

FAITH LEADERSHIP IN A POLARIZED ERA

What can we learn from the bible to help us in these times?

Scripture Reference: 1 Kings 19

Rest and wellbeing matters.

It is hard to hear from God, minister to people, or lead people if you are exhausted. You must make time to engage practices that keep you anchored to love and liberation. Take time for rest, stillness, joy, connection, and more. Join with other faith leaders to build a community of practice so you have a space to be witnessed and held.

Remember that we are called to be more than just witnesses.

"Wherever the early Christians entered a town the power structure got disturbed and immediately sought to convict them for being 'disturbers of the peace' and 'outside agitators.' But they went on with the conviction that they were a 'colony of heaven' and had to obey God rather than man. They were small in number but big in commitment. They were too God-intoxicated to be 'astronomically intimidated.' They brought an end to such ancient evils as infanticide and gladiatorial contest. Things are different now. The contemporary Church is so often a weak, ineffectual voice with an uncertain sound. It is so often the archsupporter of the status quo. Far from being disturbed by the presence of the Church, the power structure of the average community is consoled by the Church's silent and often vocal sanction of things as they are." – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr in the Letter from Birmingham Jail.



ALIGN YOUR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THIS MOMENT



Identify & Activate New Leaders

Be intentional about helping people to uncover their gifts and the ways their gifts may be used for justice.



Bring the isolated into community.

Be present in the community – beyond your congregation. Invite those on the margins into community.



Speak hope to those on the front lines.

Those risking their lives to fight for our democracy need spiritual support, hope and love.

Questions to ask yourself

- Where am I already showing up and how might I leverage those spaces to meet the needs of this moment?
- Who is my support system? Who is in my community of practice?
- Who are the untapped leaders in my congregation or community?
- Who in my community is being targeted/impacted the most? How might we help create community with them?

