

## Discussion Guide 1st Kings 19

### **Opening Prayer:**

Pray, thanking the Lord for his faithfulness to us even in our weakness and sin. Ask him to cultivate in us humble, broken hearts toward sin and a desire to be faithful in doing his will. Grow in us a desire to hear him and know him more through his word. Help us rest in his sovereignty, grace, mercy, and justice so that we may enjoy the fullness of the hope that he gives.

### **Recap:**

We see Elijah at the height of his power and ministry fall to sin and faithlessness. In his state of despondency over his sin, failure, and feeling of inadequacy, he cries out for God to end his life. God, demonstrating grace and mercy, provides for Elijah and reveals himself to him, giving Elijah purpose once more.

### **Understanding the Text:**

1. How does the historical situation of the original audience (the Jewish people in exile) shape the way we should read the story of Elijah in 1 Kings 19?
2. What do Elijah's words and actions in verses 3-4 and 10/14 reveal about his emotional and spiritual state after the victory on Mount Carmel?
3. What do we learn about God's character from His responses to Elijah in verses 5-8 (provision), 9-14 (revelation), and 15-18 (recommissioning)?
4. In verses 11-13, why does the text emphasize that the Lord was *not* in the wind, earthquake, or fire, but revealed Himself in the "gentle blowing" (still small voice)? What does this teach us about God's character?
5. How do God's instructions in verses 15-18 address Elijah's feelings of isolation, failure, and being "the only one left"?

### **Practical Application:**

1. Elijah went from the spiritual high on Mount Carmel to deep despair under the juniper tree. When have you experienced a similar emotional or spiritual crash after a season of faithfulness or success? What do you think contributed to that feeling?
2. In what areas of your life do you most struggle with "transactional Christianity" — the idea that God's love, blessing, or faithfulness depends on your performance?
3. Elijah was faithless, fearful, and exhausted, yet God responded with mercy, provision, and a renewed calling. How does this truth encourage you in areas where you feel you have failed or let God down recently?

## **Discussion Guide 1st Kings 19**

4. After meeting with God, Elijah was given more work to do and a successor (Elisha). How does the idea that God often gives renewed purpose and responsibility even after failure challenge or encourage you right now?
5. How should the truth that “God is faithful” (even when we are not) shape the way you approach obedience, ministry, prayer, and future challenges?

### **God Has More to Say:**

#### **Short on Small Group time:**

- Psalm 51:10–12
- James 4:6–10
- 2 Timothy 2:13
- John 15:5–11
- Isaiah 46:8–11

#### **Our Response to Sin**

- Psalm 51:1–4, 10–12
- Proverbs 28:13
- 1 John 1:8–10
- Luke 18:13–14
- 2 Corinthians 7:10–13

#### **Living in Humility to God**

- Micah 6:8
- James 4:6–10
- 1 Peter 5:5–7
- Philippians 2:3–11
- Isaiah 66:2

#### **Comfort to the Faithless**

- 2 Timothy 2:11–13

- Hebrews 4:14–16
- Psalm 103:8–14
- Isaiah 42:3

#### **God Is Faithful**

- Lamentations 3:22–23
- Deuteronomy 7:9
- Hebrews 10:23
- 1 Corinthians 10:13
- 2 Thessalonians 3:3

#### **Our Dependency on God**

- Proverbs 3:5–6
- 2 Corinthians 12:9–10
- Matthew 6:31–34
- Psalm 127:1

#### **God's Sovereignty**

- Isaiah 46:9–11
- Romans 8:28–30
- Ephesians 1:11
- Genesis 50:20