

AVELEIGH'S YEAR OF THE BIBLE, Jan. 7,18
SERMON, ELIJAH, ELISHA, & MIRACLES
Text, II KINGS 2:1-14 p. 390

**WORSHIP PREPARATION: "For you are great and do great miracles.
You alone are God." Ps. 86:10 (TLB)**

Intro: The Christian life is supposed to be miraculous.

The key to seeing the next miracle in your life is learning to live in between the miracles.

I. LIVE WITH TENACITY.

"When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. "Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' And he replied, 'As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you.' So they went to Jericho. "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." 2 Kings 2:1-2, 4, 6 (NIV)

II. LIVE WITH SENSITIVITY.

"The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, 'Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?' ' Yes, I know,' Elisha replied, 'but do not speak of it.'" 2 Kings 2:3 (NIV)

SENSITIVE TO PEOPLE'S NEEDS.

SENSITIVE TO GOD'S ACTIONS

III. LIVE WITH PURITY.

“Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. 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. 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. ‘You have asked a difficult thing,’ Elijah said, ‘yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours — otherwise not.’” 2 Kings 2:7-10 (NIV)

Purity is a single minded ambition to do something great for God.

“. . . I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me . . . I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 3:12b-14 (NIV)

“Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.” 2 Timothy 2:22 (NIV)

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” Matthew 5:8 (NIV)

“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. Elisha saw this and cried out, ‘My father! My father! And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart. He picked up the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak that had fallen from him and struck the water with it. ‘Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?’ he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.” 2 Kings 2:11-14 (NIV)

PRAYER, Lord Jesus, for all our friends, family and acquaintances, grant us a double portion of your Spirit, and by faith miracles. Amen

- FOUR FOR THE ROAD:**
1. What do you think about miracles?
 2. Do you know anyone who has experienced a miracle?
 3. Who should get the credit for a miracle?
 4. How could you pray for other to receive their needed miracle?

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Call to Worship

L: Sing praises to God, O faithful people!

P: Shout of God's miraculous power and mercy!

L: The Lord has heard our cries!

P: The Lord has mightily redeemed our souls!

L: Praise be to God!

P: Hallelujah! AMEN.

Prayer of confession:

God of the blazing chariots, the whirling wind, the sacred silence,
Listen softly to the confessions of our hearts.

[*silence*]

Mightily and Miraculous God create clean hearts in us. Renew right spirits within us. Shelter us within your presence. Sustain us by your Holy Spirit. Restore to us the joy of our salvation. Blazing, whirling, sacred God, grant us the desire to ask for a double portion of Your Spirit. *Amen.*