

THE ULTIMATE SHOWDOWN

1 Kings 18:17–46

November 16, 2025 | Pastor Keith Krell



SERMON APPLICATION REVIEW

How did you model fearing the Lord (18:3, 12)?

How did you represent the Lord at work (18:3–16)?

When did you find courage in the Lord of Armies (18:15)?

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 18:17–46; Joshua 24:15; Revelation 3:15; Matthew 6:7–8; 7:7–10;

James 5:17–18; John 12:24–26; Deuteronomy 13:12–15

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What “modern idols” (success, security, relationships, comfort, approval) most compete with your heart’s loyalty to God (18:17–19)? What would it look like to tear down those idols and give God your whole heart again? How does the gospel free you from the need to find identity in these idols?
2. Where might God be calling you to speak or act faithfully for Him, even when it’s unpopular (18:18, 21)? Where do you find yourself “wavering” between God’s ways and the world’s values? What pressures or fears feed that hesitation? What would wholehearted devotion look like in your current season of life (at work, in family, or in private habits)? How does seeing Jesus’ loyalty to His Father strengthen your own?
3. Why are passion and sincerity in worship not enough without truth (18:22–29)? In what ways might your own worship (music, service, prayer) sometimes rely more on emotion or routine than a genuine response to God’s Word? How can you ensure your zeal is grounded in truth and love? How can CBC call our culture to God with both grace and truth (John 1:14)?
4. When has God brought you into a situation where only His power could make a difference (18:30–35)? What did you learn about His faithfulness? Where are you tempted to rely on your own effort, rather than resting in His presence and truth? What does Elijah’s response in 18:40 teach you about the seriousness of idolatry and compromise? What “false prophets” or influences do you need to remove from your life today?
5. When have you had to keep praying despite silence or delay (18:42–44)? What did God teach you in that waiting? What would it look like to pray with both humility and bold expectation? How can your community help you persevere in prayer for revival, for loved ones, or for your own heart?

RECOMMENDED READING

Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters* (Penguin, 2011)

Elyse Fitzpatrick, *Idols of the Heart: Learning to Long for God Alone* (P&R, 2016)

J. Gary Millar, *Calling on the Name of the Lord: A Biblical Theology of Prayer* (IVP, 2016)

Daniel Henderson, *Transforming Prayer: How Everything Changes When You Seek God’s Face* (Bethany House, 2011)