



## Hope In The Mountaintop | 1 Kings 19:11-18

1. As you think back over our Elijah series, which themes or stories have enabled you to most connect with the Scriptures? Why? Have you discovered something about Elijah's story that you didn't know before? What difference has that made in your everyday living?
2. Of all the encounters Elijah has, which one would you most have liked to have been present at in-person? Why? Have you ever had a similar life experience?
3. Think about the ways in the story that Elijah's geography is a metaphor for his faith journey in that moment. Is this deliberate or incidental? Can you think of other Bible stories where this happens?
4. Remind yourself of the reasons why Elijah finds himself in 'a cave' emotionally and literally. How does God help Elijah move to 'a mountaintop' encounter?
5. Elijah honestly believed he was the only faithful one left. God replaced this lie with the truth: there were actually 7,000 others who still were faithful. Can you name a similar lie that you believed to be true? How did God reveal His truth to you? Did you hear from God in an earthquake, wind, fire, a quiet whisper or some other way?
6. Think about 2 Corinthians 10:3-6 and Romans 12:1-2 alongside Elijah's story. How does Satan battle for control of our minds/thoughts? Why are our minds a primary battle ground in spiritual warfare?
7. What changes in Elijah's circumstances enabled him to hear from God? How much is it our job to listen and God's job to speak?
8. How do you most often hear God 'speak to you'? If the audible voice of God is rare, how do we hear and how do we discern if it is God who we are 'hearing'?
9. Should Christians/the church be enthusiastic all the time? Share the ways you seek to remain faithful, even when you are in 'a cave' and especially when you are living everyday life 'in the wilderness'.
10. What are some ways that you can remind yourself that God is in control, especially when you are in the middle of difficult circumstances?
11. Why does God send Elijah back into the wilderness rather than allowing him to stay on the mountaintop? What is God calling you to do in 'the wilderness' (what Chris described as the place of our everyday living)?