MONDAY

God has the power to

PROVIDE!

Glacier Bay Resort and Convention Center

"With God, all things

GOD PROVIDES

Did you Know?

Elijah was a prophet in Israel during the rule of King Ahab, whose reign is placed around 874-853 B.C.

Elijah called for people, specifically the rulers of Israel and Judah, to put their faith in God rather than the false god Baal.

Elijah's name means "my God is Yahweh." *Yahweh,* meaning "Lord," is the Hebrew word for God. Another way to phrase it is "the Lord is my God." Even Elijah's name reminded God's people to repent and once again worship God.

Elijah spread his message about God throughout the capital and major cities of the
kingdom. The Bible says Elijah came from a land east of the Jordan River, from a place
called Gilead. This means that the urban people Elijah spoke to probably looked down on him, regarding him as a simple, uneducated country man.

What a great reminder that God can use anybody to do his work!

Baal was known as the god of lightning and storm; he was believed to have control over the fertility of the land and crops. God sent a great drought over the land by withholding the rain, showing King Ahab and the people of Israel that Baal had no power. The drought continued for three years.

Why it Matters

Although most kids at your VBS probably have a place to sleep and food to eat, they still have other real needs—maybe a child's parent lost his or her job, or perhaps a child feels friendless at school. Help children understand that God is bigger than any of those needs, and he has the power to provide. Give kids the reassurance that they can hold on to God's mighty power to provide for their needs. You'll also have the opportunity to encourage kids to recognize and thank God for providing their most
fundamental blessings—things like clean drinking water, the privilege of coming to church to learn about Jesus, and love from friends and family members.

GLACIER BAY RESORT

MONDAY

God has the power to PROVIDE

'God will generously provide all your needs.'
2 Cor. 9:8

God provides for Elijah

KLYMER

Pack Your Bags

Look for these items in your daily supply bag:

- ☐ Daily poster
- ☐ Bible
- ☐ 11x17 paper (5 per class)
- ☐ 1 blue plastic tablecloth
- ☐ 2 red apples
- ☐ Oyster crackers (use gluten free for allergy kids)
- ☐ Mini marshmallows (1 bag per class)
- ☐ Straws (1per kid)
- ☐ Bowls (5per class)
- ☐ Upper Elementary –
- ☐ Crypto gram (1 per child)
- ☐ Lower Elementary
- ☐ Spinner Game (4 per class)
- ☐ Cheerios (1 sm box per class)
- ☐ Yellow cardstock with feet and beaks printed on them
- ☐ Two small black plates, one of them cut in half, with holes punched out
- ☐ Two wiggly eyes
- ☐ Two gold brads
- ☐ Craft glue

There are no items you need to supply on your own today.

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Here are some things you should do to set up before you begin:

On one side of the room lay down the blue plastic tablecloth so it resembles a flowing brook. Make sure there is room for all of the kids to sit around or close to the brook. Here is an example of how it might look:

Check In

Welcome to Glacier Bay Resort! I'm so glad you're here!

My name is _____ and I'm the manager of this beautiful lodge we're in. I will be your leader and teacher this week. What do you think of it?

(You may have to explain what a lodge is. Be sure to point out the special features of your lodge and just generally make everyone comfortable.)

Let me introduce the other VBS leaders for this week.

(Briefly introduce your other volunteers.)

If you have any questions this week, you can ask one of us to help you.

(Next go around the room and let each guest tell everyone his/her name.)

So nice to meet all of you!

Every day at Glacier Bay, we'll explore a different story from God's Word, the Bible.

(Hold up your Bible.)

And every story in the Bible is totally true!

But you won't just hear a Bible story—you'll experience it! We'll go back in time and meet Bible characters to discover what their adventures were really like.

Note to Lodge Managers
In case you want some additional background, the following object lesson involving apples was adapted from this webpage: http://www.danoah.com/2013/11/the-bruised-and-the-beautiful-apple-a-lesson-in-bullying.html

Does anyone know what a bully is?

(Wait for answers.)

Today we're going to start off with a little demonstration. I decided to stop by the store this morning and buy a couple of apples.

(Hold up the two apples.)

Can anyone tell me what is the same and what is different between these two apples?

(Look at one of the apples and say…)

Gross! This apple looks disgusting!

(Drop it on the ground, pick it up and say something else mean about the apple.)

I'm not going to eat this now! Yuk!

(Then drop it on the ground again, maybe several times, so that it gets really bruised.)

Continue for Grades K-2

(Hold up the bruised apple in your hand and show it to your guests. Then make up several mean things to say about the apple, about how awful it is, that no one wants an apple that looks like this, etc. When you're done berating the bruised apple in front of your guests, hold up both of the apples for your guests to look at and ask them again to list the similarities and differences. Then ask the students which one of the apples they would rather eat.)

Continue for Grades 3-5

(Pick up the apple and say…)

Isn't this apple just awful?!!! Now we're going to pass this apple around, and when

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it's your turn to hold it I want you to say something mean to the apple too. Then pass it to the person next to you.

(After each child has had a chance to hold the apple, hold up both of the apples for your guests to look at and ask them again to list the similarities and differences. Then ask the students which one of the apples they would rather eat.)

Continue for All

When we first started out with both apples you said there weren't a lot of differences in them. They were both perfectly good apples to eat. But after I dropped one of them it became bruised. Usually when we drop an apple on the ground it becomes bruised on the outside and the inside.

How did this beautiful, yummy looking apple start out looking so good to eat and now nobody wants it? But think about it. Didn't we all contribute to the apple looking this way?! We all touched this apple and said really mean things to it. We did this… why shouldn't we eat it?

Hmmmm…I wonder what this has to do with our lesson today? I'm going to put these apples away for now but well get back to them later.

Wake Up Call

Are you ready for your first fun Bible adventure? Me too! Let's go! Today at Glacier Bay we're learning that God has the power to provide.

Our first Bible story is about a man named Elijah who got bullied a lot. He lived in the Kingdom of Israel under a really mean bully named Ahab. King Ahab's wife's name was Jezebel and she was really mean too. They were so cruel that they made fun of God's prophets and even put them in prison and beat them!

Anyone who loved God and refused to worship their false idols were hunted down and eventually killed. Let's take a look on our map to see where Elijah lived back in Biblical times, which was a small town right here called Tishbe.

(Point to the map and show the students where Elijah lived. Perhaps show where Tishbe is related to other famous Biblical places. For scale, the distance between Orlando and Melbourne is shown.)

are possible." Matt. 19:26

Elijah was a prophet of God. Does anyone know what a prophet is?

(Let guests call out a few answers, and repeat back what they say.)

Thanks for your answers. A prophet in the Bible was a person God used to give an important message to the people. In this case, God wanted Elijah to give an important message to king Ahab. But there was a problem. Remember that King Ahab was very powerful bully and he hated Elijah.

Have you ever had to face a bully?

(Let guests answer and discuss as needed, but don't dwell on details.)

It seems like most of us have had to deal with bullies in our lives! And Elijah was no different. He had to face the bully King Ahab with a message from God—and trust me, it wasn't what the king wanted to hear. But Elijah knew that God has the power to provide.

Listen to what Elijah told the king. Open your Bibles to 1 Kings 17:1

(Give the kids a chance to find the verse in their Bibles. Help those who are having difficulty finding it.)

"As surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!"

Yikes! That's some message! What do you think would happen here in Florida if there were no dew or rain for years and years?

(Let kids call out answers.)

If there were no rain for years, food wouldn't grow. The lakes and rivers would dry up. People and animals would be hungry and thirsty! It would be awful! That is not what King Ahab wanted to hear! So God told Elijah to head east and hide after he delivered the message. We'll go with Elijah to see what happens.

Check the clock. Time for snack? Do you have enough time to finish?

Okay, let's get going. Grab your Bibles and follow me. The Bible tells us where Elijah was headed.

(Have everyone stand and follow you around the room and then go over to the "Kerith Brook" you created. As you walk, keep kids together, and whisper…)

Let's stay quiet and stay together. We need to hide from King Ahab after delivering that message.

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(*Have kids sit around the brook.)*

God told Elijah to camp here by the Kerith Brook. So let's get comfortable. I'm glad to be away from King Ahab. This is a pretty out-of-the-way place. But…hmm… there's nowhere to buy food.

(Pause as you look around.)

What are we supposed to do about that? What are we going to eat?! Well, we know that God has the power to provide. So let's see what happened to Elijah.

(Open your Bible again and read 1 Kings 17:2)

God said: **"Drink from the brook and eat what the ravens bring you, for I have commanded them to bring you food."** Um. Did I get that right?

(Make a show out of opening your Bible to 1 Kings 17:2 to check again.)

Ravens? Really? *Ravens* are going to bring food? Gross! Does anyone know what a raven is?

(Let kids call out answers.)

Right, they're birds. Big birds, like crows. But how are ravens going to *carry* the food?

(Let kids call out answers. Shake your head and react as appropriate.)

They'd have to carry the food in their beaks or in their creepy little feet! That sounds pretty disgusting to me! Would *you* want to eat food from ravens?

(Let kids call out answers.)

I can understand drinking from the brook. In fact, I'm a little thirsty right now after our travels. Wish I had a nice cup of cool water. I don't know about you, but all that traveling made me sleepy. Guess it's time to hit the hay. Well, not hay, really. Dirt is more like it. Yup, time to hit the dirt. Time to stretch out and take a rest.

(Have kids lie on the floor and pretend to sleep. Tell your guests to keep their eyes shut and rest – no sneaking a look!! – because it's been a long journey. Have your helpers quietly get some crackers. Then have kids open their eyes and sit up.)

Wow! Food! The ravens brought us food! Amazing! Um…why don't

you go first and see how it tastes.

(Ask one of your helpers to taste the crackers first. Then ask how the food tastes, and debate whether you should try some. Ham it up as you hesitantly nibble a cracker.)

Does anyone else want to try the food that the ravens brought? It's so amazing how God provided for Elijah! God sent him to a brook with clean, fresh water. Then he sent ravens to bring him food each morning and evening. Elijah sure found out that God has the power to provide.

God provided for Elijah a long time ago, and God provides for us today. Let's head back to base camp and talk more about that.

(Have your guests stand up and lead them back to their original places.)

Turn Down Service

(When your guests are seated, divide them up into small groups of three or four. These small groups within your lodge will stay together all week, adjusting them as needed from day to day. Once you have everyone in groups, ask:)

Is there an area in your life right now where you need God to provide something? It might not be food – or it might be. Maybe your mom or dad needs a job, or your brother or sister needs help in school. In your Snow Pal group, tell about something you need God to provide. The assistant managers and bell hops can share first.

(Give the groups time to talk. Then give a 30-second warning to wrap up conversations. Ask a few kids to share their answers with the large group, and repeat the answers so everyone can hear.)

No matter what you need, God has the power to provide. He really does. God loves you and knows what's happening in your life. He knows exactly what you need. You can count on God to provide!

Now, remember earlier today I showed you the two apples and we said really mean things to one of them? Remember how we talked about mean king Ahab and what a bully he was to Elijah and the other believers?

This is kind of like these two apples. They both started off as beautiful pieces of fruit, but after dropping this one…

(Hold up the bruised one.)

…it turned into something that no one wanted. This is what we do to other people

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when we say mean and hurtful things. When we gossip or call someone ugly or fat or tell them they aren't good enough or that they can't be friends with you… we are just dropping them and causing one more bruise… a bruise that while we can't see on the outside is very real and very destructive inside of them!

It doesn't just go away, the bruises just keep getting worse and deeper.

This!!! *(Hold up the bruised apple)* is what we do to each other.

God created everyone as a beautiful person. We are created in His image. When we are mean and bully others we are bruising them on the inside. We are hurting God's creation. Let's try this week to keep all of us like this beautiful red apple. We are all beautiful creations of God and it hurts God too when we hurt other people.

Check the clock. Time for snack? Do you have enough time to finish?

Who's ready to play a game? Remember how the ravens fed Elijah in our story? Well today we're going to feed the ravens.

(Give everyone a straw and explain the game.)

We're going to pretend that each one of these bowls is a raven. These ravens are very hungry and they love to eat marshmallows. I want everyone to get into teams of four. We're going to call these groups Climbing Crews, and you'll stay in these same groups all week.

(Split up your guests into Climbing Crew teams that have about four guests per team. Try to make the teams equal in numbers.)

Each person will take a straw and will try to get one marshmallow into the bowl. Suck up one marshmallow and then place the marshmallow into the bowl. No hands allowed!

(Demonstrate the game to them.)

You'll have one minute to see how many marshmallows your team can get into your team's bowl. When one player gets a marshmallow into the bowl then go to the end of the line and it will be the next player's turn. Ready, set, go!

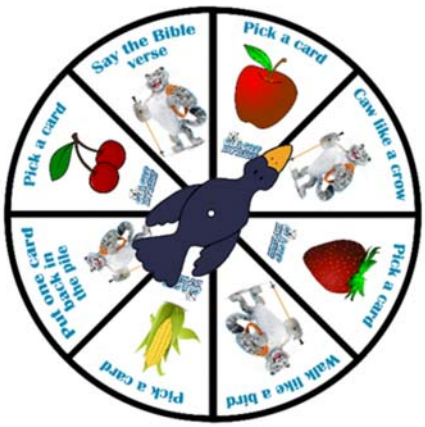
(Time the kids. At the end of the minute, count the marshmallows in each bowl and announce the winning team. Depending on the time

remaining – you still have the Bible verse activity to do – you can lengthen the time of this game or run it again.)

Check Out

Today's Bible verse is from 2 Corinthians 9:8.
"God will generously provide all your needs."

Memory Verse Game for Grades K-2



Take out your Elijah Spinner Game from your Day One supply bag. Keep your Climbing Crews together and have each group play the game.

Directions for the game:

Place the food cards on a table with the words facing down. Also have your bag of Cheerios handy.

Each child takes a turn spinning the spinner and does what it says on the wheel.

Keep playing until all of the cards have been picked up.

Write the Bible verse on the large sheet of paper provided. Ask the children to look at the words on their cards. Point to the words on the board one at a time.

Ask the child who has that card to hand the card to you. Tape the card underneath that word. Go over the previous words each time you add a new word. When all of the words have been taped to the paper, have the children say the whole verse.

Memory Verse Game for Grades 3-5

(Keep the Climbing Crew groups together. Hand out the Klymer Cryptogram sheets from your daily supply bag, one per student. Be sure not to hand out the answer sheet! Read the cryptogram instructions.)

This puzzle is called the Klymer Cryptogram. At the top there is a KEY that lists all the letters from A through Z with a number in a box below.

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The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Your job is to write down the letter from the KEY that goes with the number in the secret phrase. When I say "go" I want each group to work together to solve the puzzle. Let's see who can solve it the quickest!

Ready, set, go!

(After everyone has solved the cryptogram, have the class repeat the memory verse together.)

Extra Activity for Grades 3-5

(If there is enough time, hand out the Elijah Ravens word find puzzle for your guests to do. You can also save this activity for another time later in the week.)

Extra Craft for Grades K-2

(If you have time for one more activity, here is a craft you can have your guests do to remind them of how God provided by using ravens to feed Elijah. All of the materials are in your supply bag. You'll need:

Yellow cardstock with feet and beaks printed on them
Two small black plates, one of them cut in half with holes punched out
Two wiggly eyes
Two gold brads
Craft glue

are possible." Matt. 19:26

Instructions:

Cut out two raven's feet and a triangle beak
Match the body holes with the wing holes and hold them together using the brad.
Glue the feet, beak and wiggly eyes onto the crow.
Place scripture verse label onto the crow.)

NOTES