I. Introduction.

A. Share a favorite grand finale or exciting exit?

- B. Why do you think some spiritual giants die alone?
- C. Do you ask big spiritual petitions of God or God's leaders?

II. Scripture.

- A. Elijah's Miraculous Translation and Successor (2Ki. 2:1-15).
 - 1. 2Ki. 2:1-8-Title:

"¹And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. ²And Elijah said unto Elisha, 'Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel.' And Elisha said unto him, 'As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not *leave thee.' So, they went down to Bethel.* ³*And the sons of* the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, 'Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head today?' And he said, 'Yea, I know it; hold ve vour peace.' ⁴And Eliiah said unto him, 'Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho.' And he said, 'As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee.' So, they came to Jericho. ⁵And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, 'Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head today?' And he answered, 'Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace.' 6And Elijah said unto him, 'Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan.' And he said, 'As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee.' And they two went on. ⁷And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. ⁸And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground."

2. **2Ki. 2:9-11**—Title:

"⁹And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, 'Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee.' And Elisha said, 'I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.' ¹⁰And he said, 'Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so.' ¹¹And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven."

3. 2Ki. 2:12-14-Title:

"¹²And Elisha saw it, and he cried, 'My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof.' And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. ¹³He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; ¹⁴And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, 'Where is the LORD God of Elijah?' and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over."

4. 2Ki. 2:15-Title:

"¹⁵And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, 'The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha.' And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him."

- III. Application.
 - A. What does God letting Elijah and Elisha know of his departure tell you about God?
 - B. In your group, share some big spiritual things desperately needed in your life of the world?
 - C. Pray with someone for something big spiritually for which you should ask God's leaders and God?