

# 3 God Takes Care of Me

## Bible Study & Bible Award Aims:

### Club members will:

- **know** realize that God sends people to take care of us.
- **feel** feel glad that their needs are important to God.
- **do** identify people who can help meet their needs and thank God for one of these people.

### Scripture

1 Kings 19:1-8; Job 10:12a; Nahum 1:7; *background Scripture*: Psalm 55:16-18, 22

### Scripture Memory

review Psalm 139:14; *optional*: Nahum 1:7

## Supplies Needed:

### Welcome & Singing

club theme song, attendance chart, songbooks and music

### Bible Study & Bible Award

none

### Scripture Memory

ball; *for optional verse*: Memory Verse Sticker for each member

### Skill Award

supplies needed for the option you choose

### Games

empty oatmeal boxes, golf balls

### Goodbye

club theme verse; *for each member*: Award Chart

## Teaching Tip:

Your younger kids are prone to emotions that erupt easily. They—and the older ones, too—need help in knowing how to deal with and express strong feelings appropriately.

- Avoid showing shock or strong disapproval when kids display “negative” feelings.
- Model appropriate ways to deal with strong emotions.
- Suggest alternatives to behaviors such as hitting or yelling.
- Older kids can learn about skills such as “I messages” (expressing one’s own wants and feelings) instead of “you messages.”

## Welcome & Singing

12-15 minutes

### Plan Ahead

Choose songs relating to the meeting topic (see ideas below).

- Sing your club theme song.
- Welcome guests.
- Take attendance and offering.
- Make announcements.
- Review previous memory verses.

- Sing songs. *Topic*: God’s care.
- Take prayer requests. Pray.

## Bible Study & Bible Award

15-20 minutes

### Plan Ahead

Read 1 Kings 19:1-8; Job 10:12a; Nahum 1:7; Psalm 55:16-18, 22.

Read Bible Award Step 4 (handbook p. 7).

Plan how to help club members act out the story.

### Focus

Think of a time when you were scared.

- **What were you scared of?**  
Let volunteers briefly share, without going into details. *Option*: Let younger kids show how they look when they’re scared.
- **Now picture feeling really**

tired, really hungry, and really thirsty. Act out how you would look.

- **What would help when you’re scared, hungry, or tired?**

Our Bible story is about someone who was really scared and hungry and thirsty and tired at the same time. In fact, he felt so bad, he wanted to die. Let’s find out more.

### Study

Open your Bible. The story is found in 1 Kings 19:1-8. It’s

about a prophet named Elijah who lived long ago.

- **What’s a prophet?**

In those days, many people believed there was a god named Baal. Baal had “prophets,” too. But they didn’t listen to the real God. They hurt many people. Finally God helped Elijah kill all of Baal’s evil prophets.

Let’s see what King Ahab and Queen Jezebel thought of that. Have club members follow along as you or older club members read 1 Kings 19:1-2.

- **What did Queen Jezebel’s message to Elijah mean?** (She was going to kill him.)

Here’s the rest of the story. Listen so you can do your best impressions of the people in the story when I ask for volunteers. Explain *impressions* for younger club members.

The king and queen weren’t happy that the evil prophets were gone. They believed Baal was real. They were really angry.

- **We need two people to do their best impressions of the king and queen at this point.**

When Elijah got the queen’s message, he got scared. He grabbed his servant and ran for his life. Elijah traveled a long, long way away. He walked and walked and walked. He got really tired. Finally he flopped down under a bush in the desert. “Lord, I can’t stand it anymore,” he prayed. “Please let me die.”

- **Okay, who’ll give an impression of Elijah at this point?**  
Elijah was so tired that he fell asleep under the bush.
- **Who’ll give us an impression of Elijah sleeping?**

God cared about how tired and scared Elijah was. He knew what Elijah needed. He let Elijah sleep awhile. Then he sent an angel with bread and water. “Get up, Elijah,” said the angel. “You need something to eat.” Elijah ate the bread and drank the water—and fell back to sleep.

A little while later, God sent the angel back. “You need

more to eat," the angel said. "Otherwise traveling will be too hard for you." The sleep and the food made Elijah strong enough to walk 40 days and nights to get away from Queen Jezebel.

- Who'll give their best impression of Elijah now?
- What made the difference between Elijah at the beginning of the story and Elijah at the end?
- Think silently about this question: How important do you think Elijah's needs were to God? Allow a moment. Now when I say go, give one thumbs-up (show each sign as you mention it) for "important," two thumbs-up for "very important," or a thumbs-down for "not important." Repeat the question. Say "go" and let club members respond.
- What things in the story helped you decide that Elijah's needs were very important to God? (God figured out what Elijah really needed, sent an angel to take care of him, etc.)

Have club members follow along as you or older club members read Nahum 1:7 and Job 10:12a, one at a time. After each verse, ask:

- What things does this verse tell you about God?
- When you think about these two verses, how important do you think your needs are to God?

## Apply

God cares about you as much as he cared about Elijah. He probably won't send an angel to show you. He usually sends people to take care of you.

Look at Step 4 on handbook page 7. Read the directions for both age-groups, and let club members do the matching. Let volunteers tell what they matched up.

Have the older club members finish their Step in silent prayer while you discuss the following question with the younger ones:

- Who are other people God might send to take care of you? What are things they might do?

Bring all kids together again. Let's have volunteers pray this prayer, completing it with the name of someone who takes care of them: "Dear God, thank you for giving me \_\_\_\_ to take care of my needs." Help volunteers take turns.

## Scripture Memory

5-10 minutes

### Plan Ahead

Review Psalm 139:14.

Option: Memorize Nahum 1:7.

Gather supplies.

Say Psalm 139:14 together. Let's review by playing a ball game. Toss the ball to a club member. He or she says the verse and tosses the ball to someone else, who says the verse and

tosses the ball again, and so on.

Option: Read and discuss Nahum 1:7. Recite it a few times together. Then play a variation of the ball toss game. I'll start the verse and toss the ball to someone. That person will add as much of the verse as he or she remembers. Then he or she tosses the ball to someone else, who will add as much more as possible, and so on. Play the game.

Hand out Memory Verse Stickers, and have club members put them above the appropriate verse at the end of the Bible Award in the handbook.

## Skill Award Creative Crafts 20-30 minutes

### Plan Ahead

Review Step 2 of the Creative Crafts Skill Award (p. 54). Choose a second option to do, and gather supplies.

Explain the second craft you chose, and help club members do it step by step.

## Games

10-15 minutes

### Plan Ahead

Gather supplies.

## Goofy Golf

Place empty oatmeal boxes on their sides around the playing area to serve as "holes." Play in teams of three. Each threesome determines who is the "drive," who is the "hitter," and who is the "putter." The driver kicks a golf ball toward one of the holes. Then the hitter kicks it closer. Then the putter taps it into the hole. No hands may touch the ball, and balls must roll on the ground.

## Frog Tag

Play tag. Players are safe if they crouch down and say, "Ribbit, ribbit."

## Goodbye

5-10 minutes

- On each child's Award Chart (see inside back cover), check off Bible Award and Skill Award Steps done today.
- Announce next meeting's fun theme idea—talents. Tell club members to wear or carry something that gives clues to one of their talents or interests.
- Recite your theme verse.
- *Pray:* Thank God for his care and the care of the people he sends to help us.

## Skit Hit: I Witness News

### Plan Ahead:

Help children think of specific ways God has taken care of them recently. Talk about these and prepare children for what they should do during the news interview. Find something to use as a microphone.

Today we're going to have a special news report from the I Witness News Team. Here is our reporter.

**REPORTER:** We have a late-breaking news report of an event in progress at this time. Kids in our town have been discovered receiving care from, well, let's go directly to the kids and find out what's going on. (*Points microphone at each club member in turn.*)

What's your name and what has been going on?

**CLUB MEMBERS:** (*Each explains a way that God has taken care of him or her, without mentioning his name.*)

**REPORTER** (*after interviewing last child*): You've all told me really great things about someone taking care of you, but none of you has said *who* that might be. So who cares so much for all you kids?

**CLUB MEMBERS:** *God takes care of us!*

**REPORTER:** There you have it, viewers. It's *God* who is taking such care of these kids. That's it for now from I Witness News.