

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Describe a time when you have felt overwhelmed, self-pity, or exhausted
2. Have you ever been zealous for the Lord and still experienced hardships? How did that make you feel?
3. The story in I Kings 19 reminds us that the Lord comes to us. Can you think of examples in your own life when the Lord “came to you”?
4. God provides Elijah with aid, but it isn’t exactly what he asked for. Does God simply not listen, or does He have a greater purpose in mind?
5. In I Kings 19:15 God sends Elijah back to serve the Lord. Now read Luke 8: 26-38. Jesus sends the man to witness to the Lord! When has the Lord told you to go back and tell His good news?
6. Study I Kings 19: 11-13; what is the text trying to convey here? What does it say about God’s Nature?
7. What is the Lord asking Elijah to do in I Kings 19:15?
8. What are some things the Lord may be asking you to do but you have been neglecting out of self-pity or depression?

Reboot Elijah

I Kings 19: 1-18
Sunday, June 20, 2010

Our computers need rebooting. They get bogged down, run slowly, freeze up, and accomplish little. They are not able to receive new information, and are susceptible to viruses.

People are like that. Listen to the despair in Psalm 42 and 43. And listen to the story of Elijah, a prophet of God in the Old Testament.

Elijah has these traits:

Isolation: Cut off from friends

Paranoia: Felt totally alone

Exhaustion: Famished and lay down

Hiding: In caves

Self-Pity: Complained of no reward

Depression: Prayed that he might die

Messiah Complex: He alone remained as God’s Prophet

Empty: No fresh word from the Lord

How does Elijah Reboot? What can we learn from this story?

Sermon Notes:

I. A God Who _____

- a. This is good news
- b. Though we often long for a God who takes away all our pain
- c. Scripturally, this is never promised
- d. God comes, repeatedly, patiently
- e. He brings:
 - i. Tabernacle / Holy Spirit presence
 - ii. Elisha protection
 - iii. Macedonian direction

II. A God Who _____

- a. Not always what we wish for, but always our true need
- b. What did Elijah want? What did he get?
- c. Probably wanted freedom from situation, but got rest and nourishment
- d. Need vs. Want
 - i. Three Hebrew Plan - Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego – Hoped to avoid the furnace, but God had another way
 - ii. Lazarus / Jairus plan – Jesus takes too long, yet has the best answer
- e. Reboot means that we are reconfigured to manufacturers specs.
- f. In my experience, the people who build stuff, know how to fix it

III. A God Who _____

- a. Our disobedience or fatigue doesn't change the overall plan
- b. Elijah goes back to do what God needed done after he is rebooted
- c. Elijah was in his territory, God was not delivering him from it, but to it!
- d. This is our territory, similarly