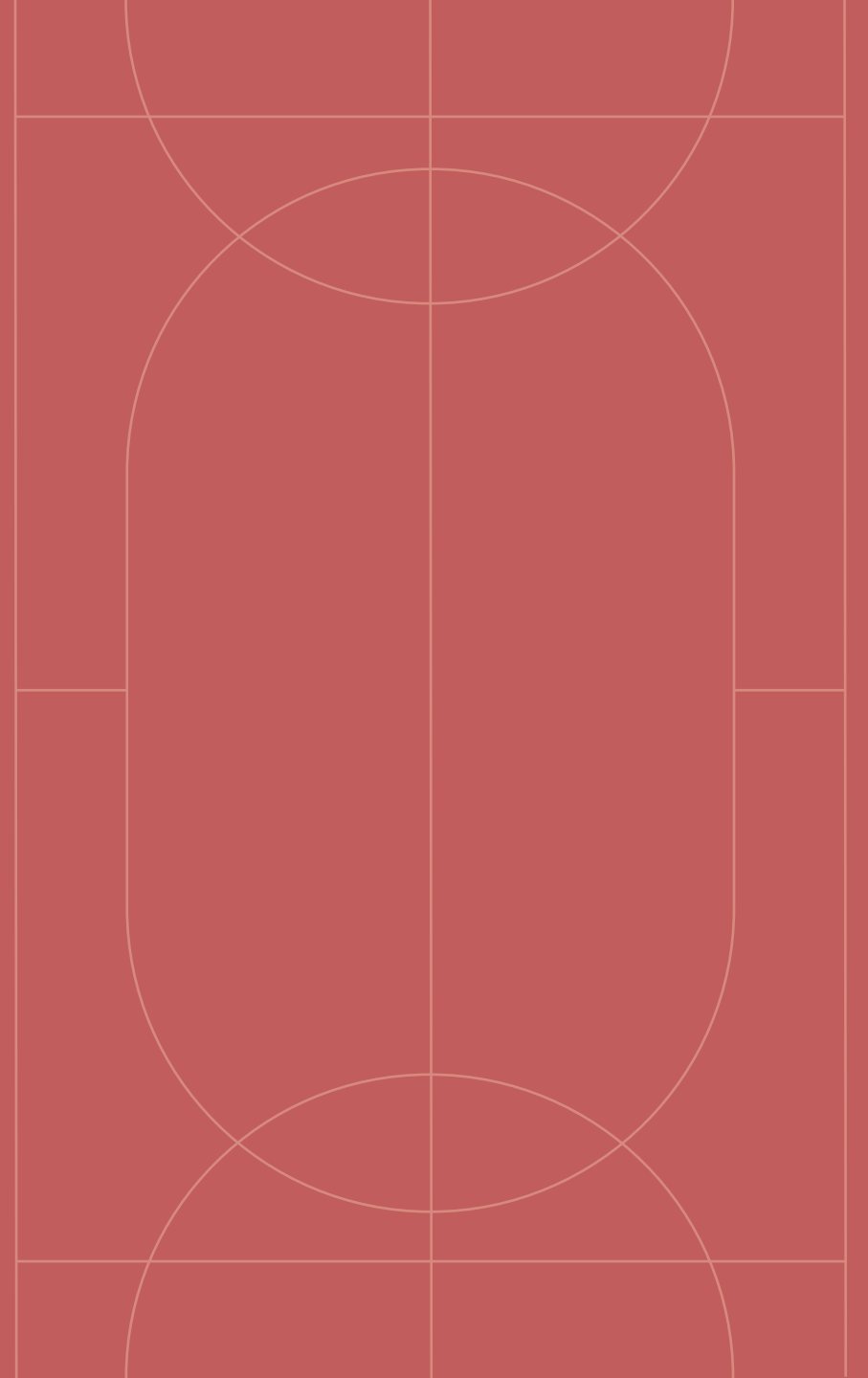


# Passing the Mantle

2 Kings 2:1-14

May 21, 2023



# I. A Persevering Faith

## 2 Kings 2

- 1) And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from **Gilgal**.
- 2) Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to **Bethel**." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel.
- 3) Now the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent!"
- 4) Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho.

# I. A Persevering Faith

## 2 Kings 2

- 5) Now the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" So he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent!"
- 6) Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the **Jordan**." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So the two of them went on.
- 7) And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan.
- 8) Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

## II. A Heart desiring to serve

### 2 Kings 2

- 9) And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."
- 10) So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."

### III. A Rewarder of those who seek Him

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

### III. A Rewarder of those who seek Him.

2 Kings 2

- 11) Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.
- 12) And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces.
- 13) He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.
- 14) Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.

# The Challenge

Let us live in an awareness that we are always passing the mantle of our faith in each interaction.