



## ***Living Beyond Yourself by Passing on God's Favor***

### **II Kings 2:1-15**

*"We exist temporarily through what we take, but we live forever through what we give. That's why it's so essential to focus on raising others to a higher level."*

**- Douglas M. Lawson**

#### **I. Live beyond yourself by leaving a direction to follow.**

**2 Kings 2:2** *And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.*

A. He followed a powerful influence.

**2 Kings 2:2** *And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; . . . As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel.*

**2 Kings 2:4** . . . *I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho.*

**2 Kings 2:6** *As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee.*

**II Kings 1:9-10** *Thou man of God, the King hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, then let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came down fire from heaven and consumed him and his fifty.*

B. He followed a perfect God.

**2 Kings 2:2** *And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel.*

**2 Kings 2:4** . . . *tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho.*

**2 Kings 2:4** *Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan.*

**Jude 1:24-25** *now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, (V.25) To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for ever. Amen*

## **II. Living beyond yourself by leaving a desire for God's favor.**

*"Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible, knows the unknowable, and receives the impossible."*  
- Adrian Rogers

A. He recognized the power it brought to Elijah's life.

**2 Kings 2:8** *And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground.*

**Matthew 28:18** *And Jesus came and spake unto him saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (V.19) Go ye therefore,*

B. He recognized the peace it brought to Elijah's life.

**2 Kings 2:9** *And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.*

*"Elisha requested a double portion of Elijah's Spirit, the energizing power characterizing Elijah's ministry. Elisha wanted God's empowerment far more than wealth."*  
- David Jeremiah

## **III. Living beyond yourself by leaving a determination to move forward.**

A. He carried on the work of Elijah.

**2 Kings 2:14** *And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.*

### **What had Elijah Taught Elisha?**

- ◆ He taught Elisha that God would provide your needs. (Elijah fed by Ravens. 1Kings 17:4)
- ◆ He taught Elisha the resurrection power of God. (The raising of the widow's son. 1Kings 17:22)
- ◆ He taught Elisha the power of prayer. (Two sentence prayer that called fire down from heaven. 1Kings 18:37)
- ◆ He taught Elisha that God would fight his battles with him. (Caused it not to rain for three and a half years. 1Kings 17:1)

*“When you are facing an impossible stream, let God have His wonderful way. Let's remember our Jordan River experiences, those seemingly insurmountable problems when God parted the waters.”*

**- Jerry Vines**

B. He carried on the will of the Lord.

**2 Kings 2:15** *And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.*