

Week of April 27, 2025



Pastor Bob's Message...



Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work Lesson 1: God's Hand in Calling Us to Serve 1 Kings 19:19–21; 2 Kings 2:7–15

At Bellview Baptist Church, we believe that God is actively working in our lives, calling each of us to serve Him in meaningful and powerful ways. In our new five-part Sunday School series, "Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work," we

begin with the foundational truth that **God's hand is at work in calling us to serve**—just as He called Elisha so many centuries ago.

The Call of Elisha: A Divine Disruption (1 Kings 19:19-21)

Elisha's story begins with a surprising interruption. He was plowing in the fields, faithfully working when Elijah, the prophet of God, passed by and threw his mantle upon him. This simple yet profound act signified God's call on Elisha's life. Elisha responded immediately: he left his oxen, ran after Elijah, and asked to say goodbye to his parents. Then, in a dramatic act of surrender, he slaughtered his oxen, burned his plowing equipment, and used it to cook a farewell meal—signaling there was no turning back.

God's call often comes in ordinary moments, but it demands extraordinary obedience. Elisha's response was full, final, and faithful. He left behind comfort, familiarity, and family to follow God's purpose for his life. His example challenges us: are we listening for God's call in our daily lives? And when He calls, are we ready to respond with full surrender?

From Apprentice to Anointed (2 Kings 2:7–15)

Years later, we see Elisha standing with Elijah again, this time at the banks of the Jordan River. Elijah is about to be taken to heaven in a whirlwind, and Elisha will inherit the mantle of prophetic leadership. When Elijah asks what Elisha desires, Elisha responds, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." He's not asking for fame or comfort—he's asking for spiritual power to carry out God's work faithfully.

As Elijah is taken up, Elisha picks up the mantle and returns to the river. Striking the waters with Elijah's cloak, he asks, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" The waters part again—just as they had for Elijah—confirms that God's hand is now upon Elisha. The other prophets watching say, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." God's call was confirmed by His power.

This passage reminds us that **God not only calls us—He equips us.** He doesn't leave us to serve in our own strength. When we surrender to Him, He provides the power and presence we need to do the work.

God's Call Is Still Active Today

Though we may not be called to be prophets like Elisha, every believer is called to serve. Romans 12:6 reminds us, "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them..." Each of us has been uniquely gifted and placed by God for a purpose. His hand is still at work, calling ordinary people—just like Elisha, and just like you and me—to serve Him in extraordinary ways.

Pastor Bob's Message Continues...

But the call of God requires a response. Will we cling to our plows — or will we lay them down and follow where He leads?

Serving at Bellview: Your Opportunity to Respond

At Bellview Baptist Church, there are many ways you can respond to God's call to serve. Just like Elisha, your faithful step of obedience—whether big or small—can have a lasting impact for the Kingdom. Let me mention a few of them.

- **Drive the Bus Ministry** Help bring others to church who may not have a ride. It's more than a drive; it's a ministry of connection and care.
- Cook on Wednesday Nights Our midweek meals are a blessing to many families. Serving behind the scenes is a powerful way to show God's love through hospitality.
- **Teach a Sunday School Class** Pour into the next generation or lead your peers in studying God's Word. Your gift of teaching or encouragement could be just what someone needs.
- **Help with Disaster Relief** In light of the recent flooding, there's a pressing need for hands and hearts to help clean up, support families, and share the hope of Christ during hard times.

Food Pantry – Every other month (Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Nov, Dec.) we will meet on the third Friday at 9:30 AM. and pack boxes, and on the following Saturday we hand them out from 9-11 AM

These are just a few ways you can say, "Yes, Lord, I will serve." Whether in the church, the community, or the crisis, God is calling us—just as He called Elisha—to take up the mantle and step out in faith.

Final Word

As we continue this series on Elisha, let us remember that God is always at work—calling, preparing, and empowering His people to serve. Will you be like Elisha and respond to the call?

Pastor Bob



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TeamKid/Youth Meals on Wednesday Nights @ 6 pm Wednesday, 04.30.25 Team #3— Keith & Debbie Byers





ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mother's Day 2025 baby dedication

Contact the office if you are interested

Baby Bottle Campaign for Hope Unlimited

Mother's Day May 11

To

Father's Day June 15

JOIN US LIVE

EVERY SUNDAY 10 AM

ONLINE SERVICES



Bro Travis' Message

Students reflected on what it means to have God as their Good Shepherd, caring for them during the valleys of life. They'll understand that they can walk confidently during difficult times because God cares for, protects, and guides them. They'll have the opportunity to take a closer look at how they relate to sheep in Psalm 23 or reflect on when they've felt God's presence in their lives. The lesson ends with the challenge to memorize this important Psalm, using it as a reminder of God's comfort and presence.

Read Psalm 23, then answer the following questions

- What do you think "I shall not want" means?
- What does the oil in verse 5 represent? If you're not sure, search the internet or a study Bible.
- Where do you most need God to lead you right now: beside still waters or in paths of righteousness?
- What situation are you facing this week where you need a reminder of God's comfort and presence in order to walk confidently?

Bro Travis





Bro. Travis' Message



2025 Youth Events

Yes Conference - Feb 7th-8th

Youth Sunday - March 30th

(Lunch & Skating to fellow AM service. Bring \$25)

Glow Bowling @ Superbowl - May 2nd
(7PM-10PM Cost is \$7.50 Per Person)

Summer Swim Parties

(Look for information last week of May)

Centrifuge Camp - June 9th-13th

Youth Sunday - June 29th

Youth Sunday - August 31st

Hearts on Fire - November 21-23

VBS T-shirts are available to order now!

Deadline to order and pay will be this Sunday, April 27!



WEEKLY SCHEDULE/GIVING

LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 27—10 AM

Sunday, May 4—10 AM

Sunday Bulletin and the monthly newsletter are online! $Go\ to$

www.bellviewbaptistpaducah.com

Only newsletters that will be sent out are the members with no email addresses.

Last Sunday's Report for April 20, 2025

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK

Deacon of the Week
David Turner—270-217-1749

Barry & Sandy Leidecker | Francie Gregory | Sandy Leidecker

Greeters/Welcome Center

April Ushers

Ron Cunningham —Caleb Hale—Andy Pegram
Ray Shelton—David Turner

Security Team for Sunday, April 27—#4

Card Ministry for April —Linda Hatley

Please NO food or drinks in the Worship Center.

May 4, there will be Nursery and Preschool available at 10 AM.

Mother's Day, May 11, there will not be Nursery or Preschool at 10 AM.