Boy is Raised to Life



**Bible Truth:** God is always there and will provide for us. He provided a place to stay for Elisha, a son for the Shunammite woman and raised the boy from the dead.

**Unit Verse:** "God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble." Psalm 46:1

**Bible Story:** 2 Kings 4:8-37

**Copy and Paste this Link to view a slide show of the bible story:**

<http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/elisha-boy/>

**Review Questions:**

1. What did Elisha do after the son died?
2. What did Elisha ask the woman?
3. What did the woman say when Elisha asked what she wanted?
4. What did the woman do for Elisha?
5. What did God do for the woman?
6. What happened to the woman's son?

## **Background Study:**

As Elisha, the prophet, travelled from town to town there must have been many times when it was difficult to find lodging. Israelite travelers (especially an Israelite going into a town of Israel) could expect to be invited into someone's home for a meal. If it were evening, the traveler would be asked to spend the night. The Shunammite woman's request that Elisha have a meal and spend the night did not come as a shock to Elisha. After that, whenever he was in Shunem, he visited and stayed with them.

The woman's husband must have been as hospitable as she. When she suggested they build an extra room onto their home for Elisha, her husband agreed. This family was wealthy. Even for a wealthy person, it was no small matter to build an extra room onto a house, plus there was the added expense of furnishing it. They did all this for a man who only visited with them from time to time.

Elisha was impressed and touched by the generosity of these godly people. He wanted to do something for them to show his gratitude. When he asked the woman what she needed, she replied that she had everything she needed. It was Elisha's servant, Gehazi, who realized what the perfect gift would be – a son. Elisha called the woman and prophesied that she would bear a son within the year.

The prophecy came to pass, but some years later the boy suffered from an illness while helping his father in the fields. The boy died a few hours later. The woman immediately asked her husband to let her go to Elisha. He agreed even though he did not understand why she wanted to go.

When the woman saw Elisha, she did not berate him. She stated that she did not ask for a son, but was given one and now he had been taken away from her. She believed that Elisha could do something to help her son and he did.

Elisha instructed his servant to hurry to the child. Gehazi did not even greet anyone, but lay his staff on the boy's face. The staff did not revive the child.

When Elisha arrived, he went into the room with the dead child, shut the door, prayed, stretched himself on the child to warm him, and prayed. God heard his prayer and restored the life to the child! The woman bowed before Elisha in humble gratitude before she took her cherished son and left the room.

Elisha continued to see this family as the years went by ([2 Kings 8:1-6](#)).

**Bible Story Matching- See Page 3**

**Coloring Page- See Page 4**

God is our refuge and strength,  
a helper who is always found in  
times of trouble.

— PSALM 46:1

# COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Circle the different ways God has blessed you.

friends water shelter  
clothing family food



## Bible Story Matching

Match the Scriptures to the events from the Bible story.

2 Kings 4:14-17

2 Kings 4:32-36

2 Kings 4:18-21

2 Kings 4:11-13

2 Kings 4:8-10

The woman was kind to Elisha.

Elisha asked the woman what she wanted.

The woman was blessed with a son.

The woman's son died.

God brought the woman's son back from the dead.



A room for Elisha