



GUIA DE ESTUDO

Seeing God's hand in your personal story

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Stories, waiting, and the Holy Spirit's freedom

This prayerful moment centers on a simple but powerful conviction: God is at work in the stories of His people, and He is not limited by our expectations. Elijah Stanley keeps asking the Holy Spirit to move “however” and “whichever way” He wants, even recalling that God once moved “with fire.” The sermon’s heartbeat is community: mothers, fathers, uncles, aunties, grandmothers, sons and daughters, nephews and nieces, volunteers, and online visitors all being held together by God’s presence, grace, and care in the waiting seasons of life.



We cannot put the holy spirit in a box.

— Elijah Stanley on the Spirit's freedom

God already knows where we are

Elijah Stanley thanks God for being present before the people even arrived, declaring that God had already been there in the room. He emphasizes surrender and obedience, asking the Holy Spirit to continue moving around the place and in each heart because only God has authority to do that work. This is not a distant God; it is a God who is patient, attentive, and personal, one who keeps people in mind and does not forget them.

PARA REFLEXÃO

Discuss the prayer's vision of community

How does the preacher's prayer show that worship is something the whole community shares, not just a solo act? What does it mean that God was already present before anyone arrived? How does that shape the way you think about church gatherings and online participation?



Stories matter. Yes. They do because it's your story in each one of our lives.

— A line about worship and testimony

REFLEXÃO

Your story is not small

The preacher insists that stories matter because God is writing His work through real lives. Reflect on your own story: the waiting, the prayers, the grief, the rescue, and the places where God has been patient with you. Where have you been tempted to treat your story as ordinary when God may be using it to encourage someone else?

APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA

Make room for testimony in community

Follow the preacher's emphasis on shared ministry by naming the people who have carried faith with you: mothers, fathers, uncles, aunties, grandmothers, sons, daughters, nephews, and nieces. In a group setting, take time to tell one concrete story of how God met you in a hard season, whether through rescue from a “ditch,” a long prayer for a family

member, or encouragement from a volunteer, a worship leader, or someone ministering “upstairs” or “down here.”

Waiting is not wasted

A major thread in the prayer is patience in the waiting seasons. Elijah Stanley gives thanks that God has not given up on him and says, because God rescued him, he knows God is not done with the people in the room either. This language points to grace in delay: waiting is not proof of absence, but often the place where God is shaping obedience, stirring hearts, and preparing sons, daughters, nephews, and nieces for movement into action.



Only God can stir the hearts of men and women to move into action, into obedience.

— Praying for divine initiative

PARA REFLEXÃO

Waiting, obedience, and hope

Where in your life are you waiting for God to move in a son, daughter, nephew, niece, brother, or sister? What does it look like to trust that only God can stir hearts? How can the community of believers help you keep praying without becoming cynical or discouraged?

REFLEXÃO

God is not done with you

The preacher repeatedly says that God is not finished with him or with the congregation. Sit with that truth. Where do you need to hear that God is not done with you yet? How might grief, loss, or a long season of unanswered prayer have tempted you to believe otherwise?

APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA

Intercede specifically for your people

Pray as Elijah Stanley prayed: for mothers and fathers, uncles and aunties, grandmothers, sons and daughters, nephews and nieces. Name them specifically and ask God to move them into obedience. If you are part of a church team or volunteer group, recognize that your service matters because, as the preacher said, God is leading conversations and using people for His glory.

Forgiveness, rescue, and purification

The prayer thanks God for rescuing the speaker from “the ditch” he was in and for continuing to purify and cleanse him. Though the sermon is brief, this language connects suffering, forgiveness, and grace: God does not merely observe brokenness; He enters it, rescues people from it, and keeps cleansing them. The preacher’s gratitude is personal and communal, reminding listeners that the same mercy that reached him is available to everyone in the room.

PARA REFLEXÃO

From ditch to deliverance

What does the image of being rescued from “the ditch” suggest about the way God handles human brokenness? How does the preacher’s gratitude challenge pride or self-reliance? In what ways might forgiveness and cleansing be part of your own story of suffering?

APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA

Speak gratitude in the middle of pain

Like the preacher, thank God specifically for rescuing you, for not giving up on you, and for continuing to work in you. If you are grieving or carrying loss, bring that pain into prayer instead of isolating it. Let community hold your story, and allow others to hear how God has been present even in the hard places.



May we not take lightly the call that you have placed in each one of our lives.

— A call not to minimize vocation

REFLEXÃO

Your call matters in the body

The preacher thanks God for the volunteers and for everyone ministering to each other in every place they find themselves. Reflect on how God may be calling you to participate in someone else's healing, encouragement, or worship. Where are you tempted to minimize the significance of your role?

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Prayer for community, healing, and surrender

Holy Spirit, have your way in our lives and in our community. Thank You for being present before we arrived, for hearing our prayers, and for not being done with us yet. Stir our hearts to obedience, especially in the waiting seasons, grief, and loss that we carry. Help us to value the stories You are writing in each life, to honor the call You have placed on us, and to trust You with our families, our churches, and our future. Purify and cleanse us, and lead us to worship You with full surrender. In Jesus' name, amen.