Make: Fire on the Altar

I Kings 18:1-2,18-46: Fire from Heaven



Bring the story to life by painting a picture of fire from heaven coming down on Elijah's altar.

Supplies Needed For Each Child

- picture page showing Elijah's altar (see attached sheet)
- paintbrush
- paints (fire colors)
- water for painting
- crayons for coloring the altar

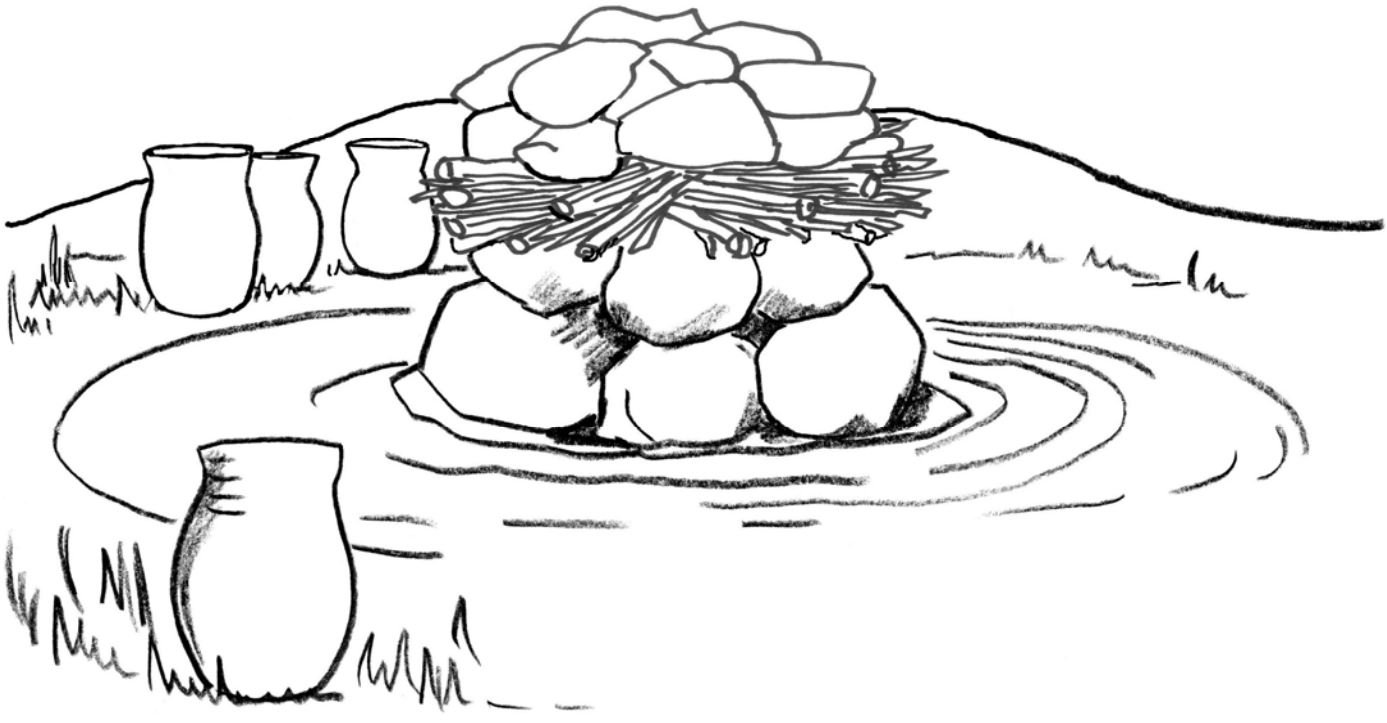
Set the Scene by Reviewing the Story

Elijah and the prophets of Baal held a contest to see who could get fire to come down from heaven to set fire to their altars. The prophets called and called all day, but nothing happened. Elijah repaired the altar of the Lord, setting the twelve stones back into order. Then he made a trench around the altar. Elijah put the wood on top of the altar and then cut up the bull that he was sacrificing and placed it on top. He ordered the men to pour water all over the altar three times. There was so much water that it filled the trench. Then Elijah called on the Lord. The Lord sent fire from heaven. It was so powerful that it burned up everything—even the water! The people called out, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

Project Directions

1. Give each child a page with the picture of Elijah's altar and tell him or her to color the altar and sacrifice with crayons.
2. Ask the children where the fire came from. (From heaven—it came from the Lord.)
3. Take a dry paintbrush and show the children how they can make brush strokes coming from heaven and down to the altar of the Lord.
4. Have the children take their dry paintbrushes and make paint gestures to show the fire coming down from heaven.
5. Now have the children paint the fire coming down from heaven on the altar. While they are painting, help them imagine how hot the fire must have been to lick up the sacrifice, the water and even the stones!

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