

TAKEAWAY

Just do it

Finding our part in the master plan

What to do when it all goes wrong

Sunday 27th October 2019

INTRODUCTION

In this series, Matt has taken us through some useful filters for our decisions and tools that help us make them. This week, Bekah used Elijah as a case study to see how this great man of God discerned the way forward and how he responded when things went wrong.

READ

1 Kings 17-19 (or at least parts of it!)

DISCUSS

1. The Bible is full of characters who followed God faithfully but nevertheless ended up in prison, or rejected or broken. What examples can you think of?

2. How do you feel about the idea that following God doesn't necessarily mean a bed of roses?

3. Elijah is a prophet with a seemingly awesome ability to hear God's voice in precise detail. Right down to knowing where to camp out, (17:3-4) who to ask for food (17:8). How easy do you find it to hear God speak? What does it look like for you?

Are there times when you are sure you've heard Holy Spirit talking?

4. Chapter 17 demonstrates that following God often looks like only knowing what the next step looks like: Go to the brook, go to the town, find the widow, God will provide the food. In between, it can look like everything's gone wrong. Bekah suggested we should remember that *if it's not alright, it's not finished yet*. We have to wait for God to turn the next page in the story. Where have you seen this to be true in your life? Are you waiting in a dark place now for hope to come on the next page?

5. Why not share your concerns and pray for each other now?

6. In chapter 19, we find Elijah broken and lost after an amazing victory over the prophets of Baal. He discovers that no matter what he does, or how good God is, Jezebel still won't be moved. Do you have situations where you need to relinquish responsibility for other people's actions?

7. God's response to Elijah is amazing. (19:5-9) He doesn't condemn his lack of faith, but basically tells him to have nap, a snack, take a walk and rest in His presence. How good are you at doing this? As a group, why not hold each other accountable for this?

8. Finally, (19:15) God sends Elijah back. Is there a situation you need to return to? Why not pray about that now?

