

GOD'S WORK GOES ON

2 Kings 2:1-18

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- In your experience, has ministry in your church been able to continue when a leader dies or moves on? What factors contributed to its success or failure? What effect has this experience had on your view of ministry?
- How have you been involved in ministry in your church or community? Have you ever intentionally thought about your spiritual legacy or ministry successor? Why?

In many ways, the prophet Elijah was larger than life. His actions and ministry made God's presence visible again in Israel. But like all of us Elijah was simply human and his time in ministry came to an end. Studying the dramatic end of Elijah's ministry (2 Kings 2) challenges us to think about our posture in ministry and our spiritual legacy. It also relieves us of unnecessary pressure by reminding us that God is the ultimate hero. No matter what happens to us, his presence and work will continue.

Listen: [God's Work Goes On](#)

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- What lessons for ministry have you gleaned from studying the ministries of Elijah and Elisha? How are the lessons the same and different if you're a ministry leader or a ministry participant?
- Our culture is highly personality driven and often creates celebrities out of anyone with talent, money, or notoriety. In what ways does God as the hero of the story challenge that perspective?
- How has your faith been impacted by pastors and spiritual leaders? How did you continue to experience God's presence even after a particular leader was no longer in your life?
- When have you encountered the visible power and presence of God, like we see when Elisha strikes the water with Elijah's cloak? How has this experience impacted your faith and your participation in the ministry of God?

Related Passages

- **1 Corinthians 15:58**
- **Psalms 104:1-4**
- **Acts 28:30-31**

Conclusion

Read John 3:22-30, especially verse 30. In segments 2, host Scott Hoezee notes that John the Baptist is the Elijah figure for which Israel was waiting. Yet in this passage, John the Baptist teaches that he must become less and Jesus must become greater. Why is this perspective on ministry both a challenge and a relief? Pray that John's words and Elijah's story would inform your witness, spiritual legacy, and participation in God's kingdom work.

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