

Elijah Series
1 Kings 19:1-8
Discussion Guide

Pray

Apart from God, we can do nothing. Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion. Throughout your time together, continue asking God for help.

Read Scripture

Read 1 Kings 19 together with special attention to 19:1-8.

Bible Study: The HEAR Method

The bulk of your time will be spent discussing God's Word together. HEAR is an inductive Bible study method that looks closely at what the Bible says to discover what it means so that we can faithfully apply it to our lives.

HEAR stands for:

- **Highlight:** read and observe everything in the passage carefully.
- **Examine:** based on your observations, discover what the passage means in its context.
- **Apply:** determine how the meaning of the passage applies to your life.
- **Respond in prayer:** pray God's Word back to Him.

Remember:

- Walk through the Bible study together using the HEAR method and talk about what stuck out most to you in the passage.
- Make sure you move discussion to the application section of your study.
- Affections, beliefs, and practices: Make sure to apply the passage to all your life.

Pray

- Take time to pray for one another and ask for His grace to apply His Word to our daily lives.

1 Kings 19:1-8 (ESV)

"Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' ³Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.' ⁵And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, 'Arise and eat.' ⁶And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷And the angel of the LORD came again a second time and touched him and said, 'Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you.' ⁸And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God."

Open: Can you tell the group about a “mountain top” experience you had with the Lord?

Study:

1. When you consider God’s display of power and authority as seen in 1 Kings 18, what do you think Elijah’s expectation was as he entered Jezreel with King Ahab? Was this a reasonable expectation? Why or why not?
2. What does Jezebel’s response to Elijah display about the blinding effects of sin? Are you surprised by her response upon hearing of the events that took place on Mount Carmel? Why or why not?
3. King Ahab, Jezebel, and the people of Israel remained hardened to the Lord even after seeing/hearing about the absolute power and authority of God with their own eyes. What does this say in general about humanity’s fallen heart? What does this say about the power of the Gospel to save anyone?
4. In 19:1-8, a despairing Elijah flees at the threat of Jezebel, asking the Lord to take his life, “for I am no better than my fathers” (19:4). What do you think is prompting Elijah’s seemingly bizarre turn of emotions in this story? What larger message may Jezebel’s threat have represented?
5. In this passage we see yet again God’s miraculous provision for Elijah, this time through an angel. What does this say about God’s active care and pursuit of His people?

Apply:

- 5) Have you ever had moments like Elijah, where you just wanted to die? What kept you going? Are there ways we can pray for you?
- 6) How does God’s care of Elijah encourage you personally?
- 7) When you are tempted to isolate yourself in your despair, as Elijah did, how can we come alongside you to care?

PRAY:

- Take time thank God that He is faithful go after his people amid their despair.
- Ask God for faith to continue to trust Him.
- Ask God to minister to those who are walking through a time of despair/depression.
- Take time to pray for one another.

NOTE: have taken some questions for this discussion guide from Gavin Ortland’s *Knowing the Bible: 1-2 Kings, A 12-Week Study*.