

Community Group Discussion Questions

"A Chosen Voice" 1 Kings 19:9-13 Jan 5th, 2019

Getting Started

There is an automatic assumption that God doesn't speak anymore and has chosen to be silent at the completion of the Holy Scriptures. Though the Scriptures are complete and there is no new revelation beyond what's contained in the 66 books of the Bible, God is still speaking - making known what has already been known in the past - fresh and new today, by applying it to us individually.

How do you usually feel when someone says, "The Lord told me to _____"?

Do you easily believe them, or do you wonder how they know it is God telling them something?

How do you know when God is speaking to you?

The Goal of this Series is Fourfold:

- Realize THAT God speaks
- Recognize HOW God Speaks
- Receive WHAT God Speaks
- Respond TO what God Speaks

Note: To understand this story, you need to read what leads up to it in the previous chapter: 1 Kings 18:17 - 19:8.

Teaching Principles:

God Speaks Personally: “And behold, the word of the Lord **came to Him.**”
1 Kings 19:9

Elijah was an Old Testament prophet who was close to God. Once we have the indwelling Holy Spirit, it seems as if our ears are tuned to a frequency where God can speak right into our heart. If we humbly ask God to speak to us, we will hear His voice guiding and encouraging us. **As you have read the story leading up to this one, why do you think the Lord spoke to Elijah and asked him what he was doing in the cave?**

God Speaks Practically: And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord.” And behold, **the Lord passed** by...1 Kings 19:10-11
Elijah is disillusioned and disheartened. He feels like he’s the only one left and that evil will win. Amazingly, just after seeing God do a miracle (1 Kings 18:38), Elijah is acting like God is helpless and has no power! When God ‘passed by’ it was the same experience that Moses had with God. Elijah was allowed to catch a glimpse of God’s majesty and holiness!
When you are doubtful, how does God show Himself to you to remind you that He is holy and majestic?

God Speaks Purposefully: 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. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was **not** in the fire. 1 Kings 19:11–12

This is a brilliant illustration that God puts in front of Elijah. While Elijah is doubting God’s power, God shows him raw power of destructive wind, earthquake, and fire. If Elijah thinks the evil queen Jezebel is powerful, he needs to be reminded that God is much more so.

When you are doubtful, how does God show Himself to you to remind you that He is all-powerful?

God Speaks Precisely: 1 Kings 19:12: And after the fire the sound of a low **whisper**.

After God gets Elijah's attention with a personal revelation and a demonstration of raw power, God then leans in and whispers to Elijah in a very personal way. **Share with us about a time when you knew God was speaking very precisely to you.**

God Speaks Persistently: 1 Kings 19:13: And behold, there **came** a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

This is the second time God has asked this question of Elijah. Interestingly, Elijah gives the exact same answer both times, so we're not necessarily sure that he understood what God was trying to teach him. **Share with us about a time when God had to keep persistently telling you the same thing over and over before you finally listened.**

Take Away: Would you be willing to pray these seven words daily? **"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:9)**

21 Days of Prayer and Fasting: January 7-27, 2019

1. **Set Aside:** Make a decision on what to set aside for 21 days.
2. **Set your Attention:** Channel cravings toward God.
3. **Set an Appointment:** Commit to spending time in God's Word daily
4. **Set an Agenda:** Download or print Bible reading plan:
5. **Set an Aspiration:** Write on the prayer wall or rope what you would desire for God to say to you!