

Johann Tetzel was appointed Commissioner of Indulgences for the church. His job was to travel around selling pardons for sins; and he was very good at his job. He sold pardons for existing sins and even pardons for the sins of the dead saying, "As soon as a coin in the coffer rings / the soul from purgatory springs." He even sold pardons for future sins. The story is told that one day a man asked if he could buy the pardon for a future sin; Tetzel agreed, money was exchanged and the man went away with his letter of pardon. Later, he found Tetzel on a lonely stretch of road, beat and robbed him of the large sum of money he had collected. When Tetzel cried that he would burn in hell, he showed him the pardon received and so nothing further was done.

Many of Luther's congregation bought indulgences, but when they came to Luther claiming the right to forgiveness with repentance, he could not agree, saying instead that they must repent and reform their lives, or perish in their sins. Some even returned to Tetzel demanding their money back.

Luther was not the only one to recognise the falseness of the indulgence teachings but he was one of the few to do more than just pray about it. Time after time he preached about sin and the saving grace of Jesus; he related his own experiences in searching for the peace of forgiveness. But he was determined to do more.

The church of the castle of Wittenberg had many historical objects called relics, and on special days they were displayed to the public and they claimed that anyone who viewed them was granted forgiveness of sins. The day before All Saints Day (Halloween), Luther nailed onto the door of the church a list with ninety-five arguments against the doctrine of indulgences – forgiveness of sins for money or certain actions. He invited anyone who wanted to debate his arguments to join him at the university the following day. No one dared take up the challenge, but it was the talk of the town.

Luther had been confident that the leaders of the schools and churches would support him, and they appeared to at first, but many soon changed their minds when they realised the consequences. Not only would it undermine the authority of the church but the loss of income from the sale of indulgences would be too much. And so Luther stood alone, one man of God against nearly the whole world.

Elisha's Life Work

Sabbath

By the power of God, Elisha did many miracles. Use these miracles to solve the crossword.

- At Jericho Elisha used a bowl of _ _ _ _ (15 Across) to heal the town's _ _ _ _ _ (9 Down) supply. 2 Kings 2:21
- Elisha told a poor widow to borrow many _ _ _ _ (12a) and then pour _ _ _ (1d) into them to sell. 2 Kings 4:3, 4
- For the woman of Shunem Elisha told her she would become _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (6a) and have a _ _ _ (15d). Later Elisha brought the child back from the _ _ _ _ (4d). 2 Kings 4:17, 32-35
- At Gilgal Elisha used _ _ _ _ _ (8a) to remove the poison from a pot of stew so the people could _ _ _ (16d). 2 Kings 4:41
- Elisha used 20 loaves of _ _ _ _ _ (11a) bread to feed a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (2d) people and there were leftovers. 2 Kings 4:42, 43
- Elisha told _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (7d) to wash in the Jordan _ _ _ _ _ (14a) to be healed of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (5d). 2 Kings 5:14
- Elisha used a _ _ _ _ _ (13d) to make an axe head _ _ _ _ _ (10d).
- At Elisha's request, God made his enemies _ _ _ _ _ (3a) so he could capture them. 2 Kings 6:18



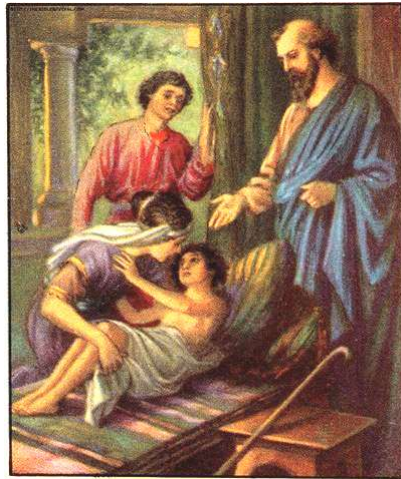
Year 2, Quarter 1, Week 13, Level: "Pre/Teens"

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Refer: 2 Kings 8, 13 NLT; Prophets and Kings p254-258, 260, 261; The Bible Story vol5 p89-92, 98-101

Sunday

Do you remember the woman of Shunem who built a room for Elisha? One day Elisha warned her there would be a famine for the next seven years, so she took her family and went to stay in the land of the Philistines.



Seven years later, Gehazi, the servant of Elisha was talking to the king and the king was asking about the miracles of Elisha, just as Gehazi was telling about the boy of Shunem coming back to life, the woman of Shunem walked in and Gehazi said, "Look! This is the woman - the very one who's son Elisha brought back to life!" After hearing the story again from her, the king ordered one of his officials to see that her lands were restored, including the value of the crops she had missed!

Another time, Ben-hadad, the king of Aram became very sick and Elisha went to visit him. Ben-hadad heard that Elisha was coming and sent Hazael to meet him. When Elisha saw Hazael he said, "Tell Ben-hadad he will recover, but God has shown me he will die." Then Elisha started crying! When Hazael asked what was wrong, Elisha told him about the terrible things that he, Hazael would do to Israel and that he would become the king of Aram.

Hazael returned to the king, told him he would recover, then the next day, Hazael suffocated Ben-hadad and Hazael became the next king.

Friday

In Acts 17:11, the people of Berea are praised because they "examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

Luther searched the scriptures and found that many of the things the church was teaching were wrong, like selling pardons for sin.

Even today it is important for us to search the scriptures for ourselves.

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

Take notes during the sermon. If someone says something that doesn't make sense to you, ask some adults that you trust to explain it to you.

Hidden in this find-a-word are some important Bible truths. See if you can find them.

One is done for you.

Thursday

Elisha spent his whole life working in Israel, supporting the schools of the prophets in teaching the people about God, encouraging the kings to put an end to idol worship and lead the people to follow God. Most of the time, the kings of Israel chose to worship idols rather than God but even so, whenever they turned to God for help, God helped them.

Remember that Jehu had put an end to Baal worship in Israel, but he still allowed other idols to be worshiped.

Who was Jehu's son? _____

Who was attacking them? _____ of Aram

Even though he worshiped idols, God rescued them and gave them peace when he turned to God.

Who was the next king? _____

Even though he worshiped idols, when he went to Elisha to seek God's help, God helped him.

Read the story on the back page.

What did John Tetzl say a person must do to get forgiveness for sins?

What does God say a person must do to get forgiveness of sins?

Monday

Some time later, Hazael attacked Israel while Jehoahaz, the son of Jehu was king. Jehoahaz did not worship God, so God allowed Hazael to repeatedly defeat the Israelites and make life difficult for them. Then Jehoahaz prayed for God's help and God provided someone to rescue them so they could once again live in peace, but still they worshiped idols.

Jehoash, son of Jehoahaz was the next king of Israel; he ruled for sixteen years and also worshiped idols. Elisha was a very old man by this time and was now dying. Jehoash visited him and Elisha told him to bring a bow and some arrows. Elisha placed his hands on the king's hand and then commanded the king to shoot an arrow out the window. Elisha said, "This is the Lord's arrow - the arrow of victory He will give you over the king of Aram. Now take the other arrows and hit the ground."

When Jehoash hit the ground three times Elisha said, "You will be victorious three times - but you should have hit five or six times."

After this Elisha died and his body was buried in a cave.

Jehoash defeated the king of Aram three times, reclaiming many Israelite towns.

One day some Israelites were preparing to bury a man when they saw a band of Moabite raiders, they quickly threw the body into the tomb of Elisha and fled, but when the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came back to life and jumped up!

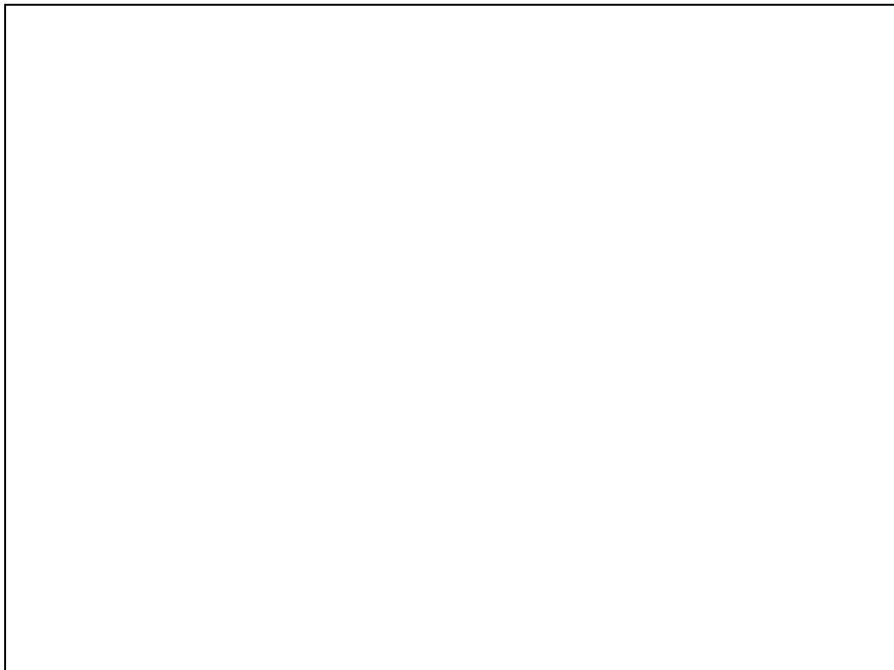


Tuesday

Find the underlined words from Sunday and Monday.

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

In the box below, draw a cartoon of what happened at Elisha's tomb.



Wednesday

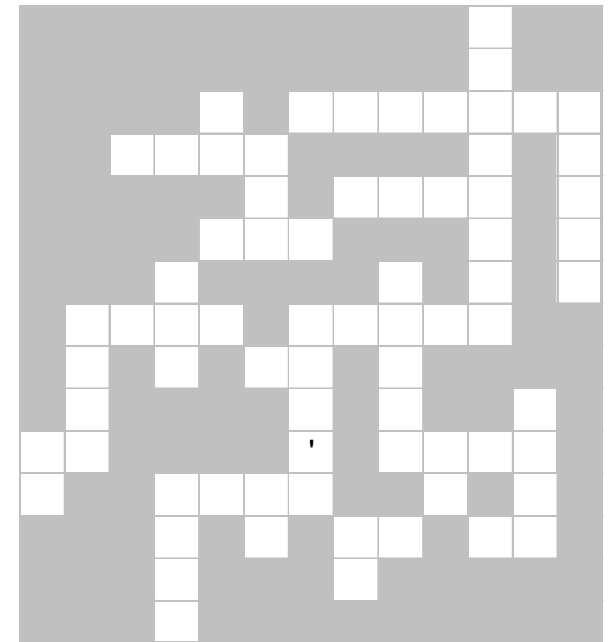
The Woman of Shunem's was rewarded for kindness to Elisha in four ways. Unscramble the letters to list the four ways.

- A _ _ _ _ (YABA)
- Her son brought back to _ _ _ _ (FILE)
- Warning for the _ _ _ _ _ (FIMNEA)
- Getting her _ _ _ _ _ back (NSLAD)
- Payment for her missed _ _ _ _ _ (PORSC)

Fit the words of Galatians 6:9 into this grid.

"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."

Revelation 22:12 says: "'Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds."



It always pays to show kindness; sometimes we it is rewarding straight away – they may be kind back to us or we may feel good, knowing that we have done the right thing. Other times it is not easy, but God will help us when we ask Him and it will be worth it in the long run. Remember how bad people treated Jesus – especially on the cross? Romans 8:18 reminds us that nothing on earth compares to the glory of heaven; so when bad things happen, remember that God is in control and that we are going to heaven.