

Alone But Not Alone #7

## God's Handprint of Companionship

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

1 Kings 19:9-18

#### Discussion Questions

1. Name one person whose company you enjoy the most. Why?
2. God is an omnipresent God; He is everywhere present at all times. He is with you everywhere you are.

After the spiritual high of witnessing God's power defeating Baal's prophets on top of Mt. Carmel, Elijah became afraid when he learned of a death threat by evil Queen Jezebel. He was so afraid that he ran for his life. Read 1 Kings 19:9-18. Where did Elijah hide himself? What did God ask him (v. 9)? Do you think God didn't know how Elijah was feeling at that moment? Discuss how prayers or communicating with God give you an opportunity to unburden or even complain to God.

3. Elijah must have been so lonely that he vented his frustrations to God. What did he say in verse 10? Have you ever been so lonely despite the many people surrounding you? Share how you deal with loneliness.
4. God wanted to remind Elijah that He was always with him, and that he was never alone. His handprint of companionship is evident in two ways. First, He reveals His companionship in both extraordinary and ordinary ways (v. 11-12). God had shown His power in the past through powerful wind, earthquake and fire, which must have been what Elijah now expects Him to do. How do you think must Elijah have felt when he didn't see God's presence through these powerfully extraordinary ways? Share with the group how you expect God to answer when you pray.
5. How did Elijah recognize God's presence through His gentle whisper or still, small voice (v. 12-13)? God is always talking to you often in gentle whispers and in the quietness of your humble heart. How does noise

pollution hinder you from hearing His gentle whisper? God is reminding you everyday as well through nature that He is there for you. Why do personal views of how God should talk to you keep you from hearing Him? Are you willing to commit even a few minutes of focused time everyday to hear from God?

6. God wanted Elijah to go back where Jezebel and Ahab have hundreds of men looking for him (v. 14). What did God tell him in response to his complaint that he was alone (v. 15-17)? The second handprint of His companionship is shown in His calling and using of others. How do you think Elijah must have felt when he realized that there were three others whom God called to be prophets? Have you ever felt alone in what you do in your life? How does a group of believers make you feel that God is near? Share with the group how the New Testament exhortations that Christians should encourage one another, care for one another, and serve one another motivate you to serve as a handprint of God's companionship.

### Walk

Meditate on the words of this song:

*Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heav'n and home?  
When Jesus is my portion, My constant Friend is He:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

*I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free!  
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

What was the final information that God told Elijah to help him realize that he was not alone at all—a vivid picture of God's companionship in verse 8? Do you hear when God speaks to you in gentle whispers? How do you see God's hand in others? In what ways would you remind a family member, a friend or somebody you know that you are a handprint of God's companionship to them?

### Worship & Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your faithfulness in encouraging me in times I feel so lonely or afraid, for letting me know I am never alone. Through Jesus Christ, Immanuel, God with us, I know You are with me always. May others see it as well. I praise You, Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.*