

# Trust in God Alone

(1 Kings 17 and Matthew 6:31, 33)



More than 850 years before Jesus was born **was a dark and treacherous time**. King **Ahab, the most evil of kings**, worshipped Baal and did many things to provoke the Lord to anger. Despite this time, a prophet named Elijah served and trusted wholly in God. **God** protected Elijah, by sending him into hiding in the Kerith Ravine, near a brook, and **had ravens bring him meat and bread**. [Hand students a small piece of salty bread and meat]

Times continued to grow dim, **a horrible drought came and the brook dried up**. [Ask if the kids are thirsty]. In Zarephath (evil Queen Jezebel's territory), **food was scarce**. There, a poor widow and her dependent son had very little left to eat. God sent Elijah to her. Elijah started **rap, rap, rapping on the town gate** [have the kids start knocking]. When she answered, he asked her for water and a piece of bread, though she did not have enough to share, Elijah told her not to worry. ...Sure enough, his God provided - her tiny bit of bread and oil never ran out! [Show kids a toy baby bottle that "empties" as you feed a doll, then "refills" when you tip is back up].



Times continued to be hard for the woman as her son grew more and more sick that eventually **he stopped breathing**. She thought Elijah came to remind her of past sins and to kill her son! Elijah took the boy and fervently prayed over him and **God raised him from the dead! His fear of God helped** another believe.



About 2,367 years later, on **Halloween night** (October 31, 1517) in Wittenburg, Germany, times were not the way God would prefer. People were changing and teaching religion to their benefit and not as the Bible stated God's way to be. That Halloween night pagans and others may have been **focused on the dead**; the end of the harvest, the ones who have died before them. Some of the poor may have been out and about **rap, rap, rapping on doors** [have the kids start knocking], asking for soul cakes in return for prayers for the dead of that household. While people were running about on their own agendas, a man named **Martin Luther was rap, rap, rapping on the door of his church** [have the kids start knocking]. He was posting a list of 95 things that needed to change – ways the people were not living according to God's Word. *Repeat after me: **Sola Scriptura** (then rap 19 times), **Solus Christus** (then rap 19 times), **Sola Gratia** (then rap 19 times), **Sola Fide** (then rap 19 times), **Soli Deo Gloria** (then rap 19 times).*

Though Martin Luther had to be careful many days of this life, **his fear of God helped others believe** in his cause. A reformation did happen because of his work and the work of others, and from Martin Luther we now have the Lutheran church. A church focused on God's will.

Today, we can walk through the **valley of the shadow of death and feel no evil** (Psalm 23:4). We can trust wholly in God alone as written in Matthew 6:31, 33, "So do not worry, saying 'What shall we eat' or 'What shall we wear' ...But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

## Kid's Page:

### Latin Meanings:

**Sola Scriptura** The inerrant Scripture is the sole source of written divine revelation, which alone can bind the conscience.

**Solus Christus** Our salvation is accomplished by the mediatorial work of the historical Christ alone.

**Sola Gratia** In salvation we are rescued from God's wrath by His grace alone; salvation is not in any sense our work.

**Sola Fide** Justification is by grace alone through faith alone because of Christ alone. In justification Christ's righteousness is imputed to us as the only possible satisfaction of God's perfect justice.

**Soli Deo Gloria** Because salvation is God and has been accomplished by God, it is for God's glory. Therefore, we must glorify Him always.

850BC, though times were dark and people did not live for God \_\_\_\_\_ trusted in God and God provided through \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

1517 AD, though people believed in other gods or a corrupt version of Christianity, \_\_\_\_\_ trusted in God and God provided through \_\_\_\_\_.

In 2013, though people believe in other gods and do not live they should, \_\_\_\_\_ can trust in God and God will provide \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity choices:

- **Pumpkin Gospel:** Follow along the "Pumpkin Gospel" as you "clean out the sin," carve a smiling face, and add "God's light" to a pumpkin.
- **Illuminated letters/calligraphy** – Martin Luther did not have a computer to type the list of 95 theses. He most likely dipped a quill pen into ink to write them each out. Use examples of illuminated letters and those in calligraphy to write out one of the theses, or your own name.
- **Parchment Scrolls** – Martin Luther didn't have the paper we have today. Create some parchment to write on. Tear the edges of a sheet of paper. Crumple. Unfold and smooth. Lay paper flat on screen rack (window screening tacked to a 1 x 1 frame works quite well). Pour coffee or black tea over the paper and allow it to dry. (Use a heat gun or hair dryer on a low setting if you need to speed up the process.) Once paper is thoroughly dry, write a message on it in your best handwriting, roll the scroll up, and tie with ribbon or cording.
- **Stained glass jars** – Stained glass was a beautiful artwork in Martin Luther's day. Grab a clean jar, some diluted glue, a paintbrush and tissue paper. Tear the tissue paper into small pieces. Put some diluted glue on a section of the jar, lay the tissue paper there and completely cover it in more diluted glue. Repeat until the jar is covered. You can create patterns or shapes during this process. Once dried, you can outline shapes with a dark permanent marker. Once finished, use as a pencil holder, vase, or votive cup.