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Pursuing Spiritual Authenticity  
"Elijah: Holding Steady in a Roller Coaster World"  
I Kings 17:1-6

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Israel became divided into two **nations**.

Every one of the 20 kings in the Northern Kingdom is **evil**.

Jezebel, a Baal worshiper, desires to destroy the **worship of God** in Israel.

She sets out to **systematically kill** the prophets of God.  
Elijah **flees** from Jezebel.

There are a series of **evenly distributed** in Elijah's life.

- God uses **ravens** to feed Elijah.
- God sends Elijah to a **widow** in Zarephath of Sidon.

A word about miracles

In the OT miracles are not **evenly distributed**.

- There were a lot of miracles at the time of the **Exodus**.
- During the era of the Judges and Kings there were **fewer miracles**.
- At the time of Elijah and Elisha there were **many** miracles.
- Then there was a period of **fewer** miracles again.
- At the time of Jesus and Pentecost again, there were **many** miracles.

It seems like miracles come at key moments in the **process of revelation**.

Mount Carmel – the main battle

Elijah's authority comes from one **utterly yielded** to God.

A Baal is anything that tempts you away from **full devotion** to God.

Elijah runs from the threat

Nobody stays on the **mountaintop forever**.

Elijah wants to **die**.

Elijah has **left** God's people.

God gives Elijah a new **friend**.

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READING PLAN:

Complete Track

Monday - Jeremiah 1-3  
Tuesday - Jeremiah 4-5; Psalm 108  
Wednesday - Jeremiah 6-8  
Thursday - Jeremiah 9-11  
Friday - Jeremiah 12-14; Psalm 109  
Weekend - Jeremiah 15-20

Fast Track

1st Reading - I Kings 17; Psalm 63  
2nd Reading - I Kings 18; Psalm 97  
3rd Reading - I Kings 19:1-14;  
Psalm 139