

God's talking – are we listening?

Welcome and Preface

Welcome

Amidst the pressures of work, family, loneliness, alienation, abundance or strifeor whatever's going on in your life

How do you know when God is actually talking to you?

And how do you develop the discernment to distinguish between the seductive images of success that the world has to offer, and the joy and peace that come from sharing in Christ's suffering as a committed disciple?

It's tough isn't it?

Well - welcome to your first set of *Studies that Work* - from christianityworks.com.

Our aim in these studies is to be your servant in helping you or your home group to explore the vast magnificence of God's word. Our fervent prayer is that through these studies the Holy Spirit will bring God's word to life in you.

Jesus promised us abundant life.

@ christianityworks.com we believe beyond any shadow of doubt that as we study God's word, His word becomes a part of us – abides in us as Jesus said. This in turn blesses us and those around us as we grow in a deep and intimate relationship with our Saviour.

We believe that these Bible studies are anointed by God to bring His blessings and wisdom into your life.

About this Series

It might seem a little strange, but first up we've chosen to a series of studies in the life of Elijah. Why Elijah of all people? Elijah is a key figure. He was one of the major Prophets in the Old Testament. In other words, He was a person appointed by God to speak His will into the lives of His people.

Now God's will down through history hasn't always been the most popular message or the most palatable option. Sometime's it's hard to swallow. Sometimes it's hard to hear.

So as we understand more of Elijah's story and its significance we can:

- See how and why God to spoke through the prophets and understand how he speaks through Jesus, a greater Prophet than Elijah,
- Gain insights into how people reacted to God,
- Use those insights to understand how we react, and
- Learn how to hear God today.

So as you can see – it's an exciting series and one not to be missed!

Some Additional Online resources

Here are some additional online resources that will help you with deeper study through developing a better understanding of Elijah's life, and the context of his ministry.

- **Background on Pagan Gods** - like Asherah and Baal who figure prominently in Elijah's confrontations with Ahab and Jezebel
<http://bible.crosswalk.com/Dictionaries/BakersEvangelicalDictionary/bed.cgi?number=T301>
- Stunning maps of significant locations in Elijah's story generated from satellite images <http://www.netbible.com/docs/about/maps/>
- Artwork to help visualise the stories involving Elijah
<http://www.biblepicturegallery.com/Pictures/Elijah.htm>
- An overview of Elijah's life and ministry, with subsequent references to him in the whole Bible from the original International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia
<http://www.studylight.org/enc/isb/view.cgi?word=Elijah&action=Lookup&search.x=21&search.y=13>

It might help also help you read the chapter on 1 and 2 Kings in Christ in the Old Testament on our site, which you are entitled to access as one of the benefits of being a subscriber and supporter.

If you find any other material helpful for the study of Elijah, you might consider emailing us at info@christianityworks.com so we can improve these studies and help others.

The Next Series – Jesus died and rose again. So what?

It's an awesome thing to walk through life with the fire of Christ burning brightly deep within our hearts. It shows on our faces. In our eyes. It is the power that enables us to pour the love of Christ out into a hurting world. The fuel of that fire is the death and resurrection of Jesus.

This series will kindle that fire afresh in you – for the Glory of God.

This next series is based on the book of Ephesians, which mixes a rich and deep understanding of God with straightforward application of the consequences of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Discover anew who you are in Christ.

Coming soon.....