

Worship the God who answers prayer

1 Kings 18:20-39

- I. The Contest: The God who answers prayer is truly God (18:20-24).
 - Our problems can expose our true loyalty (20-21).
 - Our prayers can reveal God's worthiness (22-24).
 - *Prayer is asking for what is humanly impossible.*
- II. Relying on false gods is worthless (18:25-29).
 - A. Make an altar but no fire allowed (25-26a).
 - B. There was no answer to their fervent prayers for Baal to send fire (26b-29).
- III. Relying on the true God brings worship (18:30-39).
 - A. Elijah called the people together and prepared an altar (30-35).
 - *Repaired the altar of the Lord* – Remembering times when I sincerely worshipped
 - *12 tribes, to whom the word of the Lord had come* – Remembering times of fellowship
 - *In the name of the Lord* – Remembering God's reputation is at stake in the challenge I face
 - B. Elijah prayed for God to be glorified (36-37).
 - God's truth at stake – His word proven true
 - God's grace is at stake – Repentant hearts
 - C. God answered and God was glorified (38-39).
 - God's power – The fire consumed everything.
 - God's glory – They worshipped God.
 - *The ultimate purpose of prayer is not getting what we ask but worshipping God as God.*