

in the waiting

Series Lessons

God's silence is not His ABSENCE – waiting is part of His PREPARATION.

Waiting on God tests our TRUST and reveals our HEARTS.

In The Waiting...Elijah

Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.” And when he saw *that*, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which *belongs* to Judah, and left his servant there. ⁴ But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.”

Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, “Arise *and* eat.” Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank and lay down again. And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said,

“Arise *and* eat, because the journey *is* too great for you.” So he arose and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” So he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.”

Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, *but* the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, *but* the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, *but* the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

So it was, when Elijah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice *came* to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 1 Kings 19

Depression And The Voice of God

Depression is a deep sense of sorrow, heaviness, or discouragement that affects a person's thoughts, emotions, and outlook on life. It often includes feelings of hopelessness, weariness, or loss of joy.

It is hard to HEAR one when you have the OTHER.

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

Even God's GREATEST prophets were susceptible to DEPRESSION.

And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." V.6

Depression can cause you to act INDEPENDENT of God.

Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time." And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, v.2-3

God dealt with Elijah's PHYSICAL needs first.

Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat." Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank and lay down again. And the angel of the LORD came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you." So he arose and ate and drank.

Elijah is then moved by God to address his emotional and spiritual needs because they are all INTERCONNECTED.

and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" v.9

We will not THRIVE (Be Healthy) if we neglect our core needs:

Physical, Relational, Emotional & Spiritual.

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Pr. 4:23

God's Voice

In deciphering God's voice, understand that there are two things that are NOT his voice: my FRIENDS and my FEELINGS.

Your friends are just as biased as your enemies.

Your feelings are subject of momentary change.

Elijah's encounter with God show us two sources of God's voice:

The VOICE of God is found in the WORD of God.

and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and He said to him,
“What are you doing here, Elijah?” v.9

All scripture is God breathed... 2 Timothy 3:16

The voice of God is heard through my CONSCIENCE.
*for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart,
and he knows everything. 1 John 3:20*

*“The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart
and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” 1 Timothy 1:5*

The conscience is the God-given inner sense that bears witness to
whether our thoughts and actions are right or wrong. It’s like a moral
compass — not perfect on its own but shaped by what we take hold
of from the Word of God.

*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the
renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will
of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2*

You will never hear God’s voice if all you do is pay attention to the
NOISE of this World.

*Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD.”
And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore
into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the
LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an
earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the
earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire
a still small voice.*