

THE MAIN LESSON Fighting spiritual battles _____ on a life. (See Galatians 6:17)

FIVE DRAINS OF COURAGEOUS FAITH

1. Forgetting the _____ of God's resources (v.3)

THE POINT Remind yourself regularly of the immensity of _____ rather than the enormity of _____. (See Matthew 14:30)

2. Being _____ for intense _____. (v.13)

THE KEY INSIGHT Don't expect spiritual _____ without spiritual _____. (See 1 Corinthians 16:9 (NIV); 1 Peter 4:12; James 15:20; Ephesians 6:10, 11)

3. Feeding the _____ of _____. (v.3)

4. Underestimating the _____. (v.5-6)

5. Losing _____ of God's _____. (v.7)

HIS CORE PROBLEM He thought he was _____!

What did Elijah need?



Getting to Know Each Other Better

1. Elijah was completely caught off guard by the intensity of the opposition being brought against him. Have you ever had a similar experience in life? What was it?

Observing and Understanding God's Word

Please Read 1 Kings 19:1-8

2. When in the midst of fighting a spiritual battle do you naturally remember the immensity of God's power or do you tend to focus on the enormity of your problems? Any sense of why that is?

3. When in the middle of a spiritual battle what verses do you focus on (and why?), or what verses can you focus on? (If you aren't sure, here are some to get you thinking: 2 Corinthians 4; 1 John 4:4; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 28:19-20; Isaiah 26:3; Psalm 91; 1 Corinthians 15; Ephesians 6:10-20).

Which of the verses and passages listed above are significant for you right now? Why?

Applying God's Word

Pick at least one and be prepared to discuss it

4. How can you train yourself to be spiritual, or be more spiritual, when in the middle of fighting spiritual battles? (Ephesians 6:10-20 is a profound passage to apply.)

5. Though you are in a small group, are you still feeding the paralysis of isolation by not letting people into your life so that they may pray for and encourage you? Will you take the risk and open up so that people can support and strengthen you? (Read these verses for encouragement: Ephesians 3:14-19, 6:21-23; 1 Thessalonians 3:2, 5:11, 14; Philemon 1:7. How will experience these things if you refuse to open up?)

6. Do you need to make any adjustments to your schedule to eliminate the impact of exhaustion in your life? What are they?

7. Do you need to capture a fresh vision from God for your life? What steps can you take in this area?

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The Personal Cost of Standing Alone
1 Kings 19:1-8
Pastor Dennis Keating

(Scripture references and fill-in the blank answers)

THE MAIN LESSON: Fighting spiritual battles takes its' toll on a life. (See Galatians 6:17)

"...let no one cause trouble for me, for I bear on my body the brand-marks of Jesus."
Galatians 6:17

"For every achievement there is a price; for every goal there is an opponent; for every victory there is a problem; for every triumph, there is a sacrifice."- William Henry Ward

FIVE DRAINS OF COURAGEOUS FAITH

1. Forgetting the availability of God's resources (v.3)

THE POINT: Remind yourself regularly of the immensity of GOD'S POWER rather than the enormity of your problems. (See Matthew 14:30)

"...seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"
Matthew 14:30

2. Being unprepared for intense opposition. (v.13)

THE KEY INSIGHT: Don't expect spiritual advancement without spiritual counterattack.
(See 1 Corinthians 16:9 (NIV); 1 Peter 4:12; James 15:20; Ephesians 6:10, 11)

"A great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me."
1 Corinthians 16:9 (NIV)

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you." 1 Peter 4:12

"If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you:" John 15:20

"...be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His Might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes ("wiles" KJ) of the devil." Ephesians 6:10-11

3. Feeding the paralysis of isolation. (v.3)

Loneliness Intensifies Despair

4. Underestimating the impact of exhaustion (v.5-6)

"Fatigue makes cowards of us all." - Coach Vince Lombardi

5. Losing perspective of God's purpose. (v.7)

HIS CORE PROBLEM: He thought he was washed up!

What did Elijah need? A FRESH VISION FROM GOD