

## THE POWER AND POLITICS OF PRAYER

God's power and our divine purpose only align when effective prayer surrenders our destiny to His sovereignty.

### KEY POINTS

❖ 'Power' is the exclusive, sovereign authority of God to alter reality, command nature, and supernaturally turn human hearts. 'Politics', in a kingdom context, is not about partisan campaigns—it is about the governance of hearts, societal alignment, and the public negotiation of allegiance. 'Prayer' is the interface between divine power and earthly politics. It is the authorized proxy executing the commands of the Sovereign to shift the destiny of a community.

**POWER: God's power is sometimes silent, but it's always present.**

❖ In a culture of false gods and diverse worship, Elijah (whose name means "my God is Yahweh") constantly reflected God to Israel, even though God only overtly demonstrated His presence to them a few times. So, the **time** God chose to display His presence was crucial, and Elijah always watched for that time.

❖ The psalmist wrote in Psalm 19:1 that "the heavens declare the glory of the Lord..." The silent presence of God is always on display, yet Israel took it for granted and even attributed it to things other than God. In this way, they failed to see God's very presence like Elijah did.

❖ Israel's choice to be blind didn't change the reality of God's presence. That's why Elijah prayed into the silence, addressing the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel to "...let it be known today that you are God in Israel..." (1 Kings 18:36).

**PRAYER: Prayer activates the already present power of God when we pray according to His will and our destiny.**

❖ God's power was already present. But before it could be displayed to Israel, Elijah had to realize who he was and what he had in his hand.

❖ God chooses to work through people. Elijah understood that in order for him to tap into God's ultimate power and be an expression of it, it had to be on God's terms. Obedience to God's Word was non-negotiable if he had any hope of playing a part in the redirection of the culture towards their divine destiny.

❖ Everything Elijah did was at God's command, and these commands came to Elijah through prayer. Prayer was a connection to power, not a subversion of it to self.

❖ John 21:18-19 illustrates how prayer activates the already present power of God when we pray according to His will and our destiny. The conversation recorded in this passage of Scripture was an activation of God's power in Peter. And because he submitted to Jesus' will, Peter's destiny was secured, regardless of the journey. That's empowerment. It was so empowering that Peter wanted it for John, too.

❖ But John had his own destiny, as Jesus told Peter (v. 22). This meant that the unique destinies of both Peter and John mattered to the glory of God. And, together, they affected the broader culture.

❖ At the best of times, not everybody will agree with you. That's why knowing your purpose and having a sense of your destiny is crucial to having a stable, high-quality life.

❖ But it's easy to doubt ourselves, especially when things aren't going well. Even Elijah had doubts as we see in 1 Kings 19:1-4.

**KEY SCRIPTURE:** 1 Kings 18:36-37  
(all scriptures are NIV unless otherwise noted)

❖ That's why prayer makes such a difference. The Word tells us God's plan for us. Prayer reminds us of this plan in real time.

**POLITICS: Intercessors who are aligned with God meet people at the intersection of His timing and their purpose to reset misdirected destiny.**

❖ For a man like Elijah, who had such an intimate relationship with God, it's striking to catch the almost desperate tone in his plea for God to answer him (1 Kgs. 18:37). He talked to God and heard from Him frequently, but this time was really important. Not for Elijah's behalf, but for the confused Israelites.

❖ The people were worshipping a "stick", which didn't make any sense. That stick was the god of their enemies, whom the Israelites had conquered!

❖ Furthermore, their enemies knew that Israel had their own God. Yet Israel somehow thought He had either deserted them or was just a myth. That was the condition of the culture.

❖ They didn't realize that they were running on the momentum of past heroes of faith, and the nation would surely run out of steam. It was only a matter of time. Elijah wanted this destiny to be changed, and God's power was on standby to do that.

❖ Now was the time. Now there was a window of opportunity for Israel to turn their hearts back to God.

❖ Elijah's prayer came down to two choices: Yahweh or Baal. The power and politics of prayer!

❖ That's why reaching the world through prayer is our theme this year. Through prayer, we can become modern-day Elijahs and help usher in the ever-present power of God into our everyday lives. We, too, can make a difference in the culture in real time.

❖ Talking to God frequently helps us tap into His power. By doing so, we are able to stay the course on what we know to be true. So, let us be in constant communication with God. It is then that we can be true representatives of His will.

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. What does the following statement mean to you: "God's power is sometimes silent, but it's always present"?
2. "The Word tells us God's plan for us. Prayer reminds us of this plan in real time." What are some of the plans God has for us as revealed in the Bible? How does prayer help in reminding us of these plans?
3. "God chooses to work through people." Have you ever witnessed firsthand God working through yourself or through others? Describe the situation and how God was at work. In what way(s) was it similar to the situation of any biblical figure?

### PRAYER TIME

May I be in constant communication with You, Lord, so I may hear Your Word and do Your will. Amen.

Start-up: How does long periods of silence make you feel/react? Are you able to handle the silence or do you have to fill the void?

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✔ (Reminds me/Confirms)    💡 (New idea)    🗨️ (Think about)  
👉 (Do this)    ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)    ➡️ (Must share)

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### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

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Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD  
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

**PRAYER FOCUS:** Revelation of the divinity of Jesus Christ to religious non-Christians.

**24-hour Prayer:** Daily;

**Daily Devotions:** Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

**Departmental Prayer:** Every Thursday (please check schedule)

**Corporate Prayer:** Every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).

**Zoom ID:** 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

#### **FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS**

To donate online, please go to [www.faithsanctuary.com/give](http://www.faithsanctuary.com/give)

For email transfers, please use [donate@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:donate@faithsanctuary.com)



#### **FAITH SANCTUARY CHOIR**

We're calling on all singers to join the Faith Sanctuary Choir! Those interested, please contact Bro. Rohan Morgan or Pastor Dan Peel.



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#### **FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES**

**Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.**  
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

**Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.**  
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

**Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.**  
(In person and via Zoom)

**Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.**  
(In person and via Zoom)

**Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled**  
(see ushers for information)

## FAITH FOUNDATIONS

### GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

### GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

### GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

### HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

### THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

### OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

### CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JUNE 7, 2026

# Faith SANCTUARY

**Feed Canada to Feed the World**

*Reaching the World Through Prayer*

~ 2026 ~

**Pastor:**  
**Rev. Adrian W. Peel**

*"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. 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 18:36-37 (NIV)*

1901 Jane St., Toronto, Ontario M9N 3T9

Phone: 416-244-4898

Email: [mail@faithsanctuary.com](mailto:mail@faithsanctuary.com)

Website: [www.faithsanctuary.com](http://www.faithsanctuary.com)

Livestream: <https://faithsanctuarytoronto.online.church>