

Sermon series: Strange Encounters: Meeting God in the Old Testament
Text: 1 Kings 19:1-18
Delivered: December 5th, 2020

The Whisperer

Big Idea: When we have had enough, God is still enough.

What do we have in common with Elijah?

1. Life can weigh us _____ and leave us _____. (1 Kings 19:1-4)
 - a. _____ Expectations.
 - b. The _____ of Life.
 - c. _____.

How does God respond to us in our discouragement?

2. In discouragement, God is still _____ us. (1 Kings 19:5-10)
 - a. God draws _____ to us.
 - b. God draws us _____.

"I experienced a long season of depression in 2015. I remember sitting in a diner with a close friend, sharing my inability to shake it. I was half expecting him to distance himself and give me some well-meaning encouragement that would end our meeting. Instead he leaned in and listened. He asked probing questions. He demonstrated love. It was one of those moments where it was safe to fall apart with another person." -John Starke.

3. In discouragement, God is still _____ and _____. (1 Kings 19:11-14)

"The little moments of life are profoundly important precisely because they are the little moments that we live in and that form us. This is where I think "Big Drama Christianity" gets us into trouble. It can cause us to devalue the significance of the little moments of life and the "small-change" grace that meets us there." -Paul Tripp

4. In discouragement, God still has a _____. (1 Kings 19:15-18)

Takeaway: Let the _____, not _____, shape your view of God.

- a. God is still with me.
- b. God is still for me.
- c. God's plans are still good.

"Behind a frowning providence, He hides a smiling face."

- What is an example of a time in your life when you felt like throwing up your hands and saying, “I’ve had enough?” Was God still enough for you in the midst of that? How?
- What are some things that can cause you to become easily discouraged?
 - What are some unmet expectations in your life that discourage you?
 - Where does the repetition of life leave you feeling discouraged?
 - Where does failure or the fear of failing discourage you?
- What are some things that you have found helpful for yourself when you are in the midst of discouragement? Things that can help take your mind off of it? Ways that you are able to unburden yourself?
- Do you have a favorite Psalm or part of the Bible to turn to when you are facing discouragement? Why do you find that to be helpful?
- When we are discouraged why is it important for us to know and believe that God is still at work and that he still has a plan?
- What do you find especially hard to believe about God when you are going through discouragement? How can the truth of the gospel help you in these moments?
- Take a moment to listen to all of “God Moves in a Mysterious Way” (Jeremy Riddle has a good updated version). What lyrics stick out to you and connect with you the most?