

Series: The Weight of Truth, a study in 1 Kings

Sermon: Elijah and the Evil Queen Jezebel

Primary Text: 1 Kings 19

Discussion guide:

- Share a time in your life that was particularly exciting, what you might consider a “mountain top” experience. Could be spiritual or not.
- Have you ever experienced a low period after such a victory? Share
- Why do you think this happens?
- Recap the story of 1 Kings 18 and Elijah’s contest with the prophets of Baal.
 - Read 1 Kings 18:39 – why do you think the people reacted like this?
 - How do you think Elijah felt after this situation?
- Read 1 Kings 19:1-3
 - Why is Elijah afraid? Particularly after what he just experienced?
 - Why is fear something we experience after great victories sometimes?
- Read 1 Kings 19:4
 - Why do you think Elijah is in such despair?
 - Why do you think it was important for Elijah to get away by himself when feeling fear and despair?
 - See Luke 5:16, consider Jesus going to the wilderness in Matthew 4 and getting away from disciples at Gethsemane in Matthew 26.
 - Why did Jesus get away in these situations?
 - What is the difference between seeking solitude with the Lord and isolating yourself from other Christians?
- Read 1 Kings 19:4-8
 - Why do you think the angel wanted Elijah to rest and eat?
 - How does food and sleep affect our emotional, mental, and spiritual state? How could this affect our experience of fear and despair?
 - Why is it important to take care of ourselves? (see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- Read 1 Kings 19:9-10
 - Why is Elijah there?
 - Does he say anything that is not true?
- Read 1 Kings 19:11-12
 - Why does God send wind, earthquake, and fire before He “whispers”?
 - How does observing nature help us when we are feeling overwhelmed by despair and fear? (see Romans 1:20)
 - What is God reminding Elijah of?
- Read 1 Kings 19:13-14
 - Why do you think God asks the same question?
 - Elijah gives the same answer – his attitude is the thing that changed, why does this make the difference?
- Read the rest of the chapter
 - Why is it important that Elijah invest in his replacement?
 - How does such a calling help with struggles against fear and despair?