



# SUNDAY SERMON

## RECAP

6 July 2025

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YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9yNN-KYoC8>

### Sermon Notes

**Sermon Title:** The path to a greater level in God

Pastor: Murray Carver

**Scripture Reading:** Various

Read 1 Kings 18v30-39 (NKJV)

#### 1. Repairing Gods Altar

The first step Elijah took in offering the sacrifice and calling on God's name was to prepare the altar of the Lord.

We should all have an ALTAR OF DEVOTION in our life. Not a physical altar, but a place of meeting with God, In Matt 6 Jesus refers to your prayer closet. That is your altar.

Matt 6v6

"But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

A perfect example is how Jesus went about it. In Luke 5v16 we read, "So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed."

The place of our devotion is not just about prayer; it's the place of our personal investment in our relationship with God and He with us. This can include prayer, worship, reading the word, sitting quietly in His presence and being still.

We need to have an altar of devotion and be disciplined and regular in coming to it.

Dan 6v10

"Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days."

#### 2. The sacrifice

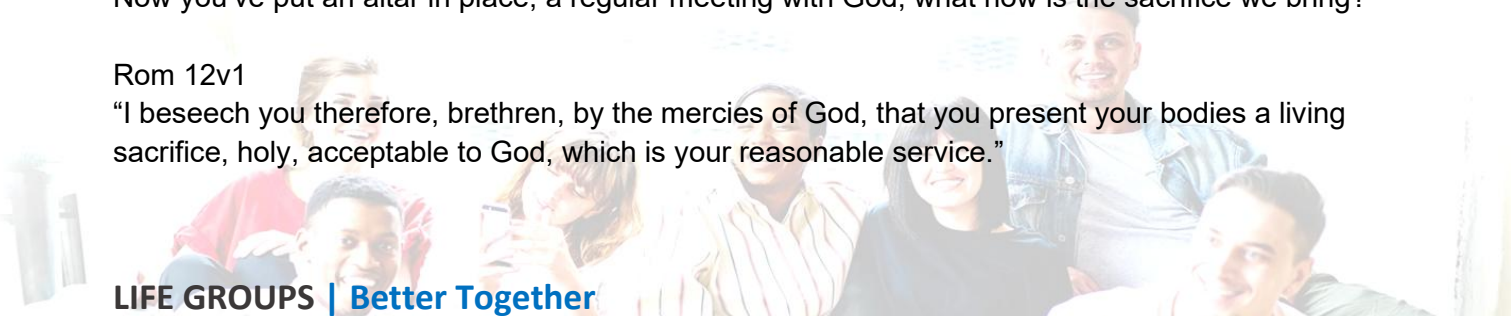
Now you've put an altar in place, a regular meeting with God, what now is the sacrifice we bring?

Rom 12v1

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."

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The first aspect of our sacrifice is that we meet with God one on One first, He wants to fellowship with you first. Be slow to listen to other people's sermons or worship music. Just meet with God and stay focused on Him.

Sometimes we need to pray, "Lord I bring my thoughts into subjection to you, in Jesus Name."

2 Cor 10v4-5

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ."

Psalms 57v7-8 (KJV)

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise. Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

This Psalm was written by David while he was in a cave running from Saul. His focus was not on his adversity; it was on God. He was not in denial of his circumstances; he chose to fix his eyes on God in the midst of his circumstances.

Isaiah 26v3

"You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed upon You, because He trusts in You."

2 Tim 2v4

"No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier."

1 Peter 1v13

Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ

Let's look at another example of proper focus out of Paul's life. Paul was in a shipwreck where through his intercession everyone survived though the ship was destroyed. They had all come ashore on the isle of Malta and had made a fire. Paul was assisting in gathering wood for the fire when a snake bit him. But he shook the snake into the fire.

This happened after a victory. After being saved from a shipwreck.

Has a viper attached itself to you (not a physical snake but an attack of the enemy)? If so shake it off into the fire of God, don't let its poison seep into your veins.

Cry like David, my heart is fixed Oh God, fixed on you!

Nehemiah's eyes were also fixed on God and on the work God had given him to do. When his enemies tried to distract him, to go and meet with them, he refused.



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### 3. Be Saturated in God's word

A few weeks ago Pastor John shared a fantastic word on "RELEASING THE POWER OF GODS WORD"

Now the Word is linked to water in the bible, with a cleansing dynamic:

Eph 5v26

"That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, speaking of the church."

John 15v3:

"You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. – Jesus speaking to His disciples."

In our founding scripture reference we see Elijah saturating the sacrifice with water. We as living sacrifices should be saturated with the Word.

It's fascinating that when the fire fell it acted as an accelerant..

God's word is a spiritual accelerant in our lives. It brings ENCOURAGEMENT, STRENGTH, CONVICTION and a DEEP AND ABIDING FAITH.

### 4. Let your fire fall

When Elijah prayed God answered with His fire:

Just as this water and sacrifice upon Gods altar was ignited and burned so will we burn with the fire of the Holy Spirit when He falls on us.

We have a role to play:

- We need to prepare the altar
- We need to be disciplined in going to the altar
- We need to focus on the Lord.
- We need to saturate our lives with His Word.

If we have done these things we can expect His fire to fall on us, leading us into a deeper walk with Him. Just like the disciples who were waiting expectantly at Pentecost, praying in one accord, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

We should all come to church full and overflowing, after seeking God daily, having been washed by His Word throughout the week, and fired up by the Holy Spirit.



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