

# **FAITH IN FEAR**

## **PERSONAL STUDY**

*Week One – “Faith Begins With A Call.”*

### **PASTOR INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to our first Bible Study together. I am excited to begin something brand new and delve into what is called “Faith in Fear.” Over the next weeks, we are going to walk through the life of Elijah, one of the most fascinating and talked about Old Testament prophets.

When we think about him, we might recall some of the dramatic moments in his ministry like the calling down of fire from heaven, confronting the prophets of Baal, and standing boldly before kings and enemies.

He is definitely a Biblical hero. But what we will see tonight and the next few weeks, is a person who struggled. Yes, he was faithful, but Elijah was as human as you and I. He experienced loneliness, exhaustion, discouragement, and fear. And that is where our theme comes from. Faith is not the absence of fear. Faith is trusting God when you are in the middle of it.

Sometimes, we might assume that strong faith means we don’t struggle.

“If I really trusted God, I wouldn’t be worried all the time.”

“If my faith was stronger, I would be far more courageous.”

But the Bible is filled with people who trusted in the Lord, and yet, still experienced fear.

Think of Abraham. Moses. David. And the 12 disciples.

All of them had their fears. In the wilderness. In their capabilities. And out in rough seas and rolling waves.

Elijah was just like them.

And in order to understand him better, we need to consider the environment and culture he was in. Israel had turned away from wholehearted worship of God and began trusting in other things and other gods.

But the Lord would send out Elijah to preach His Word and to lead His people back to Him.

## **THE RUNDOWN**

**TEXT**        I Kings 17:1-7

**THEME**        Trusting God when He calls us into uncertainty.  
Faith is not trusting God because we know what is going to happen. Faith is trusting God because we know who He is.

Elijah's story begins with God calling him into a difficult situation. Elijah did not know everything that would happen. God did not give him a detailed plan. He simply called Elijah to trust Him and follow. Sometimes our lives can also feel uncertain. We may face changes we did not expect, circumstances we cannot control, or questions we cannot answer. Yet the God who called Elijah is the same God who most certainly walks with us today.

## **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

What stand out to you about Elijah in this passage?

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Elijah trusted God even though he did not know what was going to happen next. Are there areas of your life where you need to trust God more fully?

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What are some fears or uncertainties you have faced in your life?  
How has God been faithful through those times?

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Read James 5:17-18. How does knowing that Elijah struggled help you to see that God can and does work through ordinary people?

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How are you able to trust God because of who He is?

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### **Prayer Requests**

This is not just an opportunity to learn God's Word, but also for us to support one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. If you have any prayer requests, please reach out at anytime.

### **Questions**

If something comes up that you would like further clarification on, please let me know. I would be happy to help and discuss them with you.