

Elisha Ministry

I Kings 19:21 "...Then he(Elisha) arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him."

Excellence***L**eadership***I**ntegrity***S**ervanthood***H**umility***A**pproved

What: The purpose of the E.L.I.S.H.A. ministry is to mentor young men who desire to serve the church in a greater capacity and who are passionate about seeing the will of God accomplished in their life above every other vocation in life. The goal of every E.L.I.S.H.A. is to pattern themselves after the words: Excellence, Leadership, Integrity, Servanthood, Humility, and Approved.

Excellence- After Elisha received the initial call of God, he burned the oxen and their instruments. In other words, he gave up everything and was totally committed to his calling. The word of God declares in Psalm 8:1, "O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth." The Lord is excellent, and as such, deserves that we serve him with excellence. Everything we do for God must be done with excellence. Not halfhearted, or even 95%, but all we do has to be done with 100% of our being. The greatest commandment is that our God is one and we are to love him with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. We are representations of this excellent God and everything we do is a reflection of who He is to us. Daniel 6:3 says that Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes because an excellent spirit was in him. Excellence for an excellent God: He deserves nothing less.

Leadership- Elisha was a young man that possessed great leadership qualities. These qualities, however, were strengthened and developed through being mentored by Elijah. The key to great leadership is learning to *follow* great leaders. Elisha understood this principle which is reflected in his words in I Kings 19:20, "And he left the oxen, and *ran* after Elijah...". Once you learn to follow, you will then learn to lead.

Integrity- Proverbs 10:9, "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out." Being a person of integrity is one of the most important aspects of being a Christian because our character is our greatest witness of God living in us. Integrity is purity in action. Integrity is a consistent manifestation of Jesus in our lives. We can develop integrity by controlling our thoughts (Philippians 4:8), practicing Christian virtues (II Peter 1:5-6), guarding our hearts (Proverbs 4:23), and keeping good company (I Corinthians 15:33). Just as Elisha was accountable to Elijah, so being accountable to a Godly leader will help us live a life of integrity.

Servanthood- I Kings 19:21 says that Elisha "ministered" unto Elijah. Elisha served. Wherever Elijah went Elisha was right behind him. Whatever Elijah asked him to do Elisha was there to do it. When we enter in heaven the Lord will tell us, "Well done, thou good and faithful *servant*...". Jesus said in Matthew 20:27-28 that whoever is greatest is to be a servant because even Jesus came not to be ministered to, but to minister. Our mindset should not be what I can get out of it, but what can I give to further the kingdom of God. It may not be what we want to do, but if it will further the kingdom of God, then we must fill in the gap. In Acts 6:3 the disciples appointed seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom to serve tables. Serving tables may not have been these seven men's vision of greatness in God, but it was what the church needed to progress and they made themselves available. Their availability to serve in this capacity enabled the word of God to increase and caused the church to grow.

Humility- A fading characteristic in this day is godly humility. Humility is the voluntary submission of ourselves to God's will. Jesus modeled godly humility. Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus...(8) and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." The keys words are humbled and obedient. Jesus

was obedient to the will of God, even at the cost of his own death. His will was completely submitted to the Father. In order to be successful in ministry, we must be obedient and submitted to God and to the men of God he has placed over us. Hebrews 13:17, “Obey them that have the rule over you, and *submit* yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief, for that is unprofitable for you.”

Approved- Elisha was a man approved of God; he pleased God. When given the opportunity to abandon Elijah, Elisha was determined not to leave his side. He was tested and was found faithful. Our ability to remain faithful and pleasing to God hinges upon our *knowledge* and *application* of the Word of God. II Timothy 2:15, “Study to shew thyself approved (referring to one that is approved after being tested) unto God, a workman that needed not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” The Word of God must be in our hearts in order to defeat the enemy, the world, and our flesh. Truth must be our pursuit and we must hold onto the foundations of apostolic doctrine and holy living.

How: Every E.L.I.S.H.A. will accomplish this goal by making themselves available to serve the pastoral ministry and church body in whatever capacity they are called upon, and in turn, be mentored by the pastoral ministry.

Qualifications:

- Born-Again believer (Baptized in Jesus Name, Filled with the Holy Ghost)
- Completed membership classes
- Faithfully attend church services, prayer meetings, fasting services
- Involved in soul winning (HFG, HBS, etc...)
- Maintain daily life of personal consecration (strive to pray 30mins daily, Bible reading)
- Faithfully pay tithe
- Possess respect for pastor and ministerial body
- Willing to serve and work to see the vision of the church accomplished
- Lover of souls and God’s people

Requirements:

- On assigned days, attend the pastor/co-pastor/guest speaker from the beginning of service until the end. This involves reserving his parking space, assisting him out of the car (carrying briefcase, etc...), escorting him to his office or platform, ensuring he has a fresh handkerchief, mints, and water, sitting on front row next to platform ready for any instructions throughout the service, helping him minister at altar, accompanying him after dismissal to his car.
- Meet once a month with co-pastor or pastor for a teaching and accountability. Sessions may be 1-3 hours long.
- Accompany pastor or co-pastor on ministry road trips.
- Be first responders to help in church building set-up/break-down, maintenance, clean-up, etc...