

Hope Again  
1 Kings 18:41-46 ESV

Pastor Norman Nakanishi

“And Elijah said to Ahab, ‘Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain.’ So, Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees. And he said to his servant, ‘Go up now, look toward the sea.’ And he went up and looked and said, ‘There is nothing.’ And he said, ‘Go again seven times.’ And at the seventh time he said, ‘Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising from the sea.’ And he said, ‘Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.’” And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he gathered up his garment and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.” (1 Kings 18:41-46 ESV)

Proclaim belief and begin to pray

“And Elijah said to Ahab, ‘Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain.’ So, Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees.” (1 Kings 18:41-42)

Practice perseverance

“And he said to his servant, ‘Go up now, look toward the sea.’ And he went up and looked and said, ‘There is nothing.’ And he said, ‘Go again seven times.’” (1 Kings 18:43)

Apply faith to small beginnings

“And at the seventh time he said, ‘Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising from the sea.’ And he said, ‘Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.’ And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain.” (1 Kings 18:44-45)

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the Sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” (Isaiah 55: 8-11 ESV)

Let’s Connect

- Share a courageous moment in your life. What happened, and how did it affect your life?

Let’s Talk About It

We’re so thankful to have the Bible as our anchor of truth in an ever-changing world of confusion and brokenness. God desires us to be courageous to preach the Word and confront others with the hopes of repentance and restoration.

Discussions Questions

1. Have you gone through Freedom Weekend?  
Event held on 11/11/23.  
Register today!



2. What most stands out to you from the message on Hope?
3. Where have you seen Hope challenged then fulfilled in your past, and what did you learn?
4. Where in your life are you currently battling for a breakthrough of Hope?

Take a Step

- How will you implement what you learned from the sermon into the upcoming week?

Here’s My Prayer

- Lord, thank You that I can bring my concerns to You, knowing that You care about every detail of my life. Teach me how to meditate on You and delight in You so my life is fruitful and brings You glory. Fill me with the joy that comes from dwelling in Your presence. In Jesus’ name, amen.