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Much Love!

Pastor Ed

Title: "The Calling"

Text: 1 Kings 17:1-16

Target: God has to allow you to go through dry moments to show you that He is your deliverer!

1. The Calling of a Dangerous Prophet: Now Elijah (YHWH is my God) the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word" (Vs. 1a)

a. Confronts Idolatry: As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand (Vs. 1b)

b. Causes an Intervention: there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word. (Vs. 1c)

2. The Calling to a Desert Place: hide yourself by the brook of Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. (Vs 3)

a. God Speaks: word of the Lord came to him (Vs. 2)...he went and did according to the word of the Lord. He went and lived by the brook Cherith. (Vs. 5)

b. God Sustains: drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there... brought him bread and meat in the morning and evening (Vs. 4, 6)

c. God Shapes: After a while the brook dried up...(Vs. 7)

i. Faithful to God when no one is watching

ii. Faithful to God when no one is applauding

iii. Faithful to God when no one is promoting

3. The Calling to a Desperate Person: Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you. (Vs. 9)

a. A Plea for Provision:

i. A Prophet's Request:

1. Outlandish Request: bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink (Vs. 10)

2. Overreaching Request: And as she was going to bring it, he called her and said, bring me a morsel of bread in your hand (Vs. 11)

ii. A Widows Response: As the LORD your God lives...(Vs. 12a)

1. Overextend Response: I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. (Vs. 12a)

2. Overwhelmed Response: gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die. (Vs. 12b)

b. A Promise for Provision: And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. (Vs. 13)

i. A Prophet's Revelation: the jar of flour shall not be spent, and the

jug of it shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth. (Vs. 14)

ii. A Widow's Realization: her household ate for many days. The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah. (Vs. 16)

Take Away: Our God is a deliverer and He will see us through!

*Elijah (YHWH is my God), the tishbite, 1 Kings 17:1 to Elijah, the man of God 1 Kings 17:24