



This week, Pastor Rob continued in our Faith FORWARD Future series (Part 5 - 1 Kings 19:19-21/2 Kings 2:1-14) with a message about unconventional transition of prophetic leadership from Elijah to his protégé and successor Elisha, and the lessons we are able to take and apply to our lives today. In it, we see a clear connection between our faith, God's favour, and the future.

Once again, as we considered Elijah's life and ministry, we were reminded that, **"God has a way of doing things at the most unexpected times, and in the most unprecedented ways, with the most unconventional people, to build our faith."**

In the midst of uncertainty as Elijah found himself face to face with a dead-end moment, God spoke to the next chapter of his life. In addition to anointing the next King of Aram and the next King of Israel, God's main directive and purpose for Elijah was to anoint the next prophet of God – Elisha, the son of Shaphat. As he requested in 2 Kings 2:9, he would receive a double portion of his spirit, enabling him to do even greater things than Elijah.

From this we see that **God often reveals His presence and His plan in the most unconventional seasons of our lives**, and that, **"There is more to the story!"** (cf. Philippians 1:6). In addition, we learned that though God does not give us everything we ask for, **He honors our faith when we aren't afraid to ask big things from Him.**

From both of their lives, and from this unconventional transition from one prophetic office to another, we learned a couple key things about our faith, as we move forward into the future:

1. **God's plan is always greater than our predicaments.**

In the narrative, through every circumstance, God's plan was being fulfilled. The fact of the matter is that when God has something in mind that He wants accomplished, it is going to come to pass, one way or the other (cf. Job 42:2 MSG; Proverbs 19:21 NCV; Isaiah 14:27 NCV). God's plan was bigger than Elijah's dead-end predicament. Therefore, we can take confidence in knowing that no matter what happens in our lives, there is nothing that can stop the plan of God from taking place (cf. Ephesians 3:20-21 NASB).

2. **God's favour is always greater than our faith.**

God's faithfulness wasn't dependent upon the level of faith that Elijah had. Thus, God's favour can override the level of our faith. Pastor Rob said that, **God's greatest blessing wasn't what God did for Elijah, but it was who God called through him. God would do more through his life than in his life."** Relating that to our lives today, we see that, **God being faithful to us is more than what He has done in the past in our lives, or even what He is doing right now for us, but it's about what He will do in and through our lives, that will impact future generations.**

Discussion Questions:

- 1). What stood out to you from today's message?

- 2). What are some examples of dead-end moments that would cause people to question the plan and will of God? How is God's plan accomplished in spite of our predicaments, or even by them?
- 3). Read Ephesians 3:20-21. What are some big things we can ask God for? For our lives? For our families? For our church? For our city?
- 4). As we move FORward by faith into the future, what are some practical things you can do to impact the next generation?

Thanks for journeying with us through this series. Continue to pray for our church, our city, and for the generations to follow. Pray that God would use our faith and our obedience to impact future generations, that they would have a double portion of His Spirit upon them, doing greater things for the Kingdom of God than we can ask or imagine.