

## WHEN EVERYTHING GOES YOUR WAY

1 KINGS 17// PASTOR TODD DUGARD  
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***When everything is going my way, I will exalt the LORD because he loves and disciplines (17:1), he protects and provides (17:2-16), and he hears and heals (17:17-24).***

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

***In 1 Kings 17 we meet a prophet named, Elijah, who has an extraordinary ministry among the people of his day. Through 1 Kings 18 and 19 we see him reach the heights of success and the lows of depression that follows. As you seek to apply these passages to your life, you can wonder how things fell apart for Elijah after such success and what helped him recover. Make sure you read these chapters!***

1. When have you had the sense that everything was going your way? What experiences from 1 Kings 17 would have led Elijah to conclude his ministry was going very well?

***The people who worshipped Ba'al (a Phoenician god) believed he controlled the rainstorms that nourished their crops. God's people had been tempted to worship Ba'al presumably to help their crops succeed. Yet, God had pledged to provide for Israel if they would worship him exclusively (Read Deuteronomy 11:13-17). As a form of discipline, God stopped the rain (1 Kings 17:1). This sets up the ensuing events of chapters 18 and 19.***

2. Can people exalt God without obeying him? Why does our obedience matter to God?
3. Do you associate spiritual success with good times and pleasing outcomes in your life? How do moments of discipline fit into your concept of God's love? How does Hebrews 12:7-11 teach Christians to think about discipline?
4. This chapter is full of miraculous events (1 Kings 17:5, 16, 22). They demonstrate the Lord's power and show Elijah's faithfulness to trust God to provide for his needs. God hears, helps and heals even while he held back the rain. What has God done to help or heal you even while some good things are held back? What does this tell you about his love for you and others?