

Message Notes

Pastor Dave Gudgel

Date: July 24, 2016

Bible Focus: 1 Kings 19:15-21

Current Series: Replenished

Message Title: ...When You're Isolated

1 Kings 19:15-21 - GOD said, "Go back the way you came through the desert to Damascus. When you get there anoint Hazael; make him king over Aram. ¹⁶ Then anoint Jehu son of Nimshi; make him king over Israel. Finally, anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. ¹⁷ Anyone who escapes death by Hazael will be killed by Jehu; and anyone who escapes death by Jehu will be killed by Elisha. ¹⁸ Meanwhile, I'm preserving for myself seven thousand souls: the knees that haven't bowed to the god Baal, the mouths that haven't kissed his image." ¹⁹ Elijah went straight out and found Elisha son of Shaphat in a field where there were twelve pairs of yoked oxen at work plowing; Elisha was in charge of the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak over him. ²⁰ Elisha deserted the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Please! Let me kiss my father and mother good-bye—then I'll follow you." "Go ahead," said Elijah, "but, mind you, don't forget what I've just done to you." ²¹ So Elisha left; he took his yoke of oxen and butchered them. He made a fire with the plow and tackle and then boiled the meat—a true farewell meal for the family. Then he left and followed Elijah, becoming his right-hand man. (MSG)

One Lesson: _____

One Question: _____

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

I Kings 19:15-21

1. Can you think of a recent time when you felt all alone? Were your feelings connected to reality, or perceived reality? How was your life impacted?
2. Did you turn to God for help? If yes, what happened? If not, why not? Do you think if you had, things might have worked out differently?
3. Put yourself in Elijah's place after the Lord told him to go and anoint three comrade-in-arms. How would you have felt? Take a minute to express to God the feelings that could have come over you in that moment.
4. How does knowing that God hates idolatry impact your life? Can you think of areas in your life where you need to rid yourself of idols? What actions would the Lord have you take?
5. Have you ever been encouraged by the knowledge that you are not in this battle alone? Who did the Lord bring into focus and how did it lift your spirits?
6. If you have children, how hard would it be for you to get on board with them being called to vocational ministry? Is this something you'd struggle with or gladly support? Why?
7. Do you agree, "it's not good to do life alone"? If you do, is your life now congruent with this belief?
8. Knowing it's not good to do life alone, what needs to continue or change in your life?