When I Feel Like Giving Up

Greg Kline · 1 Kings 19:1–18

INTRODUCTION

- Elijah is a prophet of God, and that's going to be important to remember because he is great and he is faithful, and then he's struggling.
- I can do great things. I can be faithful. And I still very well may find myself struggling.
- In a world that doesn't agree, when we're outnumbered, God is still real. God is still in control, and God will show his power.

1 Be Realistic: I Will Face Moments of Crisis

1 Kings 19:1–10; Galatians 6; Hebrews 12

- Christians are told, do not grow weary, do not give up, run the race with endurance, looking to the cross.
- Let's be realistic that I am going to face these moments of crisis.
- He had said, I've had enough, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my father's.
- God knew where Elijah was. And he was able to take care of his needs.
- Sometimes he was so tunnel visioned, he's forgetting things he already knew to make his case sound a little bit more drastic and dire.

2 Get Up and Look

1 Kings 19:11–13; 2 Kings 5:10–14; Ephesians 3:20

- If you are feeling discouraged, if you are feeling down, the first thing you have to do is stop wallowing.
- This is unfair, unjust, and yet it's real. But he needs to get up.
- We need to be open to the possibility that God has a bigger plan and better solutions than I can even imagine.
- The question isn't can he do it? It's will I trust him?

3 Get Up and Serve

1 Kings 19:15–18

- He doesn't need me or you to become an atheist. He just needs us on the sideline.
- This is the danger of discouragement because he hasn't switched teams. He's just not playing.
- Stop thinking about what you can't do and trust that my plan will work.
- God does the impossible, like Mount Carmel. I do the possible, like calling out to him to show his strength.

4 Difficulty Does Not Have to Define Me

Philippians 4:10–13; Genesis 37

- I need to know difficulty does not have to define me. Here's the challenge, though. It can.
- In any and all circumstances, I have learned the secret of being content.
- Elijah was a prophet of God at its peak. He was a prophet of God in the cave.

5 You Are Not Alone

Acts 2:44–47; Acts 4:36–37

- You are not alone. That's never been God's plan.
- God knows who you are and what you need. You are not alone.
- We are not alone, and if we think we're alone, the devil is lying to us.
- We need more sons and daughters of encouragement.

6 God Will Always Care for His People

Joshua 1; Psalm 34:15–18; Romans 12:17–21

- God will never fail us, unlike people who make mistakes.
- The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry for help.
- The Lord is near the brokenhearted. He saves those crushed in spirit.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Maybe you're a Christian and like Elijah who had ups and downs, you're in a down. Please know, you are not alone. I love you. Members of this congregation love you, and most importantly, God loves you.**

MY NOTES