



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

1 Kings 19:9-13 ESV

⁹ There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰ He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” ¹¹ And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD.” And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹² And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³ And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

Opening Thoughts:

- God never asks a question seeking information, He always asks seeking revelation.
- Gen. 3:9: God’s first question was to Adam, “Where are you?”
- Exodus 4:2: God asked Moses, “What is that in your hand?”
- Joshua 7:10: God asked Joshua, “Why have you fallen on your face?”
- 1 Kings 19:9 and 13: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”
- Why do you think God asked each of these questions? Was it because He didn’t know the answer? Why do you think God asked Elijah the same question twice?

Key Takeaway: Wait for His whisper!

- Where do you find yourself when things don’t go according to plan?
- When God asks as second time it is not because He was impressed with your first answer. He not only had revelation for Elijah, He also wanted to do a few things in his life.

1) God Came to Refresh His Prophet (verse 9a)

- We find the prophet in a cave of disappointment and discouragement.
- As you skim over the previous two chapters in 1 Kings, what are some of the things in Elijah’s life that had not gone according to plan? What are some things that had offended Elijah, causing him to be angry, hurt, disappointed, and depressed?

- What about your story in 2020? What kinds of things didn't go according to plan? If you searched your heart, are you also in a cave of offense?
- God didn't send him into this cave. He is in a self-imposed wilderness.
- Psalm 46:10: "Be still and know that I am God." Note the graphic below and reflect on how this verse can refresh you when you find yourself in a cave.

2) God Came to Rebuke His Prophet (verses 11-12)

- Read 1 Kings 19:10. Elijah tries to explain his offense to the Lord.
- Read James 5:17-18. The frustration of his previous season had caused him to remain in the past. The drought was over, but Elijah ran back to the desert. Elijah failed to see what going was doing in the present. How does this exemplify a famine mentality?
- James reminds us that Elijah is a man just like us. Can you think of a time in 2020 when you became offended at the things that didn't go according to plan and responded similar to Elijah? Offended at your nation? Offended at a political party? Offended at the pandemic? Offended at your circumstances.
- Read 1 Kings 19:11-13, The Lord said he was coming, but Elijah didn't find him in way he expected, not in the earthquake, not in the wind, not in the fire. Elijah was looking for God in the supernatural, demonstrative, the one miracle that would change everything. Where was God? In the whisper.
- How can you position yourself to hear the whisper of God, even in the chaos and the turmoil? Waiting and listening is a discipline, is this an area you need to grow in? Is there someone in your life that you can encourage to find God in the whisper?

3) God Reassures His Prophet

- Compare Elijah's statement in verse 10, with God's whisper in verse 18. It seemed Elijah wanted to talk more than he wanted to listen. How were God's words reassuring to Elijah?
- Take some time to reflect on all that God has spoken to you throughout the year of 2020. Read over your journals, review messages preached on Sundays, ask Him to remind you of His words to you. Did God whisper something in 2020 to reassure you, but you have totally forgotten all about what He said?

4) God Came to Reassign His Prophet

- Read 1 Kings 19:15-17. Elijah told God he was all alone, he wanted to die, he was done! But God wasn't done with Elijah. Elijah wanted to resign, God wanted to reassign Elijah to anoint a new generation, with double the anointing of the last generation.
- How has the whisper of God changed your life? Where are the Elijah's that will get in the secret place and hear the whisper of God?

Reflection and Application:

- **Key Takeaway:** Wait for His whisper!
- Are you in a cave of disappointment, depression, disconnection, or discouragement?
- Have you been running, chased down, threatened?

- Are you hanging on a cliff, waiting for the supernatural?
- The Lord doesn't shout His secrets. Where do you need to be refreshed, rebuked, reassured, reassigned? This revelation is found in His whisper.
- There is a generation that needs a move of God, a nation that needs an awakening. Revival is our revenge. How can you take ground in 2021? Revival is our revenge. Personal revival, birthed in the secret place, hearing the whisper of God. Revival of the church. A revival in our nation!

