

Welcome to the
fifteenth week of
25 Weeks of Advent!

The stories of Advent all give us some insight as to the point and value of Jesus' life for us.

This week's story sees a spectacular stand off between prophets—those of the living God, and those of the god, Baal.

Meeting on a mountain, the challenge is to call down fire from heaven to burn a sacrifice on the make-shift altars.

Needless to say, God shows up with overwhelming power—not only burning up the sacrifice, but the wood, the stones and the soil, and twelve large jars worth of water in trenches all around the altar.

“When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried,
‘The LORD — he is God!
The LORD — he is God!’ ”
(1 Kings 18:39)

Our God, is the one, true living God who answers our prayers, and shows up. He, and he alone, is to be worshipped.

Week 15: Bowing Down

Read: 1 Kings 18:16—46

We are wired to worship—but we don't always worship God as the one, true God. In fact, our hearts tend to lean away from God, towards things we make into other gods—things we worship with out time, money, and efforts. Other “Baals.”

We are the temple of the Holy Spirit—God's Spirit!—dwelling in us. We need to clear the false gods who are vying for the worship and attention of our hearts and lives.

“How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; if Baal is God, follow him.” (1 Kings 18:21) Worship God alone—praying to Him—depending on him alone.

*How can you tell if something is a false god in your life?
What are some Baals that have captured your heart?*

God demands your wholehearted, undivided devotion.
*How will you restore the temple? How will live, trusting in God as your **only** steadfast and rock on which you stand?*



Readings for your Week

'You alone are God'
Psalm 86
Mark 12:29—34

The LORD, not idols!
Isaiah 44:6—22
Isaiah 46

