

FAITH • PART 5

Faith That Waits

1 Kings 19:1–13 | Galatians 5:6 | 1 John 4:16 | Psalm 46:10

Elijah had just witnessed one of the greatest displays of God's power in Scripture — fire falling from heaven, the prophets of Baal defeated. Yet one threat from Jezebel sent him running for his life, collapsing under a broom tree and asking God to let him die. Great faith does not exempt us from fear. This week we learn where God met Elijah in his exhaustion — and where He meets us: faith is anchored by love and matured in stillness.

I. FAITH WORKS THROUGH LOVE

After the victory over the prophets of Baal, Jezebel threatened Elijah's life. Fear moved him to run into the wilderness, sit under a broom tree, and ask to die (1 Kings 19:1–4). The same man who called down fire from heaven was undone by fear — because fear and faith cannot occupy the same foundation.

“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.”

— Galatians 5:6

“God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

— 1 John 4:16

Key Truths

- Love is the weight that keeps faith grounded — without it, faith rises and drifts like an empty balloon.
- Jesus stayed on the cross not because of the nails, but because of love. Love was the weight that held Him there.
- When love is not at the forefront of our life, fear rushes in to take its place.
- Faith expressed without love — through pride, comparison, or dishonoring others — is faith that does not work.

II. FAITH MATURES IN STILLNESS

God fed Elijah, let him rest, and led him forty days to Mount Horeb. There, God did not ask a question because He needed an answer — He asked so Elijah would reflect: “What are you doing here?” (1 Kings 19:9, 13). The same question is worth sitting with today.

“And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains... but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper.”

— 1 Kings 19:11–12

"Be still, and know that I am God."

— Psalm 46:10

Key Truths

- God was not found in the wind, the earthquake, or the fire — the very things that trigger fear in us. He was found in the still, low whisper.
- Elijah could only hear the whisper because he had nowhere left to run. Stillness positions us to hear God's voice.
- "We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope" (Romans 5:3–5).
- "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Faith must be tried in order to grow.

III. GOD'S QUESTION TO YOU

Simeon in Jerusalem was righteous, devout, and patiently waiting on the Lord — and it had been revealed to him that he would not see death before he saw the Lord's Christ (Luke 2:25–26). His faith was marked by patient, love-anchored waiting, not desperate running.

Reflect

What are you doing here? What situation, fear, or pattern has God brought you face-to-face with today?

Where in your life has fear been setting the pace instead of love?

What has God allowed to feel like a wind, an earthquake, or a fire — so that you would finally be still enough to hear Him?

DECLARATION

My faith is anchored in love, not in fear.

I will not keep running — I will be still and know that He is God.

My suffering is producing endurance, character, and hope.

I will wait on the Lord in love, for hope in Him will not put me to shame.

Jesus IS The Way — and I will walk by faith, not by fear.

MY NOTES

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