

Todd Arnett What Are You Doing Here?

February 3, 2019

When you don't experience the power of God, rely upon His presence to remind you of who He is and whose you are

1. After every mountaintop comes a **Monday** morning

1 Kings 21:25-26

Though our mountain top experiences are profound and amazing, it's on the Monday mornings where we really learn to <u>trust</u> God.

1 Kings 19:1-5a

We hear His voice with great clarity on the mountaintops but it's as though He's <u>mute</u> when we encounter a Monday morning

He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

2. Even when you run away in fear, God still cares for you

1 Kings 19:5-9

In the midst of his rebellion and running, God was still <u>caring</u> for Elijah

1 Kings 19:10

3. On the Monday mornings, God often speaks in a whisper

1 Kings 19:11-13

1 Kings 19:14

4. On the Monday mornings, we forget that God still has a purpose for us to fulfill

1 Kings 19:15-18

How great is it to have God's perspective on our lives – what Elijah saw about himself was accurate, but <u>incomplete</u>.

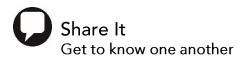
When you come down off the mountaintop, don't demand that your everyday life needs to be filled with those amazing demonstrations of God's power – that's what <u>Heaven</u> is for.

Now What?

When you don't experience the power of God, rely upon His presence to remind you of who He is and whose you are



Week of February 3, 2019



Have you ever had a mountaintop experience followed by the "Monday morning" blues?



Read the background story of Elijah (God's prophet) and Ahab, the evil king. (1 Kings 18:16-46) How would you describe the demonstrations of God's power? What might Elijah have been feeling?

Now read 1 Kings 19:1-18. What happened that made Elijah fearful? What might Elijah have experienced that made him vulnerable to being overwhelmed with fear and sadness?

What kinds of things do we also do that make us vulnerable?

What was God's initial response to Elijah?

Elijah traveled to the mountain where Moses and the nation had a significant encounter with God. What was the nature of God's questions to Elijah? (9, 13) How did Elijah respond?

What did God then reveal to Elijah? (11-18) What can we learn from God's response?



Elijah went from an amazing experience of God's power to deep sorrow. What was wrong with his perspective? Why do we sometimes do this?

What kinds of things discourage you the most? How could reliance on the character and presence of God help us out of discouragement?

God shows up to Elijah in an unpredictable manner. How does God "whisper to us?" What helps us hear His voice? What helps you not feel like you are "the only one left?"



Time to Pray

Praying with and for one another helps us trust in God together. Please pray . . .

- For people you know who feel discouraged
- For our International Friendship Connection team
- For our "LINK" ministry (4th and 5th grade)



Pray and for people in your world, especially for those who are discouraged.