

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



### STORIES YOU SHOULD KNOW

APRIL FARMER

OCTOBER 22, 2023

If you would like to watch the message, visit [rpc.me/messages](https://rpc.me/messages).

### ICEBREAKER

- What is something you are grateful for?

### READ

1 Kings 16:30-33 and 1 Kings 17:1

### QUESTIONS

- How do verses 30-33 describe King Ahab and what he did? (*Ahab did more evil than any of the Kings before him. He married Jezebel and began to serve and worship Baal, He did more to arouse the anger of God than all the kings of Israel before him.*)
- How did King Ahab view his sin? (*He considered his sin to be a trivial matter*)
- Who was the prophet during the time of King Ahab? (*Elijah*) What did the prophet announce about the land? (*There would be a drought for the next few years*)

### READ

1 Kings 19:1-4

### QUESTIONS

- Elijah confronts Ahab and the 450 prophets of Baal and witnesses the mighty power of God who wins the battle and destroys all the pagan prophets. But after witnessing this miraculous confrontation Jezebel sends Elijah a message. How does Elijah respond? (Elijah was afraid and ran for his life into the desert)
- Why was Jezebel's threat so pivotal for Elijah that he ran for his life? (The threat was unexpected and even after this miraculous confrontation against the prophets of Baal, Jezebel is still Queen. She had not surrendered which meant the situation was not over. Her threat led Elijah to fear.)
- In verse 3 Elijah drops off his servant and goes into isolation. April says, "Fear leads to retreat, separation and isolation." Often we leave the support of friends, family, small group, God, etc. and withdraw into isolation instead of getting our strength from God and those who love us. Does this ring true for your life? What practice could you implement to stay in the presence of the Lord?

## READ

1 Kings 19:5-9

## QUESTION

- God's response to Elijah's "I have had enough, Lord. Take my life..." is rest and sustenance. Instead of a pep talk God expresses care and concern and provides for his basic needs. In what ways does this passage encourage you?

## READ

1 Kings 19:9-15

## QUESTIONS

- How did God reveal himself to Elijah? (In a gentle whisper)
- God asks, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" Elijah repeats twice with the same answer. Why did God ask Elijah this question? (God already knew Elijah's response and was allowing Elijah to survey his heart to help him get out of this slump. Elijah did not want to let go of his pity party and wanted to hold on to his justification for not moving forward.)
- From Elijah's story, what two actions can we apply to our own lives when we find ourselves in a cave and feel like giving up? (1. Get up and eat, and 2. Go into God's presence)
- What part of Elijah's story was most impactful for you?

**CLOSE IN PRAYER:** How can the group pray for you now and in the days ahead?

**LEADERS:** It is Concert Season and because our WE Christmas concert received such incredible feedback we are excited to host it this year on all three of our campuses!! It's a great family event but it sells out fast so grab your tickets asap at [rpc.me/events](https://rpc.me/events) or on the RPC|WE App.