



Handout June 12, 2026

What Are You Doing Here? I Kings 19:1-18

Welcome back and here we go! Tonight I am talking about Elijah --- a famous Old Testament Prophet. We can learn a lot from him. But first....

1) What are _____ doing _____?

By here, I mean your state of being, your emotional health, your mental health. By here I mean, in your mind. Where are you? Are you disturbed by circumstances in your life? Are you stressed? Do you feel trapped - you know - in closed systems, family, work, school? We can feel like some relationships are unavoidable. And in many cases they are.

Elijah was an amazing Prophet in Israel.....

James 5:16-18 ¹⁶ ***Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*** ¹⁷ ***Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.*** ¹⁸ ***And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.***

2) We are _____ like _____.

This resonates with me. I often feel spiritually strong. We always talk about fervent prayer being effective, and when we pray with all our might, we believe.....

We have peaks ----- yet -----

You know, let's start the sermon.

"Story" (chapter 18)

I Kings 19:1-18

We understand that often great spiritual victories can drain us and leave us vulnerable.

That does not mean spiritual victory leads to spiritual defeat, but.....

3) What are _____ doing _____?

I ask again, since it is a new sermon? How long have you been here? How long do you want to stay? I always like my analogy of God's presence.... I hope He does too.

I Kings 19:11-12 ¹¹ ***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;*** ¹² ***and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.***

Wind ----- Life feels in disarray

Earthquake ----- Life is shook and displaced.

Fire ----- Burnt to the ground.

God's voice: can you hear it?

1 Kings 19:9-10 ⁹ ***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?"*** ¹⁰ ***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."***

Elijah's voice.

4) Even the most _____ people have _____.

What does God's voice truly say to you? Is it negative self-talk? Is it a voice that affirms your present affliction is bigger than God? Have you even attempted to "take thoughts captive"? Or do you just complain about them? Attention to issues and acting on, are different things.

What is God's solution?

1 Kings 19:15-18 ¹⁵ ***Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria."*** ¹⁶ ***Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.*** ¹⁷ ***It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill.*** ¹⁸ ***Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."***

5) Get _____ and _____ something.

Refocus on what other people's needs are. Some need service, some need forgiveness, some need boundaries.

6) What are _____ doing _____?

"Here" ----- why are you there.....?

James 5:13-18 ¹³ ***Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.*** ¹⁴ ***Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.*** ¹⁵ ***And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.*** ¹⁶ ***Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*** ¹⁷ ***Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.*** ¹⁸ ***And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.***

Raise your hand if this is you and we will pray. You must first confess a need. Pride will prevent that. We are all family here.

Let's pray.