

Righting a Wrong

Lesson 1

On the way home from school Julio, Mark, and Josh all stopped by Mr. Sawyer's candy store. They dared each other to take a candy bar without paying for it. So all three boys walked out of the store with stolen candy.

Look at the pictures below to find out what happened to each boy.



A Message for a Wicked King

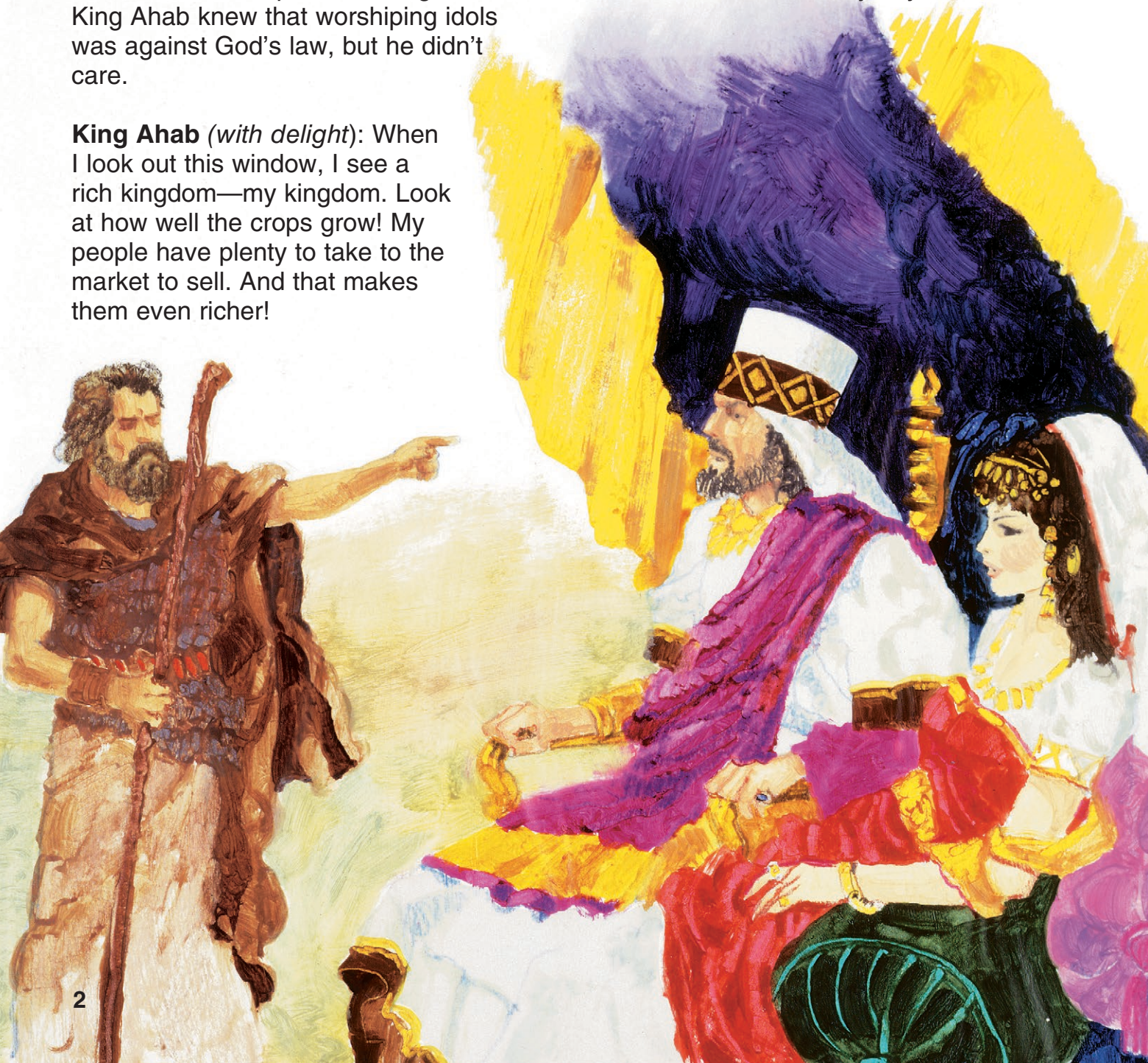
Bible Story from 1 Kings 16:29—17:2

Narrator: When King Ahab married Queen Jezebel, he started worshiping a false god named Baal to please her. Ahab's example led the Israelites to worship idols. He even built a temple for them to worship their false gods in. King Ahab knew that worshiping idols was against God's law, but he didn't care.

King Ahab (*with delight*): When I look out this window, I see a rich kingdom—my kingdom. Look at how well the crops grow! My people have plenty to take to the market to sell. And that makes them even richer!

Queen Jezebel: Yes, my king, you have done well. And thanks be to Baal. He has helped you and your people.

Narrator: Baal was getting credit for sending rain and making crops grow. Baal was not God. He had no power. The people needed to know who the true God is. So God sent His prophet Elijah to talk to Ahab. Ahab didn't like to be told what to do by anyone.



King Ahab: You know, Elijah, I'm getting pretty sick of you telling me what to do. You're a troublemaker! What is it this time?

Elijah (*in a loud voice*): You never pay attention to God, Ahab! That's why I'm back! You'd better listen to what God's telling you this time! God is very angry that you have been worshiping Baal. That's a sin! He says that because of this sin, there will be neither

_____ nor _____ in the next few years unless I say so.

 **Read 1 Kings 17:1 to fill in the blanks.**

King Ahab (*yelling*): Get out of here! I don't want to hear about your God! We're doing fine—just fine!

Narrator: No rain or dew for the next few years was a pretty high price to pay for the Israelites' sins. Water and food were hard to find. All the crops dried up. The animals began to die. The Israelites were scared. People were dying of hunger and thirst. But not Elijah. God took care of him. Meanwhile, back in Israel and Samaria . . .

Israelite #1: (*crying*) Why doesn't it rain anymore? What can we do? Maybe Baal is mad at us.

Israelite #2: Why don't we look for food and water somewhere else? Maybe we could look in another country.

Israelite #1: No! No, that's not the answer. If Baal is mad at us, then we need to pray to him more. Then he will send rain again, and our crops will grow.

Israelite #3: I think that Elijah made Baal mad. Let's get rid of Elijah. Then everything will be okay!

Israelite #2 (*shyly*): What if Elijah was telling the truth? (*Israelites #1 and #3 look at him with surprise.*) What if we've been praying to the wrong god? What if we were wrong? (*whispering*) What if we've sinned against the true God?

(*All three Israelites stand there looking at each other and shrug their shoulders. Then they look at the ground.*)

Narrator: The Israelites knew deep down inside that they had been wrong. They knew that their sufferings were the consequences or results of their sin. What they all needed to do now was to talk to the true God—the God Elijah served. They needed to ask for forgiveness and turn away from the false god Baal.



For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

RODERICK'S FORGIVENESS CHECKUP

Dr. Raven here, doing a forgiveness checkup. A healthy attitude about forgiveness is very important to growing kids. But don't worry—for this checkup you don't have to open your mouth and say "CAW!" Just look at my clipboard and check the boxes that tell how you feel.

When I do something I shouldn't,

- ☐ I sometimes try to hide it.
- ☐ I feel awful.
- ☐ I usually ask to be forgiven right away.

What bothers me about doing something I shouldn't

- ☐ is getting caught.
- ☐ is having people be disappointed in me.
- ☐ is that bad feeling I get inside.

I know the best thing for me to do

- ☐ is try and make things right.
- ☐ is explain why I did what I did.
- ☐ is ask Jesus to forgive me.

When I ask Jesus and the person I hurt to forgive me,

- ☐ I feel a whole lot better!
- ☐ I still feel awful.
- ☐ I still may face consequences for my actions.

When Jesus forgives me,

- ☐ I feel clean and good inside.
- ☐ I think He still remembers my sin.
- ☐ I know I'll try to live like He wants me to.
- ☐ I want to try to do better next time.

Dear God,
Help me to remember that my sins have consequences. Thank You
for forgiving my sins when I ask. Help me to live for You every day.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

(your name)