

Alone but not Alone #4
God's Handprint of Care

Word

Scripture Reference

1 Kings 18:1-15

Discussion Questions

MYTH: We think God cares for us only when He answers our prayers according to our will. We think He cares for us only when He has shown us through tangible, visible ways, that He does significant things in our lives and intercedes on our behalf in our lives – that's when we say He cares for us. What we have forgotten is that God often cares for us in ways we do not see, in areas of our lives we may not find significant or may take for granted.

1. Have you ever experienced God's handprint of care in your life?
2. The first evidence of God's handprint of care in 1 Kings 18 is seen in God's perfectly positioned people. How is this truth seen in the story of Elijah and Obadiah in verses 1-4? What does this tell you about the way God cares for His people? How have you seen the people who have come to help you, as God's handprint of care in your life? Share an experience.
3. The second evidence of God's handprint of care in 1 Kings 18 is seen in God's orchestrated divine encounters (v. 5-8). There are no chance meetings in life. Every person you meet in life is an orchestrated divine encounter to show you that God cares for you. Share a divine encounter where you have experienced God's care by allowing you to meet someone who has encouraged you, given you advice, or comforted you during a time of need.

4. The third evidence of God's handprint of care is seen in God's secure protective custody. How did Obadiah experience God's care in verses 9-15? As children of God, it is God's responsibility to take care of us. What does it mean for you to be under God's protective custody? How does knowing that we are under God's protective custody change the way we see amulets, curses, charms, hexes, and accidents? How does fear affect your daily life and how should understanding God's protective care change the way you see your life?

Walk

The ultimate evidence of God's handprint of care is seen in Jesus Christ who gave His life on the cross so that you and I may live. The One who died for you surely cares for you. Understanding that we are under God's care allows us to stand before the world and boldly proclaim that we serve a risen Savior. We can choose to not be afraid of the world because we stand before the living God who takes care of us. We can live without fear knowing that God's handprints of care are all over our lives and that it was already best demonstrated when He sent His Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross on our behalf. What additional evidence can we ask for?

Worship & Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, open our eyes that we may see Your handprints of care which are all over our lives. Allow us to see Your imprints in our daily encounters with people and situations. We thank You for putting us under Your custody and we believe that You are our safest place. But there are times when we doubt and we fear whenever we see our painful experiences in life. During these times, show us the Cross to remind us about Your Son Jesus—Your greatest handprint of care for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.