



Things to Talk About and Reflect Upon

“Still Small Voice”

Points from Sunday’s Message

Point 1 - Our spiritual condition influences our life direction.

Point 2 - God asks us questions for our understanding, not His.

Point 3 - God’s still, small voice is quiet to the ears and loud to the heart and soul.

Key Verse:

"And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice."

— 1 Kings 19:12

Discussion Questions:

1. From Mount Carmel to a broom tree. Elijah goes from calling down fire from heaven in front of the whole nation (1 Kings 18) to praying for death in the wilderness — in a matter of days. Pastor Mark identified four things that got him there: he was afraid, tired, disappointed in the results, and convinced he was alone. Which of these four do you think was most dangerous for Elijah, and why? Which one tends to sneak up on you first?

Further Reading: 1 Kings 18:20-40 — the victory at Carmel that came right before the collapse.

2. "What are you doing here, Elijah?" God asks Elijah the same question twice — not because God doesn't know the answer, but because Elijah needed to hear it from his own mouth. Pastor Mark pointed out that God does this throughout Scripture: "Where are you?" to Adam, "Where is your brother?" to Cain, "Do you love me?" three times to Peter. Why do you think God asks questions instead of just correcting us? What does it reveal about His character?

Further Reading: Genesis 3:8-13; John 21:15-19.

3. A nap and a sandwich before a sermon. Notice the order of God's response: He feeds Elijah and lets him rest *before* He questions him, and He questions him *before* He recommissions him. There's no scolding anywhere in the passage. What does this order tell us about how God treats worn-out believers? How should it shape the way we care for people in our lives who are running on empty?

Further Reading: Psalm 103:8-14; Matthew 11:28-30.

4. Not in the wind, earthquake, or fire. God displays overwhelming power, but He speaks in a still, small voice. Pastor Mark said our culture treats whatever is loudest as truest — the news, social media, the angriest voice in the room. Where in your life is the "loud" drowning out the "quiet"? What would it practically look like this week to create space to hear God's whisper? (Consider Pastor Mark's list: be paying attention, be discerning, be available, be in the Word, be in relationship, be expectant, be humble.)

Further Reading: John 10:27; Jeremiah 29:13; Psalm 46:10.

5. "I alone am left." Elijah was certain he was the only faithful one remaining — and he was off by 7,000. Pastor Mark called isolation "the devil's favorite trick," noting that the enemy always gets people alone before he gets them to believe the lie. Practical application: Is there an area of your life — health, marriage, family, finances — where you've been fighting alone because it felt too embarrassing or too heavy to share? What's one step you can take this week to bring someone into that battle with you? Who in your group or church might be under a "broom tree" right now and need you to show up?

Further Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Galatians 6:2.

6. Restored to be sent back. God doesn't change Elijah's circumstances — Jezebel is still out there — but He restores Elijah and sends him back into ministry with a job to do. Pastor Mark reminded us that we're "living epistles" whom the world reads like a book, and God fixes us so we can go back into a broken world, not escape it. Practical application: Take Pastor Mark's identity exercise: like he did ("I'm a guy who follows Jesus, a husband, a father, a pastor..."), write out or share the roles God has actually appointed you to. Are you living from those appointments, or hiding under a bush of distraction, fear, or despair? What is God recommissioning you back to?

Further Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:2-3; 1 Kings 19:15-21.

Use these blended questions for deeper personal reflection, prayer, or small group discussion.