Sparking The Flames of Revival: Ep. 5 In the Stillness¹

1 Kings 19:11-13

The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Experiencing God while living in a land of confusion.

Stillness is perhaps the most powerful and under-pursued attribute of God

Psalm 46:10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

Elijah is on the run — **1 Kings 19:3** Elijah was afraid and ran for his life.

• Elijah was living from the outside in rather than from the inside out.

God on the move — The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

STOP RUNNING

Key Components: Lord, Go, Stand, On the Mountain, **In the Presence**, About to Pass By.

The Lord: Yahweh, a form of the Hebrew name of God used in the Bible. The name came to be regarded by Jews (*c.* 300 BC) as too sacred to be spoken, and the vowel sounds are uncertain.

Words are limited.

Deception: "Not in the rocks" - "Not in the wind"

• 2 Thess 2:9-10 The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, ¹⁰ and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

_

¹ A first corner message: The corner of your heart.

A simple question: What are you doing here? Vs. 13 When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

In Silence God ceases to be an object and becomes an experience. Thomas Merton

Food for the journey: Questions and challenges so that you can dig deeper in small group discussion or personal reflection.

- 1. Pastor Adam suggested that stillness is perhaps the most powerful and under-pursued attribute of God. What are the benefits of stillness for the spiritual life?
- 2. Elijah was on the run after having just had a major victory over the prophets of Baal. How do you deal with fear and are we more susceptible to fear after a spiritual win?
- 3. Words put limitations on things. Silence is closer to expressing God than any word. How often do you employ silence in knowing God?
- 4. God asked Elijah "What are you doing here?" What was God trying to say?
- 5. God told Elijah to stand in His presence. When do you experience God's presence?