



## Dead Children! (Or not)

### Handout

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**Session Theme:** Jesus & The Old Testament

**Activity:** N/A

**Scripture Story:** *1 Kings 17:17-24; Mark 5:22-43*

**Video Clip:** The Day the Earth Stood Still

**1 Kings 17:17** After this, the son of the woman became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him and he died. **18** The woman (his mother) then said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!" **19** But Elijah said to her, "Give me your son." He took the child from the woman, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid the child on his own bed. **20** He cried out to the Lord, "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?" **21** Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the Lord, "O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again." **22** The Lord listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. **23** Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, "See, your son is alive." **24** So the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

**Mark 5:22** Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet **23** and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." **24** So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. **25** And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. **26** She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. **27** When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, **28** because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." **29** Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. **30** At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" **31** "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'" **32** But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. **33** Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. **34** He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." **35** While Jesus was still speaking, some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?" **36** Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid; just believe." **37** He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. **38** When they came to the home of the synagogue ruler, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. **39** He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." **40** But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. **41** He took her by the hand and said to her, "'Talitha koum!'" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). **42** Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. **43** He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

**NOTE:** Jesus may have had an easier time of it, but his bringing back to life of a child was not unique to the Israelites as shown by the Elijah story.