

1 Kings 19

God's Plan



Read 1 Kings 19:1-8

1. Why does Elijah feel so discouraged (v5)? How does this relate to the events of the previous chapter?
2. Have there been times when you have been discouraged by similar issues to those Elijah faced? How did you react?
3. Christians sometimes feel that they should be positive and 'victorious' all the time. How does discouragement, and even depression, fit into Christian experience?
4. How does God treat the discouraged prophet? What can we learn from this passage about how to respond to darkness in our own lives, or for other people? (Are there other important biblical principles to take into account?)

Read 1 Kings 19:9-18

5. What is the significance of Mount Horeb? (Ex 3:1; Dt 1:6) Why would Elijah be sent there?
6. What did Elijah learn about God and the situation of Israel? How did that address his fear and despair?
7. What are the parallels in the lives of Moses and Elijah?
(See also Ex 14:21-22 and 2Ki 2:8-14)
8. How are Moses and Elijah like Jesus? How are they different?
(You might look at 1 Kings 17:14 cf John 6:1-15; 1 Kings 17:22 cf Lk 7:11-15; Matt 5:1; Heb 3:3,5-6)

Read 1 Kings 19:19-21

9. What did it mean for Elijah to throw his cloak over Elisha? (See 2 Kings 2:8,14) How do you think Elisha may have felt when Elijah did this?
10. What was it going to cost Elisha to work with Elijah?
11. How is Elijah an example of following the Lord? Does following the Lord mean leaving our "oxen" as well as family?
12. Are there aspects of the passages that are puzzling or confusing? What will you do, as a group, to understand those elements better?
13. What does this passage show about:
 - God
 - God's plan
 - Living for him.
14. As a group, discuss how you can respond to the insights about at least one of these topics.