

Life on the Rocks **1 Kings 18:31-39**

Set up 1 Kings 18

- Elijah prophesied a drought and for 3 & 1/2 years there was a drought.
- Jezebel & Ahab had almost killed all of God's prophets
- Elijah goes to king Ahab and tells him to meet on Mt. Carmel for a showdown to see who worshiped the true God
- Elijah went and faced 450 prophets of Baal
- They had 2 bulls and cut it up for a sacrifice.
- Baal's prophets went first and danced and chanted for hours "from morning until noon"
- Elijah taunted them and said "shout louder" and "maybe your god is out using the bathroom"

This is where we find Elijah:

1 Kings 18:31-39 (NIV)

31 Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." 32 With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. 33 He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood." 34 "Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. 35 The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. 36 At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. 37 Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are

turning their hearts back again." 38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. 39 When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!"

Pray

Have you ever been at a place where you felt like you needed God to show up?

Michelle first year of marriage story

I remember one time when I really needed God to show up. It was right after Michelle and I got married. Now when we were dating Michelle and I rarely fought, our conversations usually consisted of how in love we were and how we were never going to be separated and blah blah blah. The we got hitched and got back from our honeymoon wherewell it was the honey moon! What everyone tries to tell you that you never listen too is that at some point early in marriage, reality hits. and it does! Mine and Michelle's first big fight was rough, and the weird thing is that it wasn't a fight....I could tell that she had something going on and that she was down, what I have recently realized is that women will cry for no reason. Like with guys you have to kill our dog or watch Pearl Harbor, but girls cry for no reason. Michelle was doing that and I was like..."Heyyy baby what's wrong? Michelle is probably like a lot of you she won't tell me what's wrong. This bothers me because I don't like to hold on to bad situation, I want to be happy all the time. That's why I drink enough coffee to kill a Rhinoceros. But Michelle just needed a little time and I would not give it to her. So I kept asking WHATS WRONG!!!!??? U until I got mad and Michelle also does this weird thing where when she is upset she goes to the bathroom?! Haha ldk. So we are in our bathroom and Michelle is crying in the corner and she wanted to get away from me so I said NOPE! And I closed the door and sat right in front of it and said "You're not leaving until you tell me what's wrong!" Then she just went crazy on me and started yelling and I was like ok gurrh....Go through the door. And in this moment and a few moments in marriage I remember thinking "God I just need you to show up!"

Main Idea:

What are you willing to GIVE UP for me to SHOW UP?

We find Elijah in a similar scenario right here. See when I first heard this portion of scripture I always envisioned it as this man of intense confidence in his God. Really what I have learned is that Elijah was a man of intense sacrifice.

Water

There is one part of this story that gets ignored a lot of the time.....It's the water. Most people want to focus on the confidence of Elijah and say that's why God showed up, and sure his faith in God was a large portion of fire coming down from Heaven, but the water usually gets overlooked.

Now I just told you that there had been a drought for 3 & 1/2 years. Now these days are not like ours. We have flowing water that runs from a sink. We even have water for our waste, we have more water than we know what to do with, but this time was much different. Since water is our main source of living in the human body, water was of high value. You did not go anywhere in the hot middle eastern sun without taking water with you. If you did, you would probably die. They also didn't have the same means of transportation as us. If they traveled it was most likely by foot up this mountain.

So for Elijah to tell his boys to pour their water on the sacrifice was like committing suicide.

To pour the water on the rocks was to put his "LIFE ON THE ROCKS"

So if you are like many of us and you need God to show up, I want you to not think about what you can get out of this message rather what you can GIVE out of this message

3 times we see Elijah pour Water on the rocks

3 Areas of life that we can give up for God to show up.

1. COST (Jar 1)

1 Kings 18:31-33 (NIV)

Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

SALVATION is FREE but DISCIPLESHIP will cost you everything.

Story of leaving my friends to follow Jesus

- Made fun of me
- When something wrong would happen they would call me

Eternal R.O.I.

Recently Michelle and I took some advice from some people that are wiser than us and started investing our Money. The one thing that they keep saying is find the best ROI (Return on Investment)

There is nothing on this planet that you could invest in and expect a bigger return on your investment than THE CHURCH.

Matthew 16 - The gates of Hell will not prevail against it.

If you expect more out of your life, then invest more in the Church.

- Join or lead a SG
- Get plugged into a Sunday team
- Sweep the floors if you have to but start somewhere

2. COMPASSION (Jar 2)

1 Kings 18:34 (NIV)

"Do it again," he said, and they did it again.

Culture produces CHAOS but Christ produces COMPASSION

This will get you a long funeral

- Patti
- The most compassionate woman I know.
- She had not title. She has no plaque.
- Yet people came from all over because they had experienced her compassion. It was cold and windy outside yet people stood tall for long funeral because of this compassionate Jesus loving woman.

Now don't get confused. To be compassionate doesn't mean there is a lack of boldness →

Story of David Wilkerson

- Nikki Cruz

- May May Gang

- Cut me into a 1000 Pieces

Culture can't satisfy. Compassion can.

- Culture says it's all about what you can buy or become

When we look through a feed that says feed the children then see a funny video.... Social media has messed up our compassion

3. CALLING (Jar 3)

The point of no return

1 Kings 18:34b-35 (NIV)

"Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

"What if I told you that you could know that Heaven is a bigger place because you said YES to God?!"

Story of Haley Chambers mission trip >>>

A Call is a step of faith

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

JESUS DIDN'T PUT MOSES IN THIS GENERATION- HE PUT YOU!

compassion Now this is the last bucket the final outpouring. This is the point of no return the one that will cost you every ounce of your being. This is a calling

What if I told you that you could walk into eternity one day and shake hands and look in the eyes of people who were there because you gave up your whole life to walk in your calling?

- Let me define for you what a calling is:

A calling is an overwhelming desire to Honor God and make Him known where you are because you are overwhelmed by His love.

A calling is not a career it is a passion to make an eternal difference because you realize that Jesus made an eternal difference in you.

4. COMMUNION (Jar 4)

(Jesus)

"What if I told you that God put His life on the rock for you."

- He has put His life on the rock "the Church"
- He spilt His blood, His life on a rock called Calvary

Jesus gave up so you could go up

Ender

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Once you really grasp what Jesus gave up then we will give up everything for His church

Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

A calling is Jesus putting ALL of His life on a ROCK - and that rock is you!

- Alter call
- Reflection Cards

Life on the Rocks
1 Kings 18:31-39

What are you willing to _____ for me to _____?

1. _____ (Jar 1)

_____ is _____ but _____ will cost you everything.

2. _____ (Jar 2)

Culture produces _____ but Christ produces

3. _____ (Jar 3)

A calling is an overwhelming desire to Honor God and make Him known where you are because you are overwhelmed by His love.

4. _____ (Jar 4)

A calling is Jesus putting _____ of His life on a _____ - and that rock is you!