



Sunday, June 19, 2011

Pastor Joseph Ardayfio

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BIBLE STORIES Pt. 2 |

Timeless truths of God's Power, Protection + Faithfulness

PART II: ELIJAH—WHEN GOD ASKS FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE!

📖 **SCRIPTURE:** 1 KINGS 17:1-24

key theme: The prophet Elijah experienced many miracles in his life but he had to learn how to trust God when it seemed like God was asking for the impossible.

- 1) **Trusting and believing in God requires obedience to His instructions.**
 - a. Faith requires us to take action even when the benefits are not immediately apparent.
- 2) **When we feel like God has asked us for the impossible, stay close to God to hear His instructions.**
 - a. When God asked Elijah to speak to King Ahab, the instructions seemed impossible but Elijah had to trust that the same Lord that commanded him to speak, would also make provision in his life.
 - b. We have to resist the urge to become frantic when GOD asks us to do something that seems impossible. Instead, we must run to God's presence to hear from Him what He wants to say. [1 Cor 10:12-13]
- 3) **Trusting and believing in God doesn't always immediately bring fruit that we can see naturally.**
 - a. As the prophet Elijah obeyed the Lord's instructions, the place of provision dried up and it looked like the decision to trust God wasn't bearing fruit. But God was working even when Elijah didn't know it. When the brook dried up, the Lord had already commanded the widow woman to provide for the prophet.
 - b. Faith is not used just to get things, but faith is necessary to deny ourselves of comfort when the Lord asks for us to make sacrifices for the glory of God.
- 4) **We are often challenged during the walk of faith to examine, "Did God really say..." but don't short change what God is doing just to avoid the fear of embarrassment.**
 - a. Elijah could of aborted what God was doing in the life of the widow woman because he was embarrassed that his presence caused the widow's son to die, but instead he looked to God to work through the situation.
 - b. Examining what God has said doesn't mean that we have a lack of faith, but prematurely aborting the mission means that our faith is not truly developed.

Mars Hill Fellowship Church is a diverse gathering of believers in the Metro Boston area. We come from a variety of cultures, ages, educational backgrounds, and family histories, but we share the common testimony of being transformed by God's everlasting love. We are living witnesses that the gospel is real and has the power to redeem all people. We strive to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

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