

STEP INTO SCRIPTURE

WEEK 14: WHEN GOD SPEAKS

PART 1:

THE PROPHET ELIJAH AND THE PATTERN OF MIRACLES



1 KINGS 16:25

“BUT OMRI DID EVIL IN THE EYES OF
THE LORD AND SINNED MORE THAN
ALL THOSE BEFORE HIM.”



1 KINGS 16:30

“AHAB SON OF OMRI DID MORE EVIL IN
THE EYES OF THE LORD THAN ANY OF
THOSE BEFORE HIM.”

1 KINGS 18:4

“WHILE JEZEBEL WAS KILLING OFF THE LORD’S PROPHETS, OBADIAH HAD TAKEN A HUNDRED PROPHETS AND HIDDEN THEM IN TWO CAVES, FIFTY IN EACH, AND HAD SUPPLIED THEM WITH FOOD AND WATER.”

1 KINGS 17:1

“NOW ELIJAH THE TISHBITE, FROM TISHBE IN GILEAD, SAID TO AHAB, ‘AS THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, LIVES, WHOM I SERVE, THERE WILL BE NEITHER DEW NOR RAIN IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS EXCEPT AT MY WORD.’”

1 KINGS 17:3

“LEAVE HERE, TURN EASTWARD AND
HIDE IN THE KERITH RAVINE, EAST OF
THE JORDAN.”





**ELIJAH BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON
IN SCRIPTURE TO RAISE SOMEONE
FROM THE DEAD.**



1 KINGS 17:21-22

“THEN HE STRETCHED HIMSELF OUT
ON THE BOY THREE TIMES AND CRIED
OUT TO THE LORD, ‘LORD MY GOD, LET
THIS BOY’S LIFE RETURN TO HIM!’
THE LORD HEARD ELIJAH’S CRY, AND
THE BOY’S LIFE RETURNED TO HIM,
AND HE LIVED.”

THIS WEEK'S READING:



WED, JULY 23 2 CHRONICLES 10—12

THU, JULY 24 1 KINGS 15; 2 CHRONICLES 13—16

FRI, JULY 25 1 KINGS 16; 2 CHRONICLES 17

SAT, JULY 26 1 KINGS 17—19

SUN, JULY 27 1 KINGS 20—21

MON, JULY 28 1 KINGS 22; 2 CHRONICLES 18

TUE, JULY 29 2 CHRONICLES 19—23



**ELIJAH IS A SIGNPOST,
POINTING US FORWARD.**

WHENEVER THERE IS A DROUGHT OF GOD'S WORD, HE ALWAYS FOLLOWS IT WITH A MIRACULOUS MOVE—ACCOMPANIED BY WRITTEN REVELATION. WE SAW THIS AFTER EGYPT (MOSES AND THE LAW), NOW WITH ELIJAH (AND THE PROPHETS), AND LATER AGAIN WITH JESUS (AND THE NEW TESTAMENT).

PART 2:

CHOOSING SIDES ON MOUNT CARMEL



1 KINGS 18:5

“AHAB HAD SAID TO OBADIAH, ‘GO THROUGH THE LAND TO ALL THE SPRINGS AND VALLEYS. MAYBE WE CAN FIND SOME GRASS TO KEEP THE HORSES AND MULES ALIVE SO WE WILL NOT HAVE TO KILL ANY OF OUR ANIMALS.’”

1 KINGS 18:17

“WHEN HE SAW ELIJAH, HE SAID TO HIM, ‘IS THAT
YOU, YOU TROUBLER OF ISRAEL?’”

**IT'S A COMMON HUMAN TENDENCY TO
RESIST ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESENT
CORRECTION.**

1 KINGS 18:21

“ELIJAH WENT BEFORE THE PEOPLE AND SAID,
‘HOW LONG WILL YOU WAVER BETWEEN TWO
OPINIONS? IF THE LORD IS GOD, FOLLOW HIM; BUT
IF BAAL IS GOD, FOLLOW HIM.’ BUT THE PEOPLE
SAID NOTHING.”

1 KINGS 18:26–28

‘THEY CALLED ON THE NAME OF BAAL FROM MORNING TILL NOON. ‘BAAL, ANSWER US!’ THEY SHOUTED... BUT THERE WAS NO RESPONSE... SO THEY SHOUTED LOUDER AND SLASHED THEMSELVES WITH SWORDS AND SPEARS, AS WAS THEIR CUSTOM, UNTIL THEIR BLOOD FLOWED.’

MARK 5:5


“NIGHT AND DAY AMONG THE TOMBS AND IN THE HILLS HE WOULD CRY OUT AND CUT HIMSELF WITH STONES.”



**CUTTING ONESELF IS CONNECTED, IN
BOTH THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS,
WITH DEMONIC INFLUENCE, DECEPTION,
AND POSSESSION.**




**CUTTING IS NOT A MODERN COPING
TREND—IT'S AN ANCIENT TACTIC OF THE
ENEMY.**



ACCORDING TO THE CDC'S 2024 YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY, 22% OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REPORTED INTENTIONALLY HARMING THEMSELVES WITHOUT SUICIDAL INTENT (MOST COMMONLY THROUGH CUTTING). RATES ARE HIGHEST AMONG TEEN GIRLS AND THOSE WHO IDENTIFY WITH THE LGBTQ LIFESTYLE. SOCIAL MEDIA TRENDS HAVE INCREASED EXPOSURE TO HARMFUL CONTENT PROMOTING SELF-HARM.

THE CHURCH MUST RESPOND TO THIS WITH COMPASSION, CLARITY, AND CHRIST-CENTERED HOPE.



1 KINGS 18:36–37

36 AT THE TIME OF SACRIFICE, THE PROPHET ELIJAH STEPPED FORWARD AND PRAYED: “LORD, THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND ISRAEL, LET IT BE KNOWN TODAY THAT YOU ARE GOD IN ISRAEL AND THAT I AM YOUR SERVANT AND HAVE DONE ALL THESE THINGS AT YOUR COMMAND. 37 ANSWER ME, LORD, ANSWER ME, SO THESE PEOPLE WILL KNOW THAT YOU, LORD, ARE GOD, AND THAT YOU ARE TURNING THEIR HEARTS BACK AGAIN.”

1 KINGS 18:38

“THEN THE FIRE OF THE LORD FELL AND
BURNED UP THE SACRIFICE, THE WOOD, THE
STONES AND THE SOIL, AND ALSO LICKED UP
THE WATER IN THE TRENCH.”

1 KINGS 18:41—42

41 AND ELIJAH SAID TO AHAB, "GO, EAT AND DRINK, FOR THERE IS THE SOUND OF A HEAVY RAIN." 42 SO AHAB WENT OFF TO EAT AND DRINK, BUT ELIJAH CLIMBED TO THE TOP OF CARMEL, BENT DOWN TO THE GROUND AND PUT HIS FACE BETWEEN HIS KNEES. 43 "GO AND LOOK TOWARD THE SEA," HE TOLD HIS SERVANT. AND HE WENT UP AND LOOKED. "THERE IS NOTHING THERE," HE SAID. SEVEN TIMES ELIJAH SAID, "GO BACK." 44 THE SEVENTH TIME THE SERVANT REPORTED, "A CLOUD AS SMALL AS A MAN'S HAND IS RISING FROM THE SEA."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

“PRAY CONTINUALLY.”

ROMANS 12:12

**“BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN
AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER.”**





COLOSSIANS 4:2

**“DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO PRAYER,
BEING WATCHFUL AND THANKFUL.”**

1 KINGS 18:45–46

45 MEANWHILE, THE SKY GREW BLACK WITH CLOUDS, THE WIND ROSE, A HEAVY RAIN STARTED FALLING AND AHAB RODE OFF TO JEZREEL. 46 THE POWER OF THE LORD CAME ON ELIJAH AND, TUCKING HIS CLOAK INTO HIS BELT, HE RAN AHEAD OF AHAB ALL THE WAY TO JEZREEL.

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- PRAY WITH PURPOSE (FOR GOD'S GLORY AND PEOPLE'S REPENTANCE)
 - PRAY IN ALIGNMENT WITH GOD'S REVEALED WILL
 - PRAY WITH PERSISTENCE, EVEN WHEN THE SKY IS CLEAR
 - AND WHEN GOD ANSWERS—IT POURS



PART 3:

FROM FIRE TO FEAR



COULD IT BE THAT WE'VE
ADOPTED UNREALISTIC
EXPECTATIONS—THAT FOLLOWING
GOD SHOULD MEAN COMFORT,
SMOOTH PATHS, AND NO
SURPRISES?



ACTS 14:22

“WE MUST GO THROUGH MANY
HARDSHIPS TO ENTER THE KINGDOM
OF GOD.”



JOHN 16:33

“IN THIS WORLD YOU WILL HAVE
TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE
OVERCOME THE WORLD.”



1 KINGS 19:2

“SO JEZEBEL SENT A MESSENGER TO ELIJAH TO SAY, ‘MAY THE GODS DEAL WITH ME, BE IT EVER SO SEVERELY, IF BY THIS TIME TOMORROW I DO NOT MAKE YOUR LIFE LIKE THAT OF ONE OF THEM.’”

1 KINGS 19:9-10

9 THERE HE WENT INTO A CAVE AND SPENT THE NIGHT. AND THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO HIM: "WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ELIJAH?" 10 HE REPLIED, "I HAVE BEEN VERY ZEALOUS FOR THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY. THE ISRAELITES HAVE REJECTED YOUR COVENANT, TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND PUT YOUR PROPHETS TO DEATH WITH THE SWORD. I AM THE ONLY ONE LEFT, AND NOW THEY ARE TRYING TO KILL ME TOO."

1 KINGS 19:11-12

11 THE LORD SAID, "GO OUT AND STAND ON THE MOUNTAIN IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, FOR THE LORD IS ABOUT TO PASS BY." THEN A GREAT AND POWERFUL WIND TORE THE MOUNTAINS APART AND SHATTERED THE ROCKS BEFORE THE LORD, BUT THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE WIND. AFTER THE WIND THERE WAS AN EARTHQUAKE, BUT THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE EARTHQUAKE. 12 AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE CAME A FIRE, BUT THE LORD WAS NOT IN THE FIRE. AND AFTER THE FIRE CAME A GENTLE WHISPER.

1 KINGS 19:18

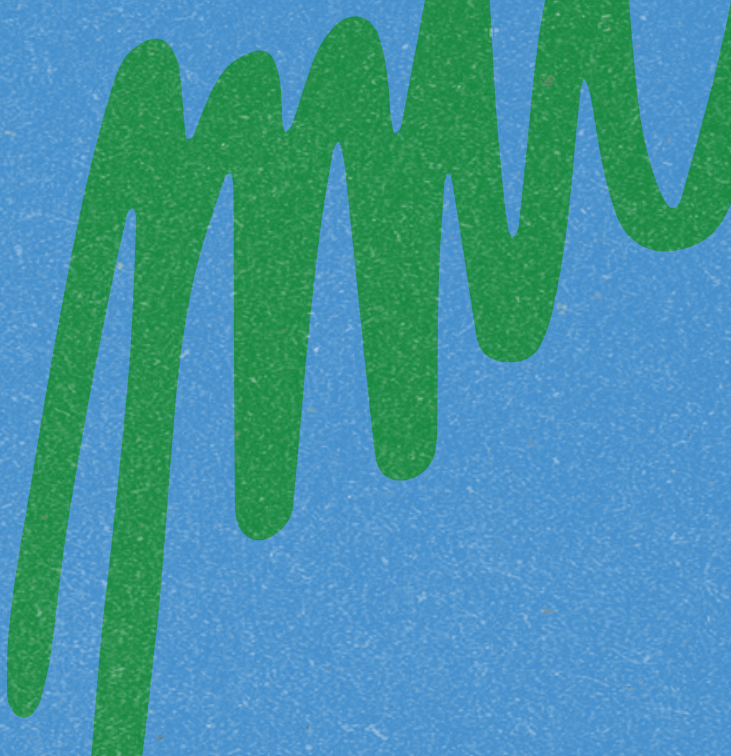

“YET I RESERVE SEVEN THOUSAND IN ISRAEL—ALL WHOSE KNEES HAVE NOT BOWED DOWN TO BAAL.”

1 KINGS 19:5-6

5 THEN HE LAY DOWN UNDER THE BUSH AND FELL ASLEEP. ALL AT ONCE AN ANGEL TOUCHED HIM AND SAID, "GET UP AND EAT." 6 HE LOOKED AROUND, AND THERE BY HIS HEAD WAS SOME BREAD BAKED OVER HOT COALS, AND A JAR OF WATER. HE ATE AND DRANK AND THEN LAY DOWN AGAIN. HE LOOKED AROUND, AND THERE BY HIS HEAD WAS SOME BREAD BAKED OVER HOT COALS, AND A JAR OF WATER."

1 KINGS 19:15–16

15 THE LORD SAID TO HIM, “GO BACK THE WAY YOU CAME, AND GO TO THE DESERT OF DAMASCUS. WHEN YOU GET THERE, ANOINT HAZAEL KING OVER ARAM. 16 ALSO, ANOINT JEHU SON OF NIMSHI KING OVER ISRAEL, AND ANOINT ELISHA SON OF SHAPHAT FROM ABEL MEHOLAH TO SUCCEED YOU AS PROPHET.

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- IF YOU'RE EXHAUSTED, SLEEP.
 - IF YOU'RE GRIEVING, TALK TO GOD.
 - IF YOU'RE ISOLATED, REACH OUT.
 - IF YOU'RE CONVINCED IT'S OVER,
IT'S NOT.

PART 4:

FROM SILENCE TO SOUNDS





**SEASONS OF SILENCE → MINISTRIES OF
MIRACLES → REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD**





1. ENSLAVEMENT IN EGYPT → MOSES & JOSHUA → THE LAW





2. DROUGHT IN ISRAEL → ELIJAH & ELISHA → THE PROPHETS





2. DROUGHT IN ISRAEL → ELIJAH & ELISHA → THE PROPHETS





3. INTERTESTAMENTAL SILENCE → JESUS & THE APOSTLES → THE NEW TESTAMENT

