

# Experience vs. Intimacy

1 KINGS 19:9-18

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***An Experience of God does not compare to Intimacy with Him.***

## **3 Reasons we ought to pursue intimacy with Christ.**

1.

2.

3.

## **3 Things that Deepen our intimacy with Christ.**

1.

2.

3.

## **1 Kings 19:9-18**

<sup>9</sup> There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup> He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." <sup>11</sup> And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. <sup>13</sup> And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup> He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup> And the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. <sup>16</sup> And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup> And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. <sup>18</sup> Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Why do experiences not bread depth in relationships? Why is personal time spent together the way to deepen our relationships?
2. Have you ever been in a season of life when God felt distant and reading your bible, worship, and prayer felt stale? What was your mindset at that time?
3. Why does God desire intimacy with His people?
4. Why do you want to grow in your relationship with God?
5. If we know that reading our bible, prayer, and serving cultivate intimacy with God, why do we not pursue these things more?

### ***Quote for the Week. . .***

**by J.I. Packer**

What were we made for? To know God. What aim should we have in life? To know God. What is the eternal life that Jesus gives? To know God. What is the best thing in life? To know God. What in humans gives God most pleasure? Knowledge of Himself.