

When God Whispers to the Fearful (4/2/23 - Palm Sunday)

Main Verses: 1 Kings 19:9-13

Key Verse: 1 Kings 19:11-12 [11]

'Takeaway': When we are afraid, a great & mighty God calls us to listen to the reassuring whisper of his word.

GETTING STARTED: What do you do when you're afraid?

READ: 1 Kings 19:9-13 (or have older kids help read)

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- What is the question the "word of the Lord" asks Elijah? When does He ask it? (v 9, v13)
- How did God show Elijah how mighty & great He is?
- Where was the LORD?

Elementary:

- What is the question the "word of the Lord" asks Elijah?
- How does Elijah respond to the question in v10?
- Why do you think God answered Elijah the way He did? (vv 11-13)
- How did the LORD speak to Elijah?

Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- Elijah is fearful because King Ahab & his wife, Jezebel, were trying to kill him.
- Elijah tells God he is discouraged (sad) because the people have turned away from God.
- God shows Elijah his presence first thru his greatness & power, but speaks to Elijah in a low whisper.
- We need to listen for God's quiet reassuring voice when we are afraid.
- We can know, by trusting in Jesus, that God is with us & will help us when we are afraid. He tells us this in his Word. (Psalm 56:3, 6)

Elementary:

- Elijah is fearful because King Ahab & his wife, Jezebel, were trying to kill him.
- Even when Elijah didn't want to go on, God provides wonderfully for Elijah in vv5-8, sending an angel to care for him as he rested.
- Elijah tells God he is discouraged because the people have turned away from God.
- God shows Elijah his presence first through his greatness & power, but speaks to Elijah in a low whisper.
- God's power is especially present in his Word. He speaks to Elijah's fears thru the low whisper, & through his Word, providing comfort & strength.
- Thru God's Word & Spirit, we need to listen for his quiet reassuring voice when we are afraid.
- Thru faith in Jesus, we can know that when we are afraid, God will speak to us thru his Word, reminding us that he is with us and will help us. (see Psalm 56:3, 6)

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God. Thank him for caring for us & always providing for us. Ask God to help you remember him & his Word when you are afraid. Thank God for his Word which reminds us that, thru Jesus, God is with us & will help us.

(Elementary) Talk to God. Thank him for providing for our needs & for taking care of us always. Thank God for his Word which comforts & strengthens us when we are afraid &/or discouraged. Thank God that thru faith in Jesus, we can hear God's reassuring voice when we are afraid. Ask God to help you listen for his quiet reassuring voice, & to help you remember him & his Word when you are afraid.