

The Gap

The need located between God's expectations and our experiences



Have you ever concluded...

"The journey is too much for me"





Discouragement can happen when L.2

Miscalculate the cost of victory and criticism.

"2So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, 'May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.' Elijah was afraid and ran for his life."

1 Kings 19:2-3

Elijah choose to run



Elijah choose not to ask God for help



Elijah choose to isolate



Elijah choose to get lost in self-pity





Discouragement can happen when 1...?

Choose a unhealthy response to life's challenges.

"³Elijah was **afraid** and **ran** for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. 'I have had enough, LORD,' he said. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."



Discouragement can happen when L.2

Exhaust my physical and emotional limits.

"5 Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep. All at once an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' 6...He ate and drank and then lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you."

1 Kings 19:5-7



Discouragement can happen when L_2

Forget that standing in the gap requires <u>God's touch</u>.

"7.... Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.' 8So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. ⁹There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: 'What are you doing here, Elijah?"

1 Kings 19:7-9

Recognize what you have been through.



"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."



Reach up to God in prayer.



"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."



Reach out to God's people for support.



"5For when we came into Macedonia, this body of ours had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within. ⁶But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus."

Get Dressed with the amor of God



Rest and Restore

