

# Part 2: Elijah's Life — A Blueprint for Bold Prayers

## Theme:

Faith-Filled Prayers that Birth Miracles

## Main Scriptures:

- 1 Kings 17–18
- James 5:17–18 (NLT)

*“Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years. Then when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops.” — James 5:17–18*

---

## Expository Teaching:

### 1. Elijah Was Ordinary, Yet Used Powerfully

James highlights that Elijah was "as human as we are."

He battled fears, loneliness, and fatigue, yet his prayers shut up the heavens.

**Point:** *Being used by God isn't about perfection; it's about **positioning** your heart through obedience and boldness.*

#### Supporting Scripture:

- 2 Corinthians 4:7 — *“But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.”*
- 

### 2. Dependence on God Precedes Miraculous Power

In 1 Kings 17, Elijah had no visible means of survival:

- Fed by ravens
- Dependent on a widow's meager supply
- Hidden at the Kerith Brook

**God was teaching Elijah:** *Before I give you authority to call down fire in public, you must learn to depend on My provision in private.*

 **Supporting Scripture:**

- 1 Kings 17:5–6 — *“The ravens brought him bread and meat each morning and evening, and he drank from the brook.”*

 **Reflection:**

*Private trust builds public authority.*

---

### 3. Elijah Prayed Big Prayers Without Fear

- Drought over the entire land
- Resurrection of a widow's son
- Fire called down from Heaven at Mount Carmel

Elijah didn't bring small, cautious prayers before God—he made audacious, God-sized requests!

**Point:** *We often pray too small because we limit God to our own imagination.*

 **Supporting Scripture:**

- Ephesians 3:20 — *“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine...”*
- 

### 4. Elijah's Prayers Revealed God, Not Himself

At Mount Carmel, Elijah wasn't showing off; he was *revealing the true and living God to a confused nation.*

- He repaired the altar.
- He soaked the sacrifice in water.
- He prayed a simple, heartfelt prayer.

**And fire fell.**

 **Supporting Scripture:**

- 1 Kings 18:36–39 — *"Let it be known this day that You are God in Israel."*

 **Reflection:**

*True intercession isn't about spotlighting yourself — it's about spotlighting God's glory.*

---

## **5. Persistence Until the Breakthrough**

Even after prophesying rain, Elijah didn't relax.

- He **bowled low to the ground** (1 Kings 18:42)
- He **sent his servant to look for a cloud** seven times.
- He **continued praying** until the breakthrough came.

**Point:** *Faith isn't shown in the announcement — it's proven in persistent prayer afterward.*

 **Supporting Scripture:**

- Luke 18:1 — *"They should always pray and not give up."*
- 

## **Key Takeaways:**

- **God uses ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things** through prayer.
- **Radical dependence** leads to **radical demonstration** of God's power.

- **Pray God-sized prayers** — not based on your limits, but on God's unlimited power.
  - **Persistence** is not a lack of faith — it is the proof of faith.
- 

## **Bible Study Questions (with Reflection Scriptures):**

1. **How does Elijah's humanity encourage you in your prayer life?** (James 5:17)
  2. **Why is it important to develop private dependence on God before public victories?** (1 Kings 17:5–6)
  3. **What is one "God-sized" prayer you feel challenged to pray today?** (Ephesians 3:20)
  4. **How can you ensure that your prayers glorify God and not yourself?** (1 Kings 18:36–39)
  5. **What lessons do you learn from Elijah's persistence in prayer for rain?** (1 Kings 18:42–44)
  6. **Where might you need to persevere in prayer instead of giving up too soon?** (Luke 18:1)
- 



## **Reflection for Personal Growth:**

- Am I nurturing radical dependence on God privately, not just publicly?
- Are my prayers too safe, or do they reflect the vastness of God's ability?
- Am I willing to keep praying even when I don't immediately see results?
- How can my prayers point others back to God and not to myself

## Climate of Prayer & Intercession

Apostle Marilyn Robert

### Nurtured Prayer Principles from Elijah:

I. Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, no one fell for three and a half years! Then, when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops.

II. Elijah Prayer life is an example of prayer nurturing to birth. He was fed by ravens. He saw the widow's supply of oil and flour miraculously never run out. He raised her son back to life. And he brought down the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel.

III. What was it about Elijah that made his prayers, his life, so powerful and effective? What can we learn from the life of Elijah to help our own prayer lives?

IV. Elijah learned to be completely dependent on God. After Elijah's first confrontation with King Ahab, God sent him to the Kerith Brook. There Elijah sat, no food, no provisions. But God saw his needs. It was there, with everything stripped away, that God sent ravens to bring him food.

V. So, Elijah did as the Lord told him and camped beside Kerith Brook, east of the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat each morning and evening, and he drank from the brook. (1 Kings 17:5-6)

VI. Elijah was hiding from the evil King Ahab. He had no way to meet his own needs. He was completely at the mercy of God himself, doing his best to walk in obedience. And God, Jehovah Jireh, provided as only He can.

VII. Even when the brook dried up, Elijah had no need to fear. His source of provision dried up, but His God's faithfulness didn't. He went to the widow of Zarephath, completely convinced of God's faithfulness to provide for his needs. And, as before, God did what only He could do.