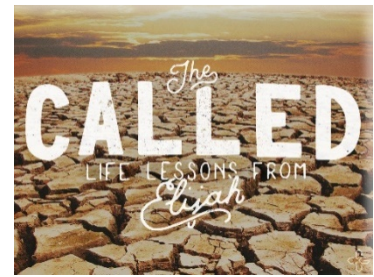


The Called

Week 2 – June 9, 2019

For further study – [How's Your Prayer Life?](#)



- **Passage:** Selected readings from [1 KINGS 18](#) - [1 KINGS 18:17-21](#), [1 KINGS 18:27](#), [1 KINGS 18:36-39](#).
- **Memory Verse:** “Hear me, O LORD, hear me, so that this people may know that You are the LORD God.” ([1 Kings 18:37, MEV](#)).
- **Main Idea**
 - What is the main idea of the selected passages?
 - How would you summarize the main idea of the sermon this week?
- **Applying God’s Word in Community**
 - The sermon explained the difference between a fence that keeps animals from breaking free, and a well with fresh clean water that keeps animals close by so they can continue to get nourishment from the cold well-water.
 - How would you answer someone who believes God is a gatekeeper who uses fences to keep people “in line”?
 - Think about a recent time in your life when you might have strayed from God. How did He lead you back to Himself?
 - Elijah was an extraordinary person; prayerful, obedient, wise, and courageous. It’s tempting to think that we could never be as prayerful, as obedient, or as wise as he was. Do you think that God calls us to be *just like* Elijah? Why or why not?
 - Watch [this brief video](#) that talks about our unique personalities and the way God calls us into service for Him.
 - Jason used the term “on fire for God”, and some of us may wonder what that means in the “real world.” Christians have job responsibilities, kids to care for, aging parents to look after, etc. So, how would you define what it means to be on fire for God?
 - What would being “on fire for God” look like in your daily life – around the dinner table at home, during class at school, at a BBQ in your neighborhood, or working out at the gym?
 - Jason talked about spending time in prayer as being a way to know God better. Describe your prayer time with God.
 - Sometimes we make big plans to spend more time in prayer, kind of like the diets we start at the beginning of the year and drift away from by mid-February. What is one **realistic** way you can spend a little more time in prayer with God this week?
 - **Prayer** – Read the sermon passages once more, then spend time talking to God:
 - **Adoration** – Praise God for the way He’s made you and the unique personality He’s given you.
 - **Confession** – Confess to God where you may be struggling with the image you have of Him.
 - **Thanksgiving** – Thank God that He hears your prayers today, just like He heard Elijah’s prayers over 2,000 years ago.
 - **Supplication** – Ask God to show you more of who He is, for time to talk to Him in prayer, and for time to get to know more about who He is through His Word.
- **Connecting Church & Home for Kids**
 - Read the sermon passages from a Children’s Bible.
 - Talk with kids about 3 different relationships in their lives; their relationship with a stranger they see walking down the street, their relationship with one of their teachers, and their relationship with their parent(s). Ask them to describe their levels of trust with each one.
 - Help kids connect the dots between how well we know someone and how able we are to trust them.
 - Explain to them that they can know God better and trust Him more through prayer and through reading about Him in their Bible.
 - Ask them to say a brief prayer (or lead them) of thanksgiving for the Bible and for the way God meets with us in prayer.
- **Going Deeper:** Here are some additional questions for you to engage the preached word more deeply either individually or with others.
 - Read [James 5:16-18](#)
 - What does James suggest regarding confessing your sin?
 - Is it easier to confess your sin to God or to someone else?
 - Coming clean before God and with others is one way God “[refreshes](#)” us. Think of a time when you “came clean” before God. Did you notice anything different about your relationship with God and/or with others as a result?
 - God uses our confession before Him as an opportunity to assure us of His unconditional love.
 - [Read Titus 3:4-5](#). How does this comfort you in a current situation?
 - Read the following excerpt of a prayer taken from [Valley of Vision](#). Use this prayer to help you reflect on themes from this study.

Lord, high and holy, meek and lowly, thou hast brought me to the valley of vision, where I live in the depths but see Thee in the heights; hemmed in by mountains of sin I behold Thy glory. Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up, that to be low is to be high, that the broken heart is the healed heart, that the contrite spirit is the rejoicing spirit, that the repenting soul is the victorious soul, that to have nothing is to possess all, that to bear the cross is to wear the crown, that to give is to receive, that the valley is the place of vision. Lord, in the daytime stars can be seen from deepest wells, and the deeper the wells the brighter Thy stars shine; let me find Thy light in my darkness, Thy life in my death, Thy joy in my sorrow, Thy grace in my sin, Thy riches in my poverty, Thy glory in my valley.