



## Walking in the *Foot Prints* of Jesus A Discipleship Journey

*The OLD TESTAMENT-* Their Story is Our Story

### **Elijah In The Cave 1 Kings 19:1-18**

Elijah is perhaps the most well-known prophet from the Old Testament. His name means “Yahweh is my God”. He is best known for saving the religion of Yahweh from being corrupted by the nature worship of Baal. Elijah claimed that there was no reality except the God of Israel, and he stressed monotheism. This put Elijah at odds with those in power, who were pagans.

The story of Elijah fleeing to the cave is found in 1 Kings. Queen Jezebel wants to kill Elijah because Yahweh had answered all of his prayers, but her pagan gods did not answer hers. She is upset and jealous and wants Elijah killed.

*“Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all of the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, ‘So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.’ Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life.”*  
**1 Kings 19:1-3**

Eventually, Elijah wandered for forty days and forty nights until he came upon Mount Horeb. He found a cave on the mountain and he spent the night there. The next day Elijah met God on Mount Horeb.

*“He said, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.’ Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking 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 sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, ‘What are you doing here Elijah?’”*  
**1 Kings 19:1-13**

God gave Elijah his instructions, and he went on his way. He listened to what God had to say. God’s presence could have been in fire, an earthquake, a great wind, but God was in none of these. God was in the tiny whispering sound. All of us have a need for God. We might not know it, but it is there: a God-shaped hole in our soul that no one and nothing else can fill. Without God we will always feel empty. Sometimes we look for loud and spectacular things to fill that empty space. We buy expensive clothing or toys. Or we spend money on other foolish things. And yet, we still feel empty.

The irony is that, through all of this, God is there in the quiet depths of our hearts. We need to be like Elijah – tuning out things that are not God and tuning into God’s presence. Taking quiet time to think and pray is a great start.

**Do I have a hole in my soul that I try to fill with things other than God? If so, why? Do I take the time to listen to God whispering to me? If not, how can I make that change in my life?**