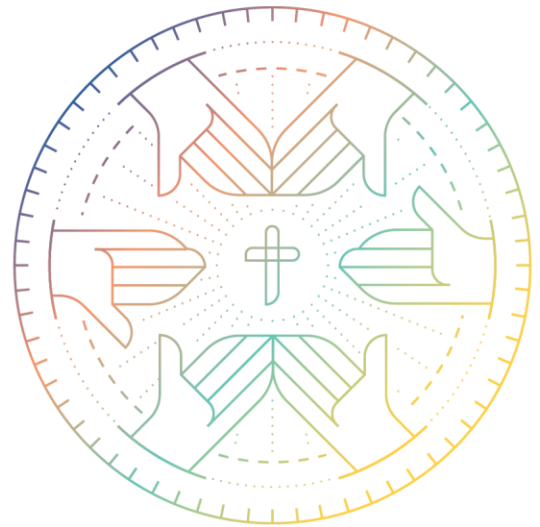


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

Does your name have a special meaning and or were you named after someone special?

## INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

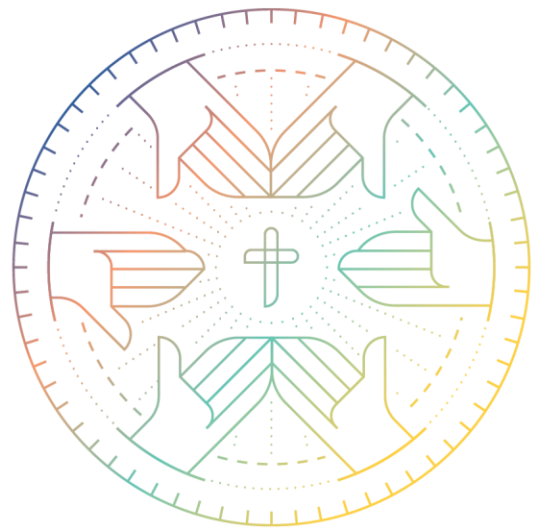
The week we will be in 1 Kings 17 and will be looking at, through the story of Elijah, how God uses hardship to form us into the man or woman God wants us to be.

## INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read 1 Kings 17:1-3. Because of his obedience to God Elijah was seen as public enemy number one by the ruling class. His decision to follow caused major changes in his life. He lived on the run, lived with the burden of the famine and the effect it had on the people around him, anxiety about what would happen in his life. What is one event positive or negative that has shaped who you are as a person?
2. Read 1 Kings 17:3-7, Exodus 16:13-15, Psalm 23:1-3, and Matthew 6:11, 25-33. What sticks out to you about how God cares for his people from these passages? How does that shape the way you see God in your life?
3. Read 1 Kings 17:8-16 and Proverbs 3:5-6. Where do you see Elijah and the widow trusting God? What connection do you see between courage and trust and how may that look in your lives today?

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## APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. Read 1 Kings 17:17-23 and Hebrews 11:1-3. Elijah faced an impossible situation with the death of the widow's son. But God, "listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived." What would your prayer life look like if you had faith that God would listen to your voice when you prayed?
2. Read 1 Kings 17:24. The widow acknowledges Elijah as a man of God because she saw firsthand his character and how God worked through him. These characteristics included:
  - Allowed pain to shape him
  - Depended completely on God rather than self-reliance
  - Was courageous when things "dried up"
  - Trusted in making hard choices
  - Had Faith for the impossible to happenOf the characteristics listed, which one do you want to work on this week?
3. Elijah's name means Yahweh or Jehovah is my God. What situation in your life do you need Jehovah to be your God?

## PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

*Dear heavenly Father,*

*As we face hardship and difficulties in our lives may you come alongside and give us rest. May we learn to become dependent on you for our needs knowing that you care for us. Help us to trust you and have the courage to take the next right step even if it seems difficult. May our faith grow as we seek your face knowing that you listen to our voices. Thank you for making us more and more into your image each day. We pray all these things in your wonderful name. Amen.*