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2 – How To Fulfill My Task When My Tank Is Empty

CrossWay Church – Macky Shedd – November 24th, 2024

When Ahab got home, he told Jezebel everything Elijah had done, including the way he had killed all the prophets of Baal. 2 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.” 3 Elijah was afraid and fled for his life. He went to Beersheba, a town in Judah, and he left his servant there. 4 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.” 5 Then he lay down and slept under the broom tree. 1 Kings 19:1-5 (NLT)

*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.”* **1 Kings 19:10 (NLT)**

# **HOW DO I GUAGE WHEN MY TANK IS EMPTY?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ creeps into my life.

Elijah was afraid…

1. I FIND MYSELF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

…fled for his life.

1. I START \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, ONCE GOOD, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

…he left his servant there.

1. I MAKE FOOLISH, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

…he went on alone into the wilderness, traveling all day.

1. I PUSH MYSELF BEYOND MY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

collapsed in its shade. (MSG)

1. MY WORK \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

“I have zealously served the Lord God Almighty. But…”

1. I CONSIDER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ WHAT I ONCE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ TO.

“I have had enough, Lord…”

1. I FEEL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

“I am the only one left and now they are trying to kill me too.”

But I still have 7,000 people in Israel whose knees have not knelt to worship Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.” 1 Kings 19:18 (GW)

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CONSUMES Me & I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_MYSELF TO OTHERS.

“I am no better than my ancestors…”

1. I THINK \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MIGHT BRING \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

…prayed that he might die. “Take my life.”

REMEMBER: Elijah was a human being just like us. James 5:17a (NIV)

HOW DOES GOD REFILL MY EMOTIONAL & SPIRITUAL TANK?

1. GOD MAKES ME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. Psalm 23:2-3 (NIV)

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!” 6 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. 7 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.” 8 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 1 Kings 19:5-8 (NLT)

*…God wants his loved ones to get their proper rest.* **Psalm 127:2b (TLB)**

1. GOD ENCOURAGES ME TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

…the food gave him enough strength to travel forty days and forty nights to Mount Sinai, the mountain of God. 9 There he came to a cave, where he spent the night. But the Lord said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” 10 Elijah replied... 1 Kings 19:8-9 (NLT)

1. GOD CALLS ME TO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ ON HIM.

“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. 12 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. 13 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?” 1 Kings 19:11-13 (NLT)

Just thinking of my troubles and my lonely wandering makes me miserable. 20 That's all I ever think about, and I am depressed. 21 Then I remember something that fills me with hope. 22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 24 “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” Lamentations 3:19-24 (CEV/ESV)

I MUST REMEMBER & focus on GOD’S SWEET NATURE:

s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LOVE!

U \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mercy!

G \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ faithfulness!

A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ kind!

R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hope!

1. GOD INSISTS I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OTHERS.

“Go back the same way you came…to the wilderness...When you arrive…anoint Hazael…anoint Jehu…and anoint Elisha…So Elijah went and found Elisha.” 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19 (NLT)

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