

## **A Story About People Turning to God**

I Kings 18

“Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, ‘The LORD – He is God! The LORD - He is God!’”

<p><b>What did God use to turn hearts toward Him? Is it the same today?</b></p>
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1. God used a famine in the land. (Verse 2)
2. God used a believer in a strategic place. (3-6)
3. God used a voice willing to speak the truth. (16-18)
4. God used a clear choice. (19-24)
5. God responded to believing prayer. (36 – 37)

## **Small Group and Personal Bible Study Guide**

### **This Weeks Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9**

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

### **This Weeks Lesson: 1 Kings 18 & 19 Elijah**

1 Kings 18 tells the great story of Elijah facing the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel. It is a wonderful story of how God strategically used His chosen servant Elijah and the circumstances around the people to boldly declare His power and glory! Elijah trusts and turns to God’s power alone and God responds to His prayer.

1. Have you ever wished you could be like Elijah against the prophets of Baal in some relationships you encounter in life?

As you read on in 1 Kings 19 you find an interesting twist in that after outward victory from the power of God, Elijah suffers internal defeat as he struggles with fear and disillusionment. Even though he still serves the same God who revealed His power on Mt. Carmel, we find him afraid and running for his life. He is left sitting under a broom tree asking God to take his life. He is done, finished, exhausted, burnt out! But God gives him the rest he needs. God brings Elijah back to His table and restores Elijah and gives him just what he needed, shade, food, water, and rest. Then God reveals himself once again to Elijah. This time he comes to him in a still, small voice, a gentle whisper, for that is what Elijah needed right then (1 Kings 19:11-13). And God provides all that is needed including the support to carry on the mission he had appointed to Elijah.

2. How is Elijah’s story similar to your own life story?
3. Have you ever faced burnout or disillusionment as you try to live the life of being a follower of Christ?
4. How does this story encourage and restore you as it did Elijah?
5. What encouragement do you receive from 2 Corinthians 12:9, our memory verse this week?

### **This Weeks Reading Schedule**

Day 1 – 1 Kings 16:29-34, 17:1-24

Day 2 – 1 Kings 18:1-15

Day 3 – 1 Kings 18:16-46

Day 4 – 1 Kings 19:1-21

Day 5 – 2 Kings 2:1-15