

## APPLYING GOD'S WORD

*Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide you:*

Engaging with God when life doesn't go your way

- Do not grow weary of doing good - Galatians 6:9
- Where are the areas you feel hurt, angry, "done with it" in life and ministry? Have you taken it to the Lord? What might he be saying to you in it all?
- What are some promises that he has made that you can plead regarding your situation?
- How are you at receiving? If poor, why? How might the Lord be inviting you to go a new way?

### Notes

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional  
First Congregational Church of Woodstock

Ben Courtemanche  
June 23rd, 2019

Morning Service:

1 Kings 19: 1 – 18

### **Success, Despair, and the Presence of God**

1. How Do We Deal with Disappointment?
2. God Welcomes Our Expressions of Hurt and Anger.
3. The Presence of God as the Greatest Gift we can Ever Receive

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional

Elder Keith Tallon

Evening Service:

Psalm 40: 1 – 17

### **Evidence of a Faith That Endures**

1. Is your patience and trust in God causing you to sing a "new" song
2. Is your testimony of deliverance being seen and heard?
3. How can we "delight" in doing God's will?

God delivered King David from the "miry" clay. If we trust in the Lord's deliverance from our sin and trials, He will set our feet on a solid rock. As Christians we are called to tell our own story of God's faithfulness. We should have a "new" song to sing that gives hope to those who suffer and wait upon the Lord. Our praise for God's mercy should be seen and heard. Jesus demonstrated his love for the Father by joyfully doing God's will as he gave his life for us on the cross. Should we not have the same attitude and desire?

## Taking Gathered Worship Home

Elijah is one of the most glorious prophets ever used by God. In the episode immediately preceding the one we are looking at this week, he wins one of the greatest victories for God over idolatry and sin recorded in the entire Bible. God shows Elijah in the clearest possible way that He has blessed him and used him mightily. Yet we find him in this passage despairing for his very life. How can such heights of ministry lead to such depths of despondency?

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Ask Christ to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

### Sunday AM

READ **First Kings 19:1-18**. DISCUSS, Have you struggled with disappointment? How has God disappointed you? What did you do with that? How can you (we) trust God given our disappointments? PRAY thanking God for His sure and certain promises in Christ.

### Sunday PM

READ tonight's passage: **Psalms 40:1-17**. DISCUSS, What do you have to sing about? Why? PRAISE Christ for all that He has done.

### Monday

READ **First Kings 19:1-4**. DISCUSS, Why is Elijah afraid? Why would he be afraid of Jezebel after what had just happened? PRAY for God to help us turn to Him in our fears. EXTEND His grace to a neighbor today. Show them Christ's grace as it has been lavished upon you (us). PRAY for Christ's comfort for our neighbors.

### Tuesday

READ **First Kings 19:1-8**. DISCUSS, How does God provide for Elijah? Isn't it just like God to remember that we need food for strength? PRAY, "Lord, teach us to trust You in our fears. Show us how Your faithfulness to our fathers and mothers can help us to trust You now. Instill in us a certainty of Your unshakeable goodness.

### Wednesday

READ **First Kings 19:9-14; Galatians 6:9-10**. DISCUSS, Why does Elijah feel so utterly alone? He is so despondent that he is not even moved by the miraculous revelation of God. Have you ever been there? PRAY, Ask God to strengthen us so that we will not grow weary in doing what is right.

### Thursday

READ **First Kings 19:15-18**. DISCUSS, How many were there in Israel who had remained faithful to God like Elijah? Was Elijah as alone as he thought? PRAY, "Jesus, help us to trust in You and Your faithfulness in fulfilling all Your promises. Teach us to believe Your Word more than our own eyes."

### Friday

READ **First Kings 19:1-18**. DISCUSS, What have you been learning from this passage this week? PRAY, "Lord, God of the Covenant, You are faithful and true. Teach us to trust You more than our feelings and fears. Make us faithful too."

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the gathered worship service tomorrow. Do what you can today so that you will be less hurried tomorrow. Please pray specifically for our worship service and for the Holy Spirit to guide us together.

READ **Genesis 29:1-35**. Come to worship tomorrow expecting to hear from God through His Word and to learn more about our God together. Pray for God's glory to be more and more manifested in the Woodstock area. Pray that He will use us to extend His grace as we celebrate it together.

## Galatians 6:9-10

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."