

# LIGHT THE WAY

SHINE BRIGHT FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

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## ELIJAH TO ELISHA 1 Kings 19 · 2 Kings 2

### WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO PASS ON A VIBRANT FAITH TO THE NEXT GENERATION?

#### A WILLINGNESS TO BE LED - ELISHA'S STORY (1 Kings 19)

*He left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Please let me kiss my father and my mother, then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" So he returned from following him, and took the pair of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the implements of the oxen, and gave it to the people and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and ministered to him.*

#### WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?

##### Following takes work

*"So he departed from there and found Elisha...while he was plowing with twelve pairs of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth. And Elijah passed over to him and threw his mantle on him." (v.19)*

##### Following takes sacrifice

*"So he returned from following him, and took the pair of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the implements of the oxen, and gave it to the people and they ate. Then he arose and followed Elijah and ministered to him." (v.21)*

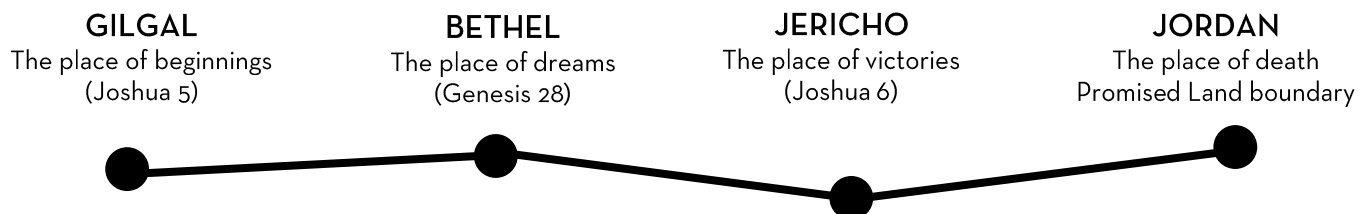
#### A WILLINGNESS TO LEAD - ELIJAH'S STORY (2 Kings 2)

*And it came about when the Lord was about to take up Elijah by a whirlwind to heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. (2 Kings 2:1)*

#### WHAT DOES THIS LOOK LIKE?

##### Leading takes telling your story

*Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here please, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. (v.2)*



##### Leading takes investment

*When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." (v.9)*

# LOOKING TO THE NEXT GENERATION

As a parent, I want my children to live a greater life than I will live. I have dreams for them in their relationships with people and their relationship with God. One of the greatest responsibilities we have in this life is to pass on the torch of a vibrant faith in Jesus Christ to the next generation. Unfortunately, the message of the world encourages us to better ourselves and live for our own story. Elijah made an incredible investment in Elisha and it is evidenced by what Elisha went on to do through God's power.

Elijah had been Elisha's spiritual father and mentor (v. 12). Elisha mourned the departure of one of Israel's great spiritual warriors. By referring to Elijah as "the chariots of Israel and its horsemen" (v. 12; 13:14), Elisha probably meant that Elijah's prophetic powers and spiritual depth were the nation's true strength. He was a one-man army. The chariot was the mightiest weapon then known, and it was symbolic of God's supreme power. By asking, "Where is Elijah's God?" (v. 14), Elisha was calling out to God to demonstrate His power through him as He had done through Elijah. To the right is a list of the miracles documented in 2 Kings that God did through Elisha.

Miracle	Reference	Element
Jordan River parted	2 Kings 2:8	Water
Jericho spring water purified	2 Kings 2:21	Water
Youths cursed	2 Kings 2:24	Animals
Water provided	2 Kings 2:20	Water
Widow's oil multiplied	2 Kings 4:6	Oil
Shunammite's dead son raised to life	2 Kings 4:35	Life
Poisonous stew purified	2 Kings 4:41	Flour
Prophets' food multiplied	2 Kings 4:44	Bread + Grain
Naaman healed of leprosy	2 Kings 5:14	Water
Gehazi's leprosy inflicted	2 Kings 5:27	Disease
Ax head floated	2 Kings 6:6	Water
Horses and chariots surrounded Dothan	2 Kings 6:17	Fire
Aramean soldiers blinded	2 Kings 6:18	Sight
Aramean army scattered	2 Kings 7:6-7	Sound
Hazael's future predicted	2 Kings 8:13	Future

Consider your own life and the people you are pouring into who are part of the next generation. How are you living your life to make the greatest investment in their life? Our kids and the people we pour ourselves into are probably not going to perform miracles like Elisha, but there is no limit to what they might accomplish for the kingdom of God.

## NEXT STEPS

1. Are you journeying alone or in friendship and fellowship with others? We want to be a community where we are connected to one another and growing in our relationships with each other and the Lord. Calvary's LifeGroups are small group communities that gather together throughout the week to connect in a smaller setting. If you are not already part of a LifeGroup and would like to learn more about starting one or joining one, visit Connection Point in the Lobby to learn more, or contact Pastor Robert Carter at [rcarter@calvarylife.org](mailto:rcarter@calvarylife.org). [calvarylife.org/lifegroups](http://calvarylife.org/lifegroups)
2. Maybe you are not fully living out the life God has called you to because of past hurts, problems and current addictions. Calvary offers an incredible Lay Counseling Ministry as well as Celebrate Recovery. Both of these are great places to go to seek help in freeing ourselves to be able to live how God has called us. [calvarylife.org/care](http://calvarylife.org/care)
3. Join the Grandparenting group that meets the second Sunday of every month at 12:30pm in N-1. Bring a lunch and engage as we work through the book "Extreme Grandparenting." Also, mark your calendars for a 4-week intensive "Grandparenting" Parenting Class on Sundays at 9:00 am in January. Learn more about all upcoming Parenting Classes at [calvarylife.org/parenting](http://calvarylife.org/parenting)

## LIFEGROUP QUESTIONS

1. Are you journeying alone or in friendship and fellowship with others?
2. What do you want to leave behind in your life? Start with "things", the "stuff" of our lives, but move into the more intangible like your legacy, what people would say about you, the mark you've left on people. Essentially, how do you want to be remembered?
3. What does the last day of your life look like if you had some knowledge and control of that day?

