Title: “Critically Crucial”
Text: 1 Kings 19:1-19

Target: The only way in your life that you will never face criticism according to the parody of Aristotle is to: To do nothing, say nothing, and be nothing. This is not an option considering you were called unto a life of purpose. So, how do we deal with the criticism in our head without having catastrophe in our heart?

I. BROOM TREE BLUES: (Vs. 1-7)

- Deflates Courage: “Then he was afraid” (vs. 3)
- Damages Conviction: “ran for his life” (vs. 3)
- Debilitates Calling: “left his servant” (vs. 3)
- Derails Confidence: “it is enough” (vs. 4)
- Dissuades Continuation: “take away” (vs. 4)

*RECEIVE ENCOURAGEMENT: (Vs. 7) “EAT” UP God places messengers in your life to sustain you for a journey greater than you.

II. CAVE CAUTIONS: (Vs. 8-14)

- Evaluate the Timing: “forty days and forty nights” (vs. 8)
- Escape the Temptation: “lodged in it” (vs. 9)
- Examine the Testimony: “I am jealous for the Lord” (vs. 10)
- Establish the Truth: “I only, am left” (vs. 10)

*REGARD ENRICHMENT: (Vs. 11) “STAND” UP God whispers to call you close in order to silence the shouts.

III. ROAD RULES: (Vs. 15-19)

- Retrace your Steps: “Go, return on your way” (vs. 15)
- Return to your Service: anoint Hazael, Jehu, Elisha (vs. 15-16)
- Rely on His Strength: “put to death” (vs. 17)
- Rest in the Struggle: “seven thousand in Israel” (vs. 18)

*REMEMBER EMPOWERMENT: (Vs. 15) “GO” UP God goes before you to build in you a belief bigger than your burden.

Take Away: “Accept both compliments and criticism graciously, knowing that it takes both the sun and rain for a flower to grow” - Anonymous