2026-10-28 Discussion Questions

Elijah prayed seven times before seeing even a small sign of rain — what does this kind of persistent, expectant prayer look like in your own life, and where do you tend to give up too soon?

The pastor described prayer as sometimes being reduced to a 'Christmas list' or 'shopping list' — in what ways might your prayer life reflect a transactional relationship with God rather than a genuine, growing relationship?

Elijah spoke with authority that it would rain before there was any visible evidence, grounded in what God had told him — how does your willingness to act on what God has spoken to you reflect the depth of your trust in him?

The servant's repeated trips up the mountain could have felt pointless and exhausting, yet he remained obedient — when has God called you to a role that seemed small or repetitive, and what did faithfulness in that role produce?

James 5:17 reminds us that Elijah was a man just like us, yet his prayers were powerful and effective — what do you think the difference is between a prayer offered in earnest faith and one that is merely routine?

The pastor noted that James connects healing with confession, suggesting that unconfessed sin can be a barrier to answered prayer — how seriously do you take confession as a part of your prayer practice, and what might change if you did?

Jesus promised in Matthew 21 that faith without doubt could move mountains, yet many believers have prayed with sincerity and not seen the result they hoped for — how do you wrestle with the tension between God's promises and unanswered prayer?

The pastor drew a parallel between the body's immune system and the Christian life, suggesting God equips us to face spiritual opposition rather than shielding us from it — how does this perspective change the way you

view trials and spiritual resistance in your life?

Elijah involved his servant in the process of watching for rain rather than praying alone and waiting in isolation — in what ways does your faith community help you persist in prayer and remain accountable to what God has spoken?

The pastor challenged listeners to consider whether their prayers have grown and matured over time or remained at the same level since childhood — what would it look like for your prayer life to reflect a deeper, more mature relationship with God?