



Week 1 Study Sheet

Outnumbered

Consider

“And he did evil in the eyes of the Lord.” The Book of 1 Kings is filled with this common refrain. The story of Elijah’s life reveals anxious people, evil kings, and lonely prophets. Yet, in the midst of evil, we encounter the miracle working God of the Old Testament. An all-powerful God who chooses to use men and women with radical faith to reveal his true will to those who will listen. As we journey through the story of Elijah, consider how you relate to the challenges he faces. Elijah’s life is meant to encourage us to live with resilient, steadfast faith, even if we feel outnumbered by the challenges in the world.

Pray

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.

Read

[1 Kings 16:29-34](#)

Observe

- Who are the main people in this story? Where and when does this story take place?
- What words repeat throughout the passage? What phrases stand out and why?
- What themes are present? Are there any contrasting thoughts?

Interpret

- How is King Ahab described in this passage?
- What mistakes are listed? How do we know they are mistakes?
- How does God feel about King Ahab’s decisions?

Apply

- Under King Ahab’s leadership, what future can be expected for Israel?
- What is God revealing to his people through this passage?
- What behavior is God calling you to change as you apply this passage to your life?

Practice

Read through the entire story of Elijah ([1 Kings 16:29-19:19](#), [21:1-29](#), [2 Kings 1:1-2:18](#)) in one sitting this week. This overview will prepare you to gain greater insights into the life of this prophet in the weeks ahead.



Week 2 Study Sheet

Get in Good Shape

Consider

Getting into good physical shape typically requires a lot of effort. Many of us view this effort as unpleasant. While it would be nice to find an easy way to stay in peak physical condition, the truth is that a workout regimen requires work. The same is true of spiritual fitness – it is work, but the payoff is invaluable. “Physical exercise has some value, but spiritual exercise is valuable in every way, because it promises life both for the present and for the future.” 1 Timothy 4:8 GNT God put Elijah on a workout plan to when he called him to Cherith (Kerith). It involved living in a ravine during a drought and being fed by ravens. Anyone want to sign up for that training camp? Why would God guide Elijah into such a challenge? Elijah’s trust in God grew stronger through this time of testing. His faith was conditioned into a steadfast faith that would equip him for the evil he was about to face.

Pray

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.

Read

[1 Kings 17:1-6](#)

Observe

- What message does Elijah bring to the king?
- What are we told about Elijah in this passage?
- What instructions are given to Elijah?
- Where does this story take place? How is this place described?

Interpret

- Why is it important to know where Elijah comes from?
- Why would drought be a direct attack against Ahab as king?
- How is the drought a direct confrontation of Baal worship?
- What reasons would God have for sending Elijah to Cherith (Kerith)?

Apply

- What can we learn from Elijah’s interactions with King Ahab and God?
- What does this passage reveal about the character of God?
- How has God taken care of you through a drought-like season?

Practice

Participate in a fast. Abstain from food for an entire day as an act of reliance on God to meet your physical and spiritual needs. (If you have health concerns or are under the care of a physician, we encourage you to consult with your medical professional to determine the best way for you to participate in a fast). Read [Luke 4:1-13](#) and consider how Elijah and Jesus both faced tough times of formation early on in their recorded stories. Elijah delivered a kingdom destroying message to Ahab. Jesus resisted the devil on an empty stomach for his kingdom. Ask God to strengthen your faith and help you recognize your need for him.



Week 3 Study Sheet

Radical Reliance

Consider The task of assembling a new piece of furniture usually begins with reviewing the instructions, sorting out all the parts, and reviewing a list of tools needed to complete the task. Sometimes a special tool is provided in the hardware packaging. We buy self-assembly items trusting that the manufacturer will provide all we need to accomplish the task. When God invites us into his mission, we can also trust that he will provide us with all we need to fulfill his will. Consider Elijah's travel to Zarephath, where God sets up an encounter with a widow that demonstrates his ability to provide even when circumstances seem impossible. When the obstacles of life seem insurmountable, we can trust in our God. We can rely radically on God because he knows what we need even before we ask.

Pray Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.

Read [1 Kings 17:8-16](#)

Observe

- Where and when does this story take place?
- Who are the main people in this story, and what are we told about their situation?
- What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?

Interpret

- What reasons would God have for directing Elijah to go to the widow's house?
- What is God teaching Elijah? What is God teaching the widow?
- Why would God only supply the jar of oil and bowl of flour and not more?

Apply

- How is steadfast faith being shown in this passage?
- Have you ever had to depend on God to supply your daily bread? What did that teach you about God's provision?
- What is God revealing about who he is, and who he says you are?
- What is one change you can make in your life after studying this passage?

Practice Remember God's steadfast character by writing down a list of times and ways that God has been a gracious and faithful provider in your life. Remembering times when God has kept his promises and provided for our needs helps us remain strong when we are going through difficult seasons.



Week 4 Study Sheet

Pray Audacious Prayers

- Consider** Sometimes we pray, and it feels like our words just bounce off the ceiling. We utter desperate prayers seeking God's help and end up feeling empty-handed. The pages of the Bible contain the stories of many faithful servants of God who have felt the same way. In Psalm 13:1 NET, David asks, "How long, LORD, will you continue to ignore me? How long will you pay no attention to me?" Elijah, when faced with the death of the widow's son, also questioned God. He struggled to understand and three times he asked for the life of the widow's son to be restored. Three times. He continued asking because he had a fortified, tested, faith. He knew what God was capable of, and he trusted him to do it. It is important for us to remain in personal relationship with God through consistent prayer, so that our faith will not be shaken when affliction or grief come our way.
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [1 Kings 17:17-24](#)
- Observe**
- Where and when does this story take place?
 - Who are the main people in this story?
 - How does Elijah respond to the woman's questions and the boy's death?
 - Does this story remind you of other biblical accounts?
- Interpret**
- How is the faith of the woman impacted through the events in this story?
 - What do you learn from Elijah's posture and persistence in this story?
 - What was restored in this story?
- Apply**
- How can this story shape our view of difficulty and despair?
 - How is God speaking to you through this passage?
 - How will this story impact your prayer life?
 - What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?
- Practice** Confide in a trustworthy friend and ask them to pray with you. Share your weakness, doubt, and failure. Ask God for healing and for your life to produce abundant fruit. As James 5:16 NLT states, "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."



Week 5 Study Sheet

Behind Enemy Lines

- Consider** The Bible makes it clear that we have an enemy. Not a flesh and blood enemy, but a spiritual enemy who opposes us and is out to destroy us. Because we can't see him, we often forget he exists. When Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal and Asherah it was more than a clash between prophets. The unseen reality was that God and Satan were the ones doing battle. Let us not forget that like Elijah, as servants of God, we are engaged in this same spiritual battle. Let's heed the warning in 1 Peter 5:9 LEB, "Resist him [Satan], steadfast in your faith, because you know the same kinds of sufferings are being accomplished by your community of believers in the world."
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [1 Kings 18:1-29](#)
- Observe**
- What is currently happening in Israel? How much time has passed?
 - What are we told about Obadiah?
 - What is happening with Elijah and King Ahab at this point in the story?
 - What do we know about the false prophets Elijah challenges?
 - Where does this scene take place?
- Interpret**
- Why would Elijah present himself first to Obadiah and not King Ahab directly?
 - What caused Obadiah to hesitate at first to take the message to King Ahab?
 - What was Elijah's message to the people of Israel?
 - What was the purpose of the standoff between Elijah and the false prophets?
 - What gave Elijah the boldness and courage to stand against King Ahab and the 850 false prophets?
- Apply**
- How does this passage help us see the spiritual battle being waged between God and Satan?
 - How have you, in the past or present, stood boldly for God?
 - How can this passage strengthen your faith?
- Practice** Share your faith with someone this week. Telling someone about following Jesus doesn't have to be a showdown. Simply meet with a friend, neighbor, or co-worker who isn't a follower of Jesus and share the truth of who God is and how you've experienced freedom and hope in your life as a result of your relationship with Jesus.



Week 6 Study Sheet

Anticipate Divine Disruption

- Consider** In John 16:33 NIV, Jesus tells his disciples that “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” Trouble will find us. No one is exempt. But that’s only half the story. Jesus reminds us that he is the victor. His victory isn’t a future promise. He doesn’t tell us he’s planning on winning, or he will eventually win. He says he has overcome the world. It’s already done. As servants of God, we don’t have to live in fear. Even when the odds are overwhelming and the outcome seems bleak, remember the victory is already in hand.
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [1 Kings 18:20-40](#)
- Observe**
- Who are the main people in this story? Where and when does this story take place?
 - What words repeat throughout the passage? What phrases stand out and why?
 - What themes are present? Are there any contrasting thoughts?
- Interpret**
- What enables Elijah to have such great confidence in this standoff and stand up to such great odds?
 - How do the prophets of Baal handle the situation?
 - Why would Elijah make a point about Baal not responding to the prophets?
 - Why would Elijah soak the altar in water?
- Apply**
- What can we take away from Elijah’s prayer and God’s response?
 - How does this story depict the eternal destiny of those who choose not to follow Jesus?
 - What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?
- Practice** Spend an extended time in solitude this week. Elijah waited three years before confronting the prophets of Baal. He waited until the Lord gave him instructions to go. Set aside 20 minutes or more, away from all distractions, and spend time in stillness before the Lord. No phone, no book, no to-do list. Clear your mind and focus your thoughts. Just you and God. Rest in his presence. Listen for his voice.



Week 7 Study Sheet

Partners in the Promise

- Consider** It requires a steadfast faith to trust God. Especially when the world is quick to suggest that he doesn't care and doesn't move in the lives of his people. Even during a three-year drought, on a day with no clouds in the sky, Elijah was certain that rain would come. Because God said it was time, and God can be trusted. Elijah had learned that God keeps his promises, every time. Consider the definition of faith we get from the writer of Hebrews 11:1 GNT, "To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see."
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [1 Kings 18:41-46](#)
- Observe**
- Where and when does this story take place? Who are the main people in this story?
 - What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?
 - How are past parts of Elijah's story reflected in these events?
- Interpret**
- What did King Ahab and Elijah each do after the showdown on Mount Carmel?
 - What messages does Elijah have for King Ahab?
 - Why is the return of rain important to King Ahab?
 - What does Elijah's action of bowing down mean?
- Apply**
- How would you describe faith after reading this passage?
 - How can this passage strengthen your faith?
 - What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?
- Practice** Record your prayers. Keep a daily prayer log or journal for a week. Demonstrate your expectant faith by seeking God about specific things and write down your prayers. Consider inviting a friend to pray with you. Be bold. Ask according to the will of God revealed in the Bible. Ask in faith, with pure motives, believing that "[God] is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us." Ephesians 3:20 NKJV



Week 8 Study Sheet

Until the Fog Lifts

Consider

The same Elijah who stared down the prophets at Mount Carmel wasn't immune to discouragement. When Queen Jezebel put a bounty on his head, Elijah ran, hid in a cave, and prayed, "Enough of this, God! Take my life - I'm ready to join my ancestors in the grave." 1 Kings 19:4 MSG Elijah's despair took hold of him, and he became depressed. He is not alone. Many of us experience depression or have witnessed someone in deep despair. Belonging to a community of believers who speak truth and cover you with prayer during times of fear, doubt, and grief is vital for overcoming discouragement. When Elijah felt all alone, God assured him there were more than 7,000 other prophets fighting the fight with him against Baal. God wants to remind you that there are others in this fight with you.

Pray

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.

Read

[1 Kings 19:1-18](#)

Observe

- Who are the main people in this story and what are they doing?
- What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?
- How does this event connect with other events in Elijah's story?

Interpret

- How has Elijah's fortune and demeanor changed from chapter 18?
- What does the Lord instruct Elijah to do? How does God meet his needs?
- How does God speak to Elijah at Horeb? Why would God choose to speak in a whisper?
- What does the Lord send Elijah to do next?

Apply

- Can you relate to Elijah in this story? How has the Lord refreshed you?
- How have you been encouraged by a community of believers?
- What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?

Practice

Prayerfully read [Psalm 13](#) and [Psalm 52](#). Express your struggles to God and meditate on his steadfast love. Often our thoughts deceive us and keep us in dark places of our life and the Word of God is our weapon against that darkness. Choose instead to bring your burdens to God in prayer and concentrate on Philippians 4:8 NRSVUE, "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."



Week 9 Study Sheet

Beyond Remedy

- Consider** A person can exhaust God's patience. It is possible for an individual to reject invitation after invitation and grow so hard-hearted that they are beyond remedy. Such was the case for King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. They had abundant reasons to turn to God: The fulfilled prophecy of the drought, the fire that fell on Mount Carmel, the execution of 450 prophets, and Elijah's answered prayer for rain. At any point, they could have - and should have - repented. But they never did. Their hearts grew harder and smaller. The straw that broke the divine back of patience involved the property of a man named Naboth. King Ahab wanted it. By law, Naboth could not sell it. So, Queen Jezebel had Naboth killed. Cold blooded murder. God chose to give King Ahab and Queen Jezebel a taste of their own medicine. Within a few years both died painful deaths.
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [1 Kings 21:1-29](#)
- Observe**
- Where and when does this story take place? Who are the main people in this story?
 - What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?
 - How are past parts of Elijah's story reflected in these events?
- Interpret**
- Why does Naboth's decision offend King Ahab?
 - What does Queen Jezebel's response reveal about her character?
 - What actions stand out the most about Queen Jezebel, how would God view these actions?
 - Is God's message to King Ahab sensible?
 - Why do you think King Ahab repents?
- Apply**
- What invitation from God do you need to accept?
 - How can this passage strengthen your faith?
 - How does this passage help us understand God's character and the reality of a coming judgement?
- Practice** Become an ambassador of God's love by serving the oppressed. God is serious about injustice. Discover how you can join with ministries fighting injustices like poverty, slavery, food insecurity, abuse, orphans, and trafficking. Select one of these issues and do some research on the topic. Pray, give, write to legislators, or volunteer as a way of battling in the name of the Lord. Consider partnering with one of the following OHC outreach partners: [World Vision](#), [Project Red](#), [Children's Hunger Fund](#), [1HopeForKids](#), and [Any Woman Can](#). Visit the OHC [Local](#) and [Global](#) Outreach webpages for more opportunities to share the hope of Jesus in our city and beyond.



Week 10 Study Sheet

Talking Back to the Devil

- Consider** A highly sexualized culture. Violence and godlessness at every turn. People pursuing demonic forces. These reports can be used to describe the world after the death of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel in 2 Kings. Or we can use them as today's description of our modern culture. After witnessing the divine judgment that fell upon his father, you would think that King Ahaziah, son of Ahab, would not have followed in his father's footsteps. King Ahaziah, however, sought counsel from the wrong sources and fell into the trap of insanity. People of steadfast faith sense the scent of Satan and react decisively. They have learned that, while the evil one is strong, the One within them is stronger. Dare to defy the devil and refuse to dance with the devil. James reminds us: "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." James 4:7 NIV
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [2 Kings 1:1-16](#)
- Observe**
- Where and when does this story take place? Who are the main people in this story?
 - What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?
 - How does this event connect with the events of Elijah's life recorded in 1 Kings?
- Interpret**
- Why would King Ahaziah seek counsel from Baal-Zebub?
 - What reaction would God have toward King Ahaziah's actions?
 - Why is Elijah's message to the king shocking?
 - Why is the contrast of King Ahaziah up on a bed and Elijah up on a hill significant?
 - What does the fire coming down from heaven represent? Where has this happened before?
 - Why did the fire not consume the last captain and guard?
- Apply**
- How is God speaking to you through this passage?
 - What steps can you take to connect with a community of disciples courageously engaging culture?
 - What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?
- Practice** Identify a circle of friends and mentors who can provide you with wise counsel and trusted biblical instruction. Who can you include when you have big decisions or need help through a difficult season? Take an inventory of who you allow to influence your life. Have the people in your life helped you grow closer to God or further away? Mediate on these stories and ask God to reveal healthy relationships, remove unhealthy relationships, and replace them with wise counsel.



Week 11 Study Sheet

Waiting on the Whirlwind

Consider

There are many things in this world that trouble our hearts: violence, terrorism, economic uncertainty, social unrest. When we have so many reasons to be troubled, how can we maintain untroubled hearts? Simple, we long for home. This broken world is not our home, one day Jesus will return and take us home to our Father's house. Like Enoch before him, Elijah was miraculously caught up into the heavenlies. Elijah reminds us in a dramatic fashion of the one certainty we all face: death. Jesus encourages us: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:1-3 NIV

Pray

Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.

Read

[2 Kings 2:1-18](#)

Observe

- Where and when does this story take place? Who are the main people in this story?
- What are the themes, repeated words and phrases, or contrasting thoughts?
- How does this event connect with Elijah's story?

Interpret

- Why would Elijah lead Elisha to three different locations?
- What type of relationship do Elijah and Elisha have?
- What is Elijah preparing Elisha for?
- What is the significance of other prophets at each location?
- What other important biblical events happen at the Jordan? Do these give the parting of the Jordan greater significance?

Apply

- How is God speaking to you through this passage?
- How can this passage strengthen your faith?
- What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?

Practice

Reflect on your legacy. Be bold like Elisha and ask God for a double portion of his Spirit. Ponder your mortality. Consider what you want said at your funeral. Write out a few life goals and ask the Lord to enable you to accomplish them for his glory. "Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom." Psalm 90:12 NLT



Week 12 Study Sheet

Calling All Elijahs

- Consider** Elijah showed us what steadfast faith looks like. Steadfast faith depends upon God, defies evil, and hopes for the future. Elijah's faith constantly helped to deliver him from despair and death. It also inspired. Elijah is seen in the transfiguration ([Matthew 17:1-9](#)), referred to as one of the heroes of faith ([Romans 11:2](#)), and is listed as the example of a prayerful person ([James 5:17-18](#)). He also gave us a real-life example of disciples making disciples by placing his mantle on Elisha. Elijah's faith doesn't end with him. Rather, Elijah's faith inspires more Elijahs to come.
- Pray** Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to hear what God wants to share with you from his Word. Ask God to provide you with grace, understanding, and resolve to put into practice the things you learn.
- Read** [2 Kings 2:15-25](#)
- Observe**
- Who are the main people in this story? Where and when does this story take place?
 - What words repeat throughout the passage? What phrases stand out and why?
 - What are the themes? Are there any contrasting thoughts?
 - How does this event connect with other events in Elijah's story?
- Interpret**
- How did Elijah's life inspire others?
 - How would you describe this group of prophets? What helps their relationships grow?
 - Why would the prophets go search for Elijah?
 - Why is it important for Elisha to heal the water? What meaning does this have for us?
 - Why are all these miraculous events happening to Elisha?
- Apply**
- Whose steadfast faith has inspired you to follow Jesus?
 - Who has mentored or discipled you in your faith journey?
 - How is God speaking to you through this passage?
 - What is God revealing about who he is, who he says you are, and what his will is for you?
- Practice** Be a disciple who makes disciples. Who is your Elisha? Who is God calling you to take extra time to share life with and show them what it means to follow Jesus? We are disciples who make disciples by guiding all people to follow Jesus moment by moment. With whom are you living out our mission? Prayerfully select someone that you can share life with. Create a rhythm to continue this relationship and focus on pouring your life into another.