Tithes and Offerings







or text <u>GIVE</u> to 717-420-1600





<u>Auto pay</u> Send directly from bank.

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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



Order of Worship March 9, 2025 First Sunday of Lent

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome
Worship in Song
Call to Worship
Worship in Song

Prayer

We Listen to the Word

Sermon Series: ALIVE Sermon: "Part I. Preparation"

We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song
Prayer

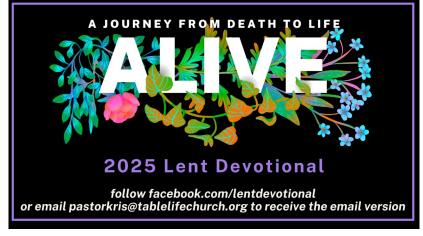
We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen







For a complete list of ongoing ministries and upcoming events, please visit tablelifechurch.ora.

Doggy Bag-

Some questions to chew on:



- 1. Both Elijah and Jesus underwent a time of preparation. Why? Why is preparation important when doing the will of God?
- 2. In 1 Kings 17:2-3, God led Elijah to a period of hiding in the Kerith Ravine. Kerith means "cut off or cut down." Describe a "cutting away" experience that God used to shape you and prepare you.
- 3. What was unusual about the ways God provided for Elijah during the drought? Has there ever been a time God met a need in a strange way? What did you learn?
- 4. After the brook dried up, Elijah trusted God and moved on to Zarephath. Why do you think that happened? What kinds of things does God often need to loosen from our grip?
- 5. Why do you think resurrection was the last miracle for Elijah in this season? What changes or differences do you observe in Elijah over the course of 1 Kings 17? How can you relate?
- 6. Lent is a season of preparation. Over 40 days, we seek to draw closer to Jesus and contemplate what he did for us on the cross. This Lenten season, what do you feel God wants to prepare in you? Cut away and prune? Loosen some soil? Time to do the work? Or something else?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org or call 717-774-6444

ALIVE Part I. "Preparation" Pastor Kris Beckert

Are you one who prepares for things or tends to wing it?

The 1st Story of Resurrection in the Bible:

and the	
Takes place in the Northern Kingdom of Israel	
 Things go downhill after King David and King Solomon 	
 Israel experiences 19 evil over the next 200 years 	
1 Kings 16:30 Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him.	f
 Ahab turned the people away from God to worship the Canaanite god 	
God raised up the prophet, whose name means)
1 Kings 17:1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahak "As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neithed dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word."	
II. Three Marks of a Season of Preparation:	
1. A away	

1 Kings 17:2-6 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: ³ "Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there." ⁵ So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

- Kerith Ravine =
- God cuts away what's dead but also prunes what's good

2. A _____ of the soil

1 Kings 17:7-9 Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. 8 Then the word of the Lord came to him: 9 "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food."

- Elijah is sent to a nonbelieving _____ in the capital city of Baal-worship
- God loosens our grip on our biases, things on which we depend, and the source of our purpose
- Jesus says this:

Luke 4:25-26 "...I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon..."

• Elijah repeats God's words to the woman, which comes true:

v.14 "...For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.'"

3. A to do the work

1 Kings 17:21-24 Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried out to the Lord, "Lord my God, let this boy's life return to him!" ²² The Lord heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived. ²³ Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, "Look, your son is alive!" ²⁴ Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the Lord from your mouth is the truth."

The time of famine & death prepared ______ for the work of facing King Ahab and the prophets of Baal
In v.1 Elijah was identified by ______ he's from, but in v.24 he is now identified by he's from

Big Idea:			