

## PRAYER

### Part 1 – Why We Pray

#### 1 Kings 18:16-39

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(1 Kings 18:16-35)

<sup>36</sup> At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O LORD, 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. <sup>37</sup> Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." 1 Kings 18:36-37

#### 1. ACTION: STEP UP

"At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed..." v. 36

...the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.  
Daniel 11:32

#### 2. INITIATION: GOD'S COMMAND

"...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**..." v. 36

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.  
2 Chronicles 16:9

#### 3. FAITH: IN THE ONE, TRUE, ALL-POWERFUL GOD

"Answer me, O LORD, answer me..." v. 37

The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did

not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. James 5:16-18

#### 4. MOTIVATION: GOD'S GLORY

"...so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." <sup>38</sup> Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. <sup>39</sup> And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God." v. 37-39

"And I [Jesus], when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." John 12:32