



## Silverdale Baptist

Days of Elijah ~ Praying in Faith ~ 10/28-29/2023

1 Kings 18:41-46

### Big Idea

Our prayers should be bold! They should reflect our God's power, not our faith's weakness.

### Getting Started

**What is one thing you prayed for and saw God answer?**

**Leader note:** Last week, we studied Elijah's confrontation with the prophets of Ba'al and Asherah. This week, Elijah prays, and God answers with rain.

*"With his enemies dispatched, Elijah demonstrates one last time that Yahweh is Lord. It is time for rain. He counsels Ahab to hurry home so he will not be caught in the rain. When the rains come, the Lord's victory is complete. God sustains and protects his prophets, while Baal lets his die. Yahweh feeds the orphans and widows and raises the dead, while Baal lets the needy suffer... Yahweh can send fire or rain from heaven, but Baal cannot respond to his most valiant worshipers. A god like Baal is no God at all. A God like Yahweh must be God of all. Rain is not just rain here but evidence of the Lord's absolute sovereignty over nature and human affairs."<sup>1</sup>*

### Learn

#### The Foundation of Prayer.

*Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus -Heb10:19 whatever we ask, we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments – 1 John 3:22*

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<sup>1</sup> Paul R. House, [1, 2 Kings](#), vol. 8 of *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 221.

**Before we talk about the principles of prayer, what is the foundation of prayer?**

**What is it that allows us to pray to God?**

The foundation of prayer is a relationship with God. Only through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus do we have any ground to talk to God. But, surrendered to Jesus, we walk boldly into the throne room and lay our petitions at the feet of Jesus.

## The Principles of Prayer

### 1. Pray according to the promises of God.

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 KINGS 17:1-2 AND 18:41-42.

**What were the first words Elijah said to King Ahab?**

**What does Elijah say to Ahab in verses 41-42?**

**What are the promises of God you are claiming in prayer?**

Elijah claimed there would be no rain except by his word. Obviously, God had given Elijah this promise. Now, Elijah bows in prayer and claims the promise.

### 2. Pray in a posture of humility.

**When Elijah prayed in verse 42, physically, what was his posture?**

**How do you position yourself when you pray?**

**When you pray, does your physical position reflect a heart attitude of humility, or is it just a habit you learned?**

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 KINGS 18:41-46

### 3. Pray specifically and persistently.

**How persistent was Elijah in prayer?**

**How persistent are you in prayer?**

**Who or what have you stopped praying for?**

## Apply

**What did the Holy Spirit show you this week?**

**Who or what are you starting to pray for again this week?**

## Pray

Father, You tell us to keep asking, to keep knocking, and to pray without ceasing. But we confess that we always seem to fall short of being consistent. Lord, forgive our weak faith. Teach us to claim the promises You give us in Your word. When we pray, let us see Your hand at work because it always strengthens us and encourages us when we do. Thank You for the reminder that through the blood of Jesus, we can come boldly into the throne room! Never let us forget! In the mighty name of Jesus, we ask, amen.