



Part 2: Finding *The* Voice

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Premise:

God is continually and creatively speaking to His children yet we often choose to listen to the competing voices instead of tuning our ears to the “quiet whisper.”

The voice of God in 1 Kings 17: I will provide all you need
I am the God of miracles
I am the God of life and death

The voice of God in 1 Kings 18: I am the God of strength
I am the God of victory
I am the God who hears
I am the God of nature
I am the God of speed

And the word of the Lord came to him:
“What are you doing here, Elijah?” - *1 Kings 19:9b*

In 1 Kings 19, Elijah hears the voices of:

Fear - Elijah was afraid and ran for his life (vs. 3)

Defeat - “I have had enough, Lord...” (vs. 4)

Self-sufficiency - “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty...” (vs. 10)

Contempt - “The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars and put your prophets to death with the sword.” (vs. 10)

Deceit - I am the only one left...” (vs. 10)
(*The truth is found in 1 Kings 18:38-40*)

Loss - He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” (vs. 10)

¹¹The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹²After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. – *1 Kings 19:11-12a*

Isn't it in the storms and disasters that we want God to speak the loudest?

This passage is not saying God does not do storms!

And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” – *1 Kings 19:12b-13*

The quiet voice of grace calls us to repentance and obedience.

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? – *Romans 2:4*

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. – *John 10:27-28*

If I am not listening or following, am I really his sheep?

Promise:

“And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.

– *Deuteronomy 28:1-2 ESV*

Small Group Questions

- 1) Who owns the most comforting voice in your life? Your father? Your mother? Your best friend? What makes their voice so comforting to you?
- 2) What voice do you most often listen to in crisis?
- 3) What voice do you most listen to in times of victory?
- 4) How does God speak to you?
- 5) Has God ever spoken to you in a storm of despair? What did He say?
- 6) How can we pray for you today?