

Heavy Enough to Float

2 Kings 6:1-7; *Prophets and Kings*, pp. 260, 261

Pedro needed a calculator to do part of his math homework. But he did not own one. José let him borrow his calculator until tomorrow.

When Pedro arrived home from school he opened his backpack. He took out his math book and looked for José's calculator. It was gone! He called his friends, but no one knew where it was. What a problem! What was he going to tell José?

A young man in our Bible story today lost something that he borrowed. And he was very worried too.

One day some young men who studied at a special school of the prophets heard good news. The prophet Elisha was coming to visit them. They were happy about that. They could tell Elisha anything, and he would listen.

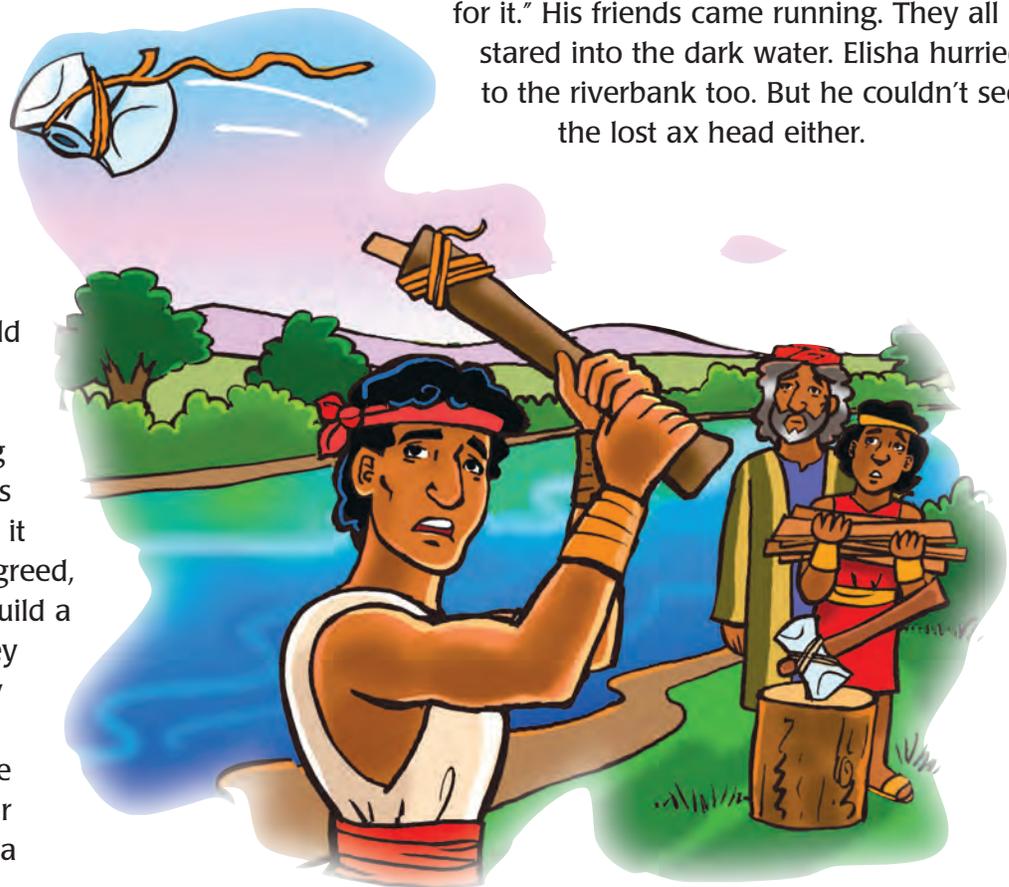
The young men knew that the building where they stayed was too small. They talked it over with Elisha. He agreed, and they decided to build a bigger building. So they set aside a special day to go to the banks of the Jordan River. There they would cut logs for their new school. Elisha

agreed to go with them.

One young man had borrowed an ax. He wanted to help build the new school building too. Happily he joined the group working at the river that day. Some chopped down trees, others cut the trees into boards. Prophet Elisha worked right along with them. As they worked, they talked of God's love and care.

Then, with one swing of the ax, everything changed. The young man with the borrowed ax lifted it into the air. The iron ax head flew off! With a splash it landed in the river!

"Oh, master!" the student cried out. "The ax was borrowed! And I have no money to pay for it." His friends came running. They all stared into the dark water. Elisha hurried to the riverbank too. But he couldn't see the lost ax head either.



The Message

God cares about all my problems.

Memory Verse

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find”

(Matthew 7:7, NIV).

“Where in the water did it go?” Elisha asked. All the young man could do was point. Elisha turned and looked around at the trees. Finding just the right tree, he cut off a small branch. Then he carried it to the river’s edge. He threw the stick into the water where the young man had pointed.

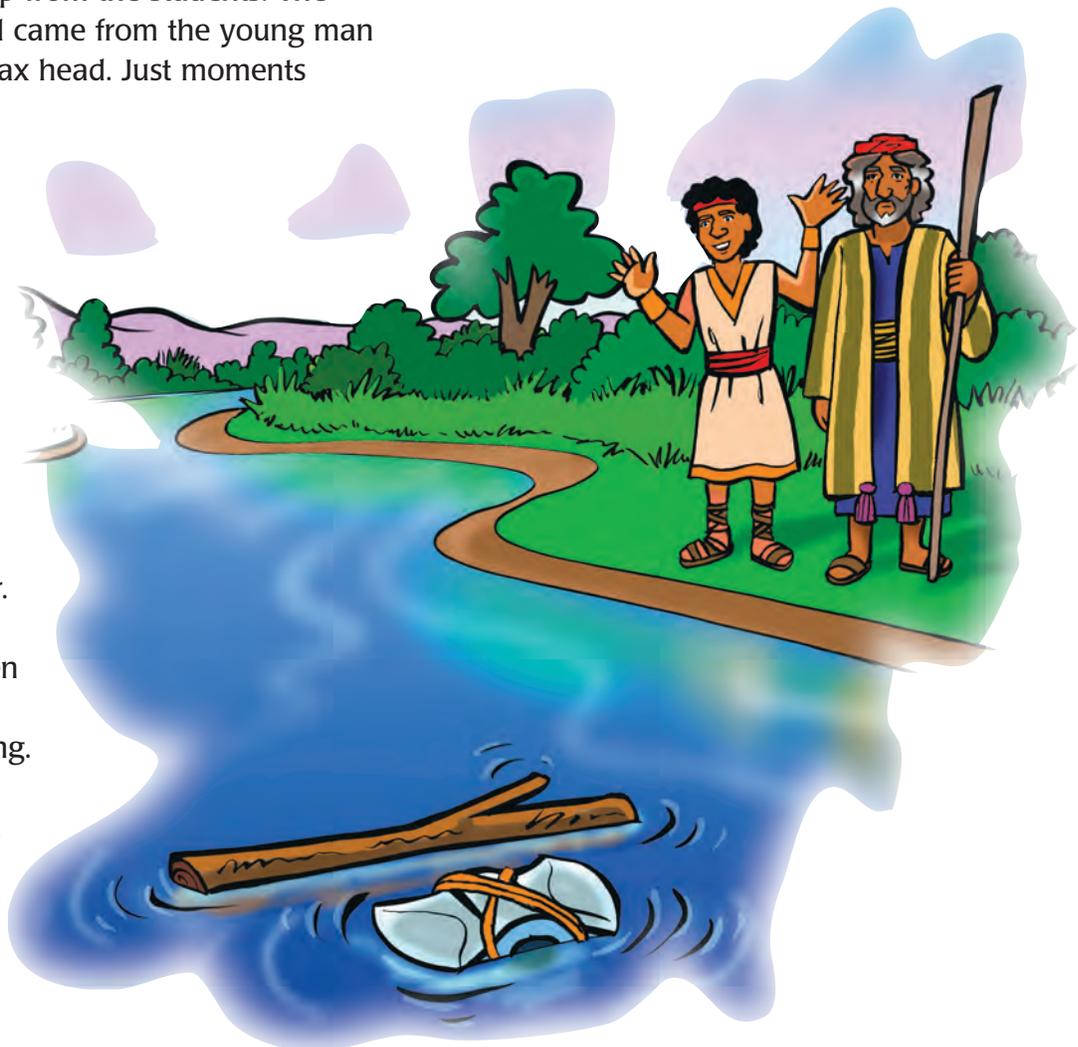
The stick made a little splash. Then ever so slowly the stick and the ax head came up to the surface! They floated together on the water!

A gasp went up from the students. The biggest gasp of all came from the young man who had lost the ax head. Just moments before, he had thought that his life was ruined.

God, through Elisha, had turned the young man’s accident into a miracle. He had taken an ordinary work day and turned it into a day to remember forever.

The tired but excited young men walked back to school that evening. They talked with Elisha about what had happened. They were more sure than

ever that God loved and cared for them. They knew that no problem was too big or too small to take to God.



S A B B A T H

DO Take a walk with your family near a stream or pond. Throw some rocks, tree twigs, leaves, seeds, etc., into the water. (Don't throw in litter such as paper, etc.) Which ones float? Which ones sink?

READ Read today's Bible lesson with your family. Then find and read together Matthew 7:7.

DO Sing a favorite song about God's care before prayer. Then thank Him for it.

M O N D A Y

READ During worship read 2 Kings 6:5-7.

DO Write "Things That Float" at the top of a piece of paper. Draw pictures of things that float. Turn the paper over and write "Things That Can't Float" on the back. Draw some things that can't float. Draw an ax head on the correct side of the paper.

DO Arrange your memory verse cutouts. Sing "Jesus Loves Me" before prayer. Thank Him for His love.

T U E S D A Y

READ Look up these texts to discover other tools used in Bible times:

Exodus 21:6 _____; Joel 3:13 _____; Isaiah 44:13 _____; Jeremiah 10:4 _____.

Which of these tools are used today? How are they used? Which might Elisha and the young men have used?

DO Arrange your memory verse cutouts. Tell what the verse means to you. Has God solved any problems for you today? Thank Him for doing so.

S U N D A Y

READ With your family, read and discuss 2 Kings 6:1-4. What is a miracle? Have a family member help you look up the word in a dictionary.

DO Make some ax-shaped cutouts. Write one word of your memory verse on each. Mix them up, then arrange them in the correct order.

Samuel

began the schools of the prophets where young people learned to be like the ministers we have today.



W E D N E S D A Y

DO Use your problem catcher made in Sabbath School as you describe a problem. As you catch the foil ball, thank Jesus for taking care of the problem. Or list your problems on paper. Then tear the list into tiny pieces. Can you put it together again? Let God take your problems away. Thank Him for doing so.

MAKE In a shallow box, create a scene of this week's story with sand, twigs, and cutouts.

DO Say your memory verse without help. Sing a song about God's love before prayer.

THURSDAY

READ With your family read and discuss Matthew 11:28. If you have a problem, how does this verse make you feel?

DO Find the memory verse in as many different versions of the Bible as you can. Write out the version you like the best. Then say your memory verse as you have learned it this week.

SING Sing "Thank You, Jesus" (Sing for Joy, No. 101).

FRIDAY

DO Act out your Bible story for family worship. Ask your family to tell you about times when God has helped solve their problems. Read and discuss Hebrews 13:5, 6 together.

TELL Tell what your memory verse means as you arrange your memory verse cutouts in order.

DO Sing songs of praise to God for His goodness. Then thank Him for it.

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PUZZLE

Directions: Write the names of the pictured items. Then read the box to find out what the young men learned about God from this miracle.



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

