

Let the children each draw a different object or person from this story.

- They might draw the room on the flat roof of a stone house, a table, a chair, a lamp, a bed, the boy holding his head, the donkey, or Elisha's staff.
- The teacher might draw a room with a bed, a table, a chair and a lamp and let the older children copy the picture.
- Older children help the younger ones to draw their pictures.
- Let the children show their pictures to the adults during worship time, and explain that it illustrates how to practice hospitality, especially to the people who serve God.

Let the children tell other examples of how we can use our homes to serve God. Also ask, "To what different kinds of places do people go to worship God?"

**Poem.** Let four children each recite a verse from Psalm 24: 7-10

Let older children write a poem or song about serving God in our homes, or using our houses to meet in, to worship God.

Let younger children memorize Ephesians 2:19, and older ones, Ephesians 2:19-20.

**Prayer:** Lord the whole earth belongs to you. Our homes belong to you. Thank you for receiving our praise from our homes. May our families offer hospitality as a gift to you."

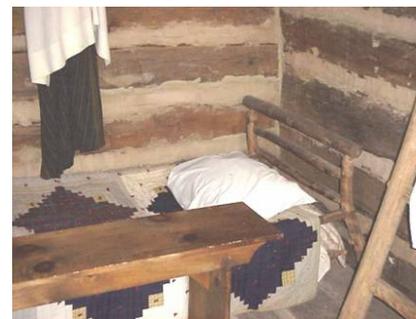
## We Welcome into Our Homes those who Serve Christ

### Teach Children to Serve Others in their Home.

Choose any of these children's activities that fit their needs and ages.

**Prayer.** "Lord, please help children to find ways to serve you in their homes."

Prepare to teach the story about making a room for a prophet. Read **2 Kings 4:8-37** to find how God blessed a lady who showed hospitality to travellers.



Find the answers to these **questions**. *The answers appear after each question*

- What did the woman do for Elisha? [See verse 10]
- What did Elisha do for the woman? [See verse 16]
- What happened to the child? [See verse 20]
- To whom did the woman go for help? [See verse 27]
- What did Elisha do before he helped the boy? [See verse 33]
- What did Elisha do for the child? See verse 35]

Let an older child or teacher tell by memory the story of the Prophet's Room.

**Dramatize** parts of the story from 2 Kings 4:8-37.

- Arrange with the leader of the main congregational worship to have the children present this drama.
- Let the older children help the younger ones to prepare.
- You do not have to present all the parts.

Let the **older children** or adults play the parts of **Elisha, Lady, Husband** and **Narrator**.

- The Narrator summarizes the story and helps the children to recall what to say and do
- Elisha has a staff (walking stick).

Let the **younger children** play the parts of **Boy** and **Workers**.

**Narrator:** Tell the first part of the story, from 2 Kings 4:8-16.  
Then say, "Hear what the Shunamite lady says to her husband."

**Lady:** "Husband, I want to do something for the prophet who often visits us when he travels. Can we build for him a room, so that he will have a place to stay when he is here?"

**Husband:** "That is a good idea. I will build it upstairs on the roof."

**Elisha:** Knock on the door. Say, "We have come to visit."

**Lady:** "Welcome, Elisha! Come in! See the room we built for you!"

**Elisha:** "Thank you. I want to ask God to bless you for your hospitality. I know you have no son. Next year, you will have a baby boy in your arms."

**Narrator:** Tell the second part of the story, from 2 Kings 4:17-25.  
Then say, "Hear what the boy says to his father."

**Boy:** "Father, I want to go out to the fields with you today."

**Husband:** "Yes, my child. Come help me do my work." (Husband and boy walk to where the workers are harvesting grain.)

**Workers:** "Good morning, sir." "May God bless you and your son."

**Boy:** Hold your head and complain, "Oh! Oh! It hurts! Father, my head hurts so much!"

**Husband:** (Speak to one of the workers, "Take the boy to his mother.")

**Lady:** Hold the boy until he dies (falls to the floor). Say, "Worker, bring me a donkey."

**Narrator:** Tell the third part of the story, from 2 Kings 4:26-37.  
Then say, "Hear what Elisha says to his servant, Gehazi."

**Elisha:** "There comes the Shunamite lady. I wonder what is wrong!"

**Lady:** Keep walking, wiping away tears, without answering. Go to Elisha and say, "My son is dead. Please help me!"

**Elisha:** "Let us go to him." (Go to the Lady's house with her. Kneel by the boy and act like you are praying. Then lie down over the boy.)

**Boy:** Sneeze several times and sit up.

**Elisha:** "Here is your son!"

**Narrator:** Thank everyone who helped with the drama.

**Ask questions.** If the children dramatize this story for the adults, then let them also ask the adults the questions listed above.