

## Conversations With God

The Purpose Of Prayer

May 21, 2023

Notes

## Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

### 1. Read 1 Kings 18:1-39.

What circumstances in this story might God have been using to try to get the attention of King Ahab and the people of Israel?

To whom did Ahab, Jezebel and the people of Israel turn for help?  
What were the results?

What did the LORD do to demonstrate His power and prove that He alone is God? How did the people respond?

Whom do you usually talk to first when you have a problem and why do you turn that direction for help?

What would it take for God to get your attention; for you to acknowledge Him as the One who is able to meet your needs and to turn to Him *first*?

### 2. Read 1 Kings 18:41-19:9a.

In what ways do you see God's provision for Elijah in this passage?

Does Elijah's pity party after Jezebel's threat surprise you or can you relate to him? Why or why not?

### 3. Read 1 Kings 19:9b-13.

How did God meet Elijah in the middle of his discouragement?  
What do you think this says about their friendship?

How would you describe your relationship with God? Are you able to relate to Him as your Friend? Why or why not?

### 4. Read Colossians 4:2, Ephesians 6:18 and 1 Thessalonians 5:17.

As you read these verses, keep the phrase "talk with your Friend" in mind when you read the word 'pray'. How does paraphrasing those verses that way impact your perspective about prayer?

Consider what might happen if you took every complaint, challenge, issue, or problem to God first. What might happen in your relationship with Him? What might happen in your life?

Want additional resources or help in growing your prayer life? Check out our selection of books on prayer at *Journeys*.