Elijah hears God's Word

1 Kings 19:9-18

Discuss

- 1. Talk about a time when you realized you were wrong. How did you come to realize this?
- 2. As often happens with us, Elijah is confronted by something/someone OUTSIDE himself.

Recap

- 1. Elijah has been comforted and strengthened by the Angel of the LORD. Here at Sinai, he is <u>VISITED</u> by God himself.
- 2. Elijah is still BITTER towards God.

1 Kings 19:9–10

- 1. The Word of God finally comes to Elijah, and it is in the form of a QUESTION.
- 2. Why would God ask a question he already knows the answer to?
- 3. God is a <u>RELATIONAL</u> god. What good does that do for us?

1 Kings 19:9–10

- 4. What is the focus of Elijah's complaint?
- 5. How is Elijah right? How is Elijah wrong?
- 6. The title Elijah uses for God hints at God's POWER.

1 Kings 19:9–10

- 7. If Elijah is focused on <u>HIMSELF</u>, he only has <u>HIMSELF</u> to blame.
- 8. Have you heard people in your life talk like Elijah?

1 Kings 19:11–13a

- 1. Each of these natural wonders reminds the reader of previous <u>ACTS OF GOD</u>.
- a. Wind THE RED SEA
- b. Earthquake MOSES AT SINAI
- c. Fire ELIJAH AT MT. CARMEL

|1 Kings 19:11–13a

- 2. How is a whisper different from these natural wonders?
- 3. How do you think Elijah knew that God was in the whisper?
- 4. The Word is God's **USUAL** way of working.

1 Kings 19:11–13a

- 5. Is God still speaking today?
- 6. When would you prefer to work through dramatic power? When would you prefer a quiet word?

1 Kings 19:13b–18

- 1. Elijah's response is IDENTICAL to before.
- 2. Would you have expected Elijah to say something different this time?

1 Kings 19:13b–18

3. God's response to Elijah is to put him <u>BACK</u> TO <u>WORK</u>.

4. How would this be a help to Elijah?

1 Kings 19:13b–18

- 5. Why would God's command to anoint kings and another prophet be a comfort to Elijah?
- 6. What other words of grace do you see in God's response to Elijah?

Closing Discussion

1. Transformation in people today often follows this same pattern of TRANSFORMATIVE CONVERSATION.

Closing Discussion

- **L** LISTEN and withhold judgment.
- I Invite them to <u>IMAGINE</u> what they want from God.
- **V** VALIDATE their desire with God's Word.
- **E** ENGAGE beyond this one time.