

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ELIJAH?

1 Kings 19

Elijah's story gives us hope when we fall off the mountaintop. We see 4 questions that Elijah answered to get through his "valley of death:"

- **What are you doing NOW?**
- **What are you doing NEW?**
- **What are you doing HERE?**
- **What are you doing NEXT?**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW? (v. 1-5)

THE PAIN: *You can't go back to what is comfortable for you:*

- "Let's do what we did before."
- "Give me the good ol' days!"
- "We've always done it like that."

THE PLAN: *Get to the place where you can TRUST ME!*

- Leave everything behind
- Take a risk by trusting God (Elijah knew what he had in Beersheeba)

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEW? (v. 5-9)

THE PAIN: *When we follow God, we will experience difficulties.*

- Bad people will want to hurt us and good people will not understand.
- But God always provides us with what we need:
 - Physically: food, drink, rest
 - Emotionally: the angel touched him twice (v. 5, 6)
 - Spiritually: food for the journey!

THE PLAN: *TRUST ME for the journey ahead!*

- Elijah wanted COMFORT – food, drink, rest – to be comfortable.
- God wanted OBEDIENCE.
 - He is always preparing us – but especially in the down times.
 - God doesn't just want us to cope – but to THRIVE – ABUNDANTLY

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? (v. 9-14)

THE PAIN: *Our ways are not God's ways!*

- When we think we've figured out how God works, we've lost!

THE PLAN: *Trust God, not what WE THINK of GOD!*

- Don't rely on your works – TRUST God fully and completely.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NEXT? (v. 15-19)

THE PAIN: *Sometimes we are scared to do what God commands us to do next.*

- Why? It's not our plan.

THE PLAN: *God is never TAKEN BY SURPRISE. He has a plan all along!*

- God's ways are always different than we expect.
- God's ways are always greater than we can imagine.