Running with the Giants Elisha June 24, 2018

Hebrews 12:1 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us."

Key Thought: For when you wonder if your life <u>counts</u>... Give your <u>best</u> wherever God puts you.

Wherever you are...

1.) Give your best in obscurity and God will reward it.

Kings 19:19 So Elijah went and found Elisha son of Shaphat plowing a field. There were twelve teams of oxen in the field, and Elisha was plowing with the twelfth team. Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak across his shoulders and then walked away.

Matthew 6:4 Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.

- 2.) Give your best in the <u>small things</u> and God will give you bigger things to do.
- **1 Kings 19:21** So Elisha returned to his oxen and slaughtered them. He used the wood from the plow to build a fire to roast their flesh. He passed around the meat to the townspeople, and they all ate. Then he went with Elijah as his assistant.
- **Luke 16:10** "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities.
 - 3.) Give your best in the <u>natural</u> and God will do the supernatural.
- **2 Kings 2:9-10** When they came to the other side, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away." And Elisha replied, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit and become your successor." "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah replied. "If you see me when I am taken from you, then you will get your request. But if not, then you won't."

John 14:12-14 "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!

ELISHA'S WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- ✓ Learn how to cultivate the presence of God in your life
- **2 Kings 3:15** Now bring me someone who can play the harp." While the harp was being played, the power of the Lord came upon Elisha,
- **Acts 4:13** The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus.
 - ✓ At some point, you have to wake up and do something.
- **2 Kings 3:16** And he said, "This is what the LORD says: Make this valley full of ditches."
- **James 2:17** So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.
 - Don't base your life on the <u>seen</u>, but the <u>unseen</u>.
- **2 Kings 3:17-18** You will see neither wind nor rain, says the Lord, but this valley will be filled with water. You will have plenty for yourselves and your cattle and other animals. But this is only a simple thing for the Lord, for he will make you victorious over the army of Moab!
- **2 Corinthians 4:18** So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

Walk Away: Give your best in every <u>season</u> of your life, and watch God fulfill the dreams inside your heart.