

# Heart Matters – Faith that stands firm

1 Kings 19: 9 - 21

## 1. 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' 9 - 11

- Hiding for my life!
- Elijah is where God has told him to be!
- Elijah focuses on what he has done – The failure of God's people, the death threats he has run from.
- Elijah is invited into the presence of God!

## 2. God whispers! 11 - 14

- A great and powerful wind
- An earthquake
- Fire
- Still small voice! What are you doing here Elijah?
- Elijah repeats verse 10!

## 3. God directs 15 - 18

- Go back!
- Anoint Hazael king of Aram
- Jehu king of Israel
- Elisha as your successor
- By the way, you are not alone – there are 7,000 others!

## 4. Elisha is called

- The cloak symbolised his call
- Elisha responds wholeheartedly
- He sets out to follow and become Elijah's attendant!
- God has not given up on his people!

Faith stretched, Faith rewarded,

## Digging Deeper

Read 1 Kings 19: 9 -11

1. Where is Elijah and why is he there?
2. What do you think lies behind God's question to Elijah?
3. Elijah focuses on the events around him, telling God what God knew already. In what ways do we do the same?
4. What does God want for Elijah? What is best for us? and how do we discipline ourselves to focus on that?

Read 1 Kings 19: 11 – 14

1. Why would God go through the sequence of Wind, Earthquake and Fire?
2. Why does Elijah cover his head with his cloak when he hears God's voice?
3. Why would God repeat the same question to Elijah? Why does Elijah repeat himself? What might we learn from this?

Read 1 Kings 19: 15 – 18

1. Elijah's time away in hiding is brought to a close. He is told to anoint kings! What lies behind what God is saying to Elijah through these instructions?
2. How do these help us remain faithful in our current culture?
3. Is verse 18 a rebuke or an encouragement? Do you feel as if you are all alone? How might we help one another when we feel isolated?

Read 1 Kings 19: 19 – 21

1. Elisha responds to Elijah's appointment of him – what does he do?
2. Read Matthew 10: 37 – 39. Does this apply to us all or just to God's special people like Elijah and Elisha?
3. Elisha has to work an apprenticeship. What should the route to leadership look like for PBC?