

How refreshing to everybody and everything is the gentle rain! Let us raise our arms and move the fingers to represent the trickling of the rain drops. Repeat a kindergarten verse about "the rain-drops, gently, gently falling."

Picture the desolation and misery that would soon come if no rain fell. This is what happens in some countries even now. This is what happened in the land of Israel.

Queen Jezebel—Ahab did a very wicked thing when he married a wicked woman, Jezebel, who came from a country where they were all idol worshippers. She hated all God's people, and all God's prophets and temples and worship. Ahab turned and worshiped her gods. He built temples for Baal, her heathen god, and did much more that made God very angry with him, 1 Kgs. 16 : 31-33.

The Prophets of God—Schools for the training of prophets had been formed in several places, and these prophets had kept alive the worship of the true God. The wicked Queen Jezebel tried to put them all to death, but good Obadiah, governor of the king's house, managed to save a hundred of them, ch. 18 : 3, 4.

Elijah—Elijah was the head of all the

prophets. God made known to him that He was going to send a famine upon their land because of the wickedness of the people. No rain nor dew would fall, no grain would grow. The trees would not bear fruit, the rivers would dry up. Cattle would die for want of water. There would be no food in all the land.

Elijah Fed During the Famine—Tell the wonderful story, ch. 17 : 1-16. Picture Elijah. Describe Ahab's anger and Elijah's flight. Outline ravens flying. Describe the way in which God fed Elijah.

When the brook dried up, God had another plan for taking care of his servant Elijah, vs. 9-16. (Outline barrel and jar.)

God's Care Over Us—Is God able to take care of those who serve Him now? God wants us to do all we can to take care of ourselves. What we cannot do for ourselves, God does for us (illustrate). Sometimes He uses us to help others as He used the ravens and the widow to help Elijah. Be willing to be used (illustrate).

Golden Text—Repeat Golden Text.

What the Lesson Teaches Me—I SHOULD NOT BE ANXIOUS.

FROM THE PLATFORM

ELIJAH *And The* KING RAVENS WIDOW

Print on the blackboard, ELIJAH, and tell the scholars that the conversation is to take up three scenes in the life of that great prophet. Announce the first scene as that of *Elijah And The KING* (Fill in), and question about Elijah's appearance before Ahab, bringing out the suddenness of his bursting into the royal presence, his boldness in delivering his message and the contents of the message itself. Call the second scene, *Elijah and the RAVENS* (Fill in), and frame the questions so as to bring out who sent him thither,—God Himself—for what reason he was sent, namely for safety from Ahab and Jezebel, how his wants were provided for in that lonely, barren place and why he was at last commanded to leave. The third scene may be called, *Elijah and the WIDOW*. The questions should bring out the circumstances of the prophet's coming to Zarephath and the way in which he was cared for there. Impress the teaching of the Golden Text, that when we are doing God's will, we may be free from care or anxiety.