



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 6: Proven

Suggested Week of Use: July 10, 2022

Core Passage: 1 Kings 18:25-39

News Story Summary

This year, a 525-word prayer by President Franklin Roosevelt will be permanently inscribed on a monument at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. This will be the culmination of an 11-year effort to raise funds for the project. Roosevelt offered the prayer in a radio address on June 6, 1944, D-Day, as the Allies were storming the Normandy beaches in an effort to free Europe from the Nazis. Roosevelt's prayer was heard by an estimated 100 million people around the world and called for a "spiritual mobilization" of the American people: "I ask that our people devote themselves into a continuance of prayer . . . O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade." Even though the announcement came on a Tuesday, Americans filled churches and synagogues for special services upon hearing about the invasion.

For more about this story, search "D-Day 78 years later: How FDR's powerful prayer united Americans."

Focus Attention

IN ADVANCE, print a copy of Franklin Roosevelt's D-Day prayer from a source like fdrlibrary.org/d-day. To replace **FOCUS ATTENTION**, ask learners what was special about June 6 in history. Remind them that it was the 78th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Nazi-occupied Europe. Share information from the news article about President Roosevelt's prayer on that day and read the prayer to them. Note that a monument on which the prayer will be permanently inscribed will be added to the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C., later this year. Say: *In 1944, America and its allies faced a significant challenge against a formidable foe. In today's lesson, we'll see how Elijah faced an incredible challenge of his own thousands of years ago.* Encourage group members to examine Elijah's example of faith and how it led people to acknowledge and worship God.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, remind learners of the challenges faced by the Allies on D-Day and by Elijah on Mount Carmel. Ask: *What challenges do we face today where we need to trust in God? How can you demonstrate your faith in God in your own situations?* Close with prayer, asking God to help group members trust Him and to remember that He is alone is worthy of worship.