

SERMON GUIDE

THE GOD WHO DRAWS NEAR

1 Kings 18:41-19:18

Pastor | Tim Prince

February 23, 2025

Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

Helping people live a gospel inspired life.

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SERMON NOTES

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OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE (Year 1, Week 9)

1 Cor. 10:13 (Temptation)

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it

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The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to Know Me: Have you ever felt completely drained – mentally, physically and emotionally – after giving your all to something? What happened?

Note on the Study: Today's reading follows one of the most dramatic and inspiring stories in the Old Testament – Elijah's showdown with the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel. If you are unfamiliar with this story, we'd recommend taking a minute to read all of 1 Kings 18:20-35.

Read 1 Kings 18:41-19:18

- S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** What do you think Elijah was expecting to happen in Israel after his incredible victory over the prophets of Baal? What do you think he was hoping for when he ran all the way to Jezreel?
 - Take a minute to list all of the different emotions Elijah experienced from the beginning to the end of this story.
- O** Beersheba (v.3) is the southernmost point of Israel. Elijah has decided to leave Israel. He leaves his servant there (v.3) because he has also decided to leave the ministry. He is finished.
 - Have you ever gotten to this point?
 - What do you think of the angel's response (v.5-8)? Does this surprise you? Why?
- O** God comes to Elijah in wind, fire and an earthquake (v.11-12) - powerful reminders of God's incredible power in judgement. Think of Elijah's recent showdown with the prophets of Baal and God's incredible display of power there. God sends the wind, fire and earthquake, but he isn't "in" these symbols of his judgement.
 - What do you think this means? What is God teaching Elijah?
 - What else does God do in this passage? What are we learning about his response to us when we are completely overwhelmed?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** God draws near to us in the midst of our emotions. How is this good news for you right now? How will it change the way you respond to your emotions this week? How will it impact the way you meet others in their emotions this week?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.