

**Welcome:**

Have you ever been through a mid life crisis or seen a family member go through one? What was it like?

Jezebel had been a Baal worshipper. (i.e. a worshipper or idols). In the previous chapter we are told of how the prophets of Baal had been killed following Elijah's prayers on Mount Carmel. A great tournament had taken place where the prophets of Baal had called upon their god's to send down fire from heaven. Nothing happened, so Elijah tormented them and called down fire from the Lord. The Lord's fire descended leading to the prophets of Baal being killed. Jezebel is furious and wants revenge.

**Word:**

Read 1 Kings 19:1-15a

This week we go backwards in the book of Kings to see that Elijah finds God in the silence.

- 1 If Jezebel had been on Mount Carmel would she have responded as she did in vv 1-2?
- 2 Why was Elijah suddenly afraid? (v3)
- 3 Why doesn't God take Elijah's life?
- 4 What's the point of God's 3 false starts (vv11-12) (See Exodus 19:9; 16-19)
- 5 How does Elijah's encounter with God differ to Moses?
- 6 What is God's message when he finally does speak?
- 7 Compare vv 13-14 with vv9-10. What does Elijah's unchanging answer imply?

Let's try to apply this to ourselves?

A God spoke to Elijah in the whisper. How does God speak to you?

B Has God ever asked you "What are you doing here?" What was your answer?

C Elijah was tempted to give up his service of God. What might tempt you to do so?

D Has God ever appeared in a spectacular way to you? If so, share your experience.

E Elijah was going through the difficulties of being a religious leader. Has a religious leader ever inspired you? Who and why?

**Witness:**

On July 18<sup>th</sup> the 11.15 service will be a 'Cell Led' service.

Think about what we should include in our service on that day and if you would like to invite someone. Is there anything that your Cell would like to do on its own or with other Cells? Make notes and arrange for one Cell member to coordinate with other Cells in the coming weeks.

If you normally attend the 9.45 service you might like to think about something you could do to contribute to that service. (You might also like to suggest hymns or songs for the services that day).

**Worship:**

Wait on God. Pray for those who may be going through persecution or times of trial or problems because of their faith.

Spend some time in quiet. Open your minds and thoughts to God. Ask God to speak to you with words or pictures or in a whisper. Share anything you feel God might be saying to you or to the group or to our church? Finish with The Grace

