

Pastor Dave Patterson MOBILIZE Intro: "Getting Un-stuck" Sermon Small Group Notes

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than

[Luke 10.2, NLT] Theme Verse for Mobilize

These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.

There are so many people in the local church who are gifted and called but who have gotten somehow sidelined and sidetracked.

[Acts 17.6, ESV]

And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also.

[1 Kings 19.3, NIV]

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there...

[1 Kings 18.19-21, NIV]

Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing.

[1 Kings 19.1-4, NLT]

When Ahab got home, he told Jezebel everything Elijah had done, including the way he had killed all the prophets of Baal. So Jezebel sent this message to Elijah: "May the gods strike me and even kill me if by this time tomorrow I have not killed you just as you killed them." Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. Then he went on alone into the wilderness, traveling all day. He sat down under a solitary broom tree and prayed that he might die. "I

have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life, for I am no better than my ancestors who have already died."

Great faith and great fear can live in the same heart.

A paradox can be a reality working in tandem with a seemingly conflicting situation to build faith and give glory to God.

[1 Kings 19.5-8, NLT]

Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. But as he was sleeping, an angel touched him and told him, "Get up and eat!" He looked around and there beside his head was some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water! So he ate and drank and lay down again. Then the angel of the Lord came again and touched him and said, "Get up and eat some more, or the journey ahead will be too much for you." So he got up and ate and drank, and the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God.

The more ground you plan on taking, the more opposition you will face.

When God takes us from stagnation to mobilization, He is patient with us!

[1 Kings 19.9-14, NLT]

There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the Lord said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" Elijah replied, "I have zealously served the Lord God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and

now they are trying to kill me, too." "Go out and stand before me on the mountain," the Lord told him. And as Elijah stood there, the Lord passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And a voice said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied again, "I have zealously served the Lord God Almighty. But the people of Israel have broken their covenant with you, torn down your altars, and killed every one of your prophets. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me, too."

He's never left nor forsaken us; He's always been a whisper away.

God can take a lot more of your nonsense then you think you can; He is the only One who will still sustain you even in your running and rebellion.

[1 Kings 9.15-18, NLT]

Then the Lord told him, "Go back the same way you came, and travel to the wilderness of Damascus. When you arrive there, anoint Hazael to be king of Aram. Then anoint Jehu grandson of Nimshi to be king of Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from the town of Abel-meholah to replace you as my prophet. Anyone who escapes from Hazael will be killed by Jehu, and those who escape Jehu will be killed by Elisha! Yet I will preserve 7,000 others in Israel who have never bowed down to Baal or kissed him!"

3 Things God and Told Elijah:

- 1. Get up and eat. [1 Kings 19.5-8] "It's right by your head."
- 2. Go out and stand. [1 Kings 19.9-14] "We stand in obedience."
- 3. Go back the way you came. [1 Kings 19.15-18]

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What does the church fully in motion look like?
- 2. Why do some strong believers get stuck? How do we explain that paradox?
- 3. When was a time that you felt paralyzed by some circumstance, afraid that things might never change?
- 4. Have you ever been dispatched, but felt conflicted by your current comfort? Moreover, why do some of us go through seasons where we are weakened, running from our calling?
- 5. Do you think Elijah was running for his life, or from it?
- 6. What was the last thing that God told you to do? Have you been obedient to do it faithfully? If so, what's next? If not, what needs to change?
- 7. What was a significant course-correction that you underwent, in order to get where you are today? What fruit was produced in your character, calling, or circumstances?