



## Gods on Display

1 Kings 18:17-40

### Introduction

Our hearts are continually drawn away to put other idols in the place of God in our heart. As the nation of Israel discovered, there is only one true God. When the prophets of Baal called out for him to answer, 1 Kings 18:29 tells us, "...there was no voice, no one answered, and no one paid attention." When we try to find our satisfaction, meaning, or purpose in anything other than God, we find the same thing to be true: everything always leaves us wanting.

For those of us who know the one true God, we must be willing to allow God to work through us to demonstrate Himself to those around us.

### Main Idea:

**God displays His power through you so others will see who He is.**

### Discussion

- 1) Ahab blamed Elijah for Israel's problems (*verses 17-18*). What troubles does society blame on Christians today?
- 2) What idols do you see as most prevalent in our world today? What good things do we make bad things by making them god things?

*"What is an idol? It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give."  
(Timothy Keller)*

- 3) How have you pursued different idols at different times in your life? How did that play out?
- 4) Why did Elijah build the altar using twelve stones? (*verse 31*)
- 5) Why did he go through the trouble of digging the trench and pouring the water?
- 6) What does Elijah's prayer in **1 Kings 18:35-36** teach us about the way we should pray?
- 7) How did God respond to Elijah's prayer?
- 8) What principles can we draw from **verse 40**? How should we respond to the idols in our hearts?
- 9) How does this account point us to Jesus?

### Application

- 1) What idols are you turning to? Recognize they will never satisfy, turn from following them, and make yourself available to the one true God.
- 2) Are you hiding, or are you willing to step out and be used by God to bring people to Himself? Commit today to developing relationships with people who don't know God or honor Him as the one true God.