

And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

1 Kings 17:1





And it came to pass after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth."

1 Kings 18:1





#### ELIJAH CONFRONTS KING AHAB

And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals. 19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."



1 Kings 18:18-19



1. Who was Baal?

2. Who were these prophets of Baal?

3. Why on Mount Carmel?





### 1. DON'T WORSHIP GOD & EAT AT JEZEBEL'S TABLE

So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup> And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people <u>answered him not a word</u>.

Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people <u>answered and said</u>, "It is well spoken."

1 Kings 18:20-21, 24





### 2. DON'T MISTAKE ADRENALINE FOR ANOINTING

So they <u>cried aloud</u>, and <u>cut themselves</u>, as was their custom, with knives (swords) and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. <sup>29</sup> And when midday was past, they <u>prophesied</u> until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice. But there was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.

1 Kings 18:28-29





#### THE FIRE OF GOD IS SUSTAINED FROM THE INSIDE OUT.

...His Word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, and I could not.

Jeremiah 20:9





### 3. FIRE ALWAYS FALLS ON SACRIFICE

Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he <u>repaired</u> the altar of the Lord that was <u>broken down</u>.

1 Kings 18:30





And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood, and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood."

34 Then he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time; and he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. 35 So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water.





Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You are the Lord God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again." 38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. <sup>39</sup> Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

1 Kings 18:37-39





## AVERAGE DURATION (3) OF A PHONE CALL

Boy ———— Boy ———— 00:00:59

Boy Mum -- 00:00:50

Boy — Dad — 00:00:30

Boy — Girl — 01:23:59

Girl — 05:29:59





## AVERAGE DURATION (3) OF A PHONE CALL

Husband Wife — 00:00:03

Mum Married Daughter 10:50:59





### AVERAGE DURATION (3)

Wife Husband Missed Calls





### 4. THE FIRE OF PERSISTENT PRAYER

Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of abundance of rain."

<sup>42</sup> So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees…

1 Kings 18:41-42, 44-45





### 4. THE FIRE OF PERSISTENT PRAYER

<sup>44</sup> Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'" <sup>45</sup> Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain.

1 Kings 18:41-42, 44-45





### WITH GOD, THERE'S NO UNANSWERED PRAYER, ONLY UNANSWERED PRAYING.





## 2 Key Teachings on Prayer by Jesus:

1. The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4)

2. The Parable of the Persistent Widow (Luke 18:1-8)

Then Jesus told His disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.





### 5. THE FIRE OF A GENTLE WHISPER

Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; 12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.



1 Kings 19:11-12



The fire of God in you should not be fuelled by programmes, but sustained by His Presence.





"IF YOU KEEP THE FIRE BURNING, THE FIRE WILL KEEP YOU BURNING."

