

# Sermon Study Guide – February 11th, 2024

## *"Left Behind, Not Left Alone"*

1) Thoughts to get you started...

- ◆ When do you feel “left behind”? What does God promise to us in the future, and how might that make us feel left behind right now on earth?
- ◆ God promises he will never forsake us and that we are never alone... Do you ever struggle to believe that? What might help?

2) Today’s Message: 2 Kings 2:1-12 (see bulletin for full text)

*<sup>5</sup> The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, “Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?” “Yes, I know,” he replied, “so be quiet.” <sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” And he replied, “As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them walked on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup> Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. <sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?” “Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit,” Elisha replied. <sup>10</sup> “You have asked a difficult thing,” Elijah said, “yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not.” <sup>11</sup> As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup> Elisha saw this and cried out, “My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!” And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his garment and tore it in two.*

3) What does God want you to hear today?

*Throughout the sermon, consider...*

How does today’s sermon show you your sin? (i.e. What’s the law?)

How does today’s sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What’s the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:



*Answer the following questions if it helps you follow the sermon...*

1. Describe Elisha's background.
2. What would have made it difficult for Elisha to continue to follow Elijah in this text?
3. How could Elisha be sure that God would continue to be with him, even after Elijah departed?
4. What difficulties do we face being "left behind" on this earth?
5. What does God show us so that we can be sure that he has not "left us alone" on this earth?
6. How does the picture of mountain fit into today's message?

#### 4) Taking it Home:

*Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week's truths:*

**Monday:** *review* Mk. 9:2-9, 2 Cor. 4:3-6

**Tuesday:** Isaiah 41

**Wednesday:** 1 Kings 19

**Thursday:** *read/review* 2 Kings 2

**Friday:** 2 Kings 4

**Saturday:** Deuteronomy 31:1-8