



Preparing for Power: Assume a posture of TOTAL DEPENDENCE

Pastor Derek Sanford

March 6, 2022

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Who in your life has been an example of having a posture of dependence on God? What were the situations they were in when this dependence shined through? What were their words or actions that demonstrated this dependence?

Scripture:

Read [1 Kings 17:1-7](#)

- Keeping in mind that God will soon demonstrate His great power through Elijah, what do you think God's purpose is for Elijah's time in the wilderness?
- From the sermon, what were the 5 Decisions toward Total Dependence?
[**1.** Confront the god imposters in your life (:1) **2.** Listen to God (:2) **3.** Submit to the teachings of brokenness (:3-4) **4.** Learn daily obedience in the small things (:5-6) **5.** Embrace change (:7)]
 - Which of these points most resonated with you? Why?
- 17:1 - What are some examples of god imposters? What imposters do you find yourself most susceptible to? What does it claim to offer you? How would you confront it?
- 17:2 - How would one know if they were a good listener (to God)? What would be the qualities of a good listener?
- 17:3-4 - What do you think it means to submit to the teachings of brokenness?
 - Read [2 Corinthians 12: 7-10](#) as an example.
- 17:5-6 - What does obedience in the small things have to do with preparing for God's power?
- 17:7 - Can you think of an example of when you received a blessing from God and you became dependent on that blessing rather than on God? What happened? How did this affect you?
- How can a person prepare themselves for change? How can a person protect themselves from becoming dependent on God's gifts rather than on God?

Prayer: Pray, "God do something I'm not used to." How can we pray for each other to develop a deeper dependence on God? What are specific issues that this discussion has brought up for you?

Next Steps: Commit to Finding Your Chair daily and using the Preparing for Power YouVersion reading plans every week this month. Search "whoisgrace" on YouVersion or visit www.whoisgrace.com/read.



Preparing for Power: Take steps of GREAT FAITH

Pastor Derek Sanford

March 13, 2022

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: How has God used small tests of faith in your life to prepare you for big ones?

Scripture:

Read [1 Kings 17:7-24](#)

- Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there a particular point or passage that challenged you, confused you, or caught your attention?
- 17:10 - Based on this week's sermon, how was God calling Elijah to step out of His comfort zone? How is stepping out of your comfort zone a step of faith? Do you have an example of when God has called you to do this? What was the result?
- 17:13 -14 - "Will you be generous with a little?" Why didn't God multiple the flour and oil before the woman made the cake for Elijah? Why do you think God wanted the widow to make a cake for Elijah first? What are some ways God calls us to be generous with the little we have? Has this been easy for you or hard? Why?
- 17:9 - "Will you trust in people to provide for you?" God arranged for the ravens and He appointed the widow to help Elijah. When God sent Elijah to the widow the purpose was much more than just the provision of food for Elijah. God blessed Elijah and the Widow by calling them both to give and receive and take steps of faith for the benefit of the other. How has living in community with other Christians been a step of faith for you?
- 17:20 -22 "Will you run toward God in times of adversity?" How do our responses in adversity reveal our heart? What do you think God's purpose is in allowing adversity to come to those who are already being obedient?

Prayer: Use [Psalm 20](#) as a guide for your prayer time- crying out to God about the difficulties and circumstances of our lives, praising Him that He hears us, answers us, that He is worthy of our trust.

Suggested Worship: Listen to Lauren Daigle's [Trust In You](#)

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Preparing for Power: Proceed with BOLD OBEDIENCE

Pastor Scott Michel

March 20, 2022

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: What are your favorite stories of bold obedience (either from the Bible or other history)?

Scripture:

Read [1 Kings 18:1-16](#)

- Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there a particular point or passage that challenged you, confused you, or caught your attention?
- From this week's sermon, what were the Three Lessons from Elijah's bold obedience? [1. Go where God sends you even when you're scared 2. Do what God asks you even when it costs you 3. Devote yourself fully even when you're tempted to hold back.]
- What are some things God calls (or may call) us to do that are scary? Why are they scary?
- Why does God send people to places and to do things that are scary?
- What scary thing is God calling you to? Have you taken steps to do it yet? Why or why not?
- Elijah and Obadiah knew that obedience to God could cost them their lives, why were they willing to take that risk? When has obedience to God cost you something? What did you learn from that experience?
- What do you think it means to "devote yourself fully"? What does this look like as a Christian?
- In what ways are you tempted to hold back? Why?
- If being scared wins...if you decide the cost is too much... If you just can't devote yourself fully, what will you miss out on?

Read [Matthew 10:37-39](#)

- Take some time to put these verses in your own words.

Prayer: Spend time in silence allowing the whole group to pray quietly or out loud. Use the Matthew 10 exercise as a starting point. Begin with confession of any disobedience because of being scared, or the cost was too much, or because you held back (Confess personal sins as well as sins of a people/church/nation). Then pray for heart change, greater faith, and boldness.

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Preparing for Power: Get ready to RISK IT ALL

Pastor Derek Sanford

March 27, 2022

Life Group Discussion

Encouragement: Pastor Derek asked, “is the altar of your heart being readied for God’s power to come?” How would you answer that question? How has God been working in your heart and preparing you? What steps of dependence, faith, and obedience have you taken?

Scripture:

Read [1 Kings 18:20-39](#)

- Review this week’s sermon outline (find it on the Grace church app or review the sermon in the [sermon archives](#)). Discuss each point - what did Pastor Derek mean by each of these statements? How did God speak to you through the message this week?
- How would you know if you were faltering (or wavering) between worship of the true God and other gods?
- If we know that God alone satisfies, why do we falter?
- On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate yourself, when it comes to being able to stand alone for God? (10 being confident that you would stand alone). What would have to change in you, so that you could stand alone like Elijah?
- We learned from this passage that seeing God’s power has nothing to do with getting God’s attention. Rather, seeing fire fall has everything to do with getting our hearts aligned with God’s. What was God’s purpose for His display of power? Is this still God’s purpose today?
- How will this passage affect how you pray?

Prayer: Take time to approach God asking for His display of power. Make a list of people who need to experience the power of Christ (for salvation or renewal). Pray for Christians, that God’s transformational power would be evident in their everyday lives. Pray these words, “Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.

Next Steps: Write out the words of 1 Kings 18:37. On the same paper write out the names of those who need to experience the power of Christ for Salvation. Hang this paper in a place where you will see it every day from now until Easter. Ask God to reveal to you if there is any way that you can be an example of dependence, faith, or obedience to the people you are praying for. Pray about who you may be able to invite for the Easter service.