

Overview

Biblical Passage 1 Kings 19:1-18

Supporting Passages 1 Kings 18:1-46

Memory Verse Psalm 56:3

Biblical Truth God encouraged Elijah to stay committed to His mission even though the world around Elijah was hostile.

Context Elijah knew what it was like to live his life out loud. But in doing so, it meant running up against opposition. Accepting God's invitation to be on mission with Him requires a step of faith; remaining committed to God's mission when the going gets tough often requires us to make a leap of faith. In this second lesson of Living Loud, we'll discover that God never promised us that it would be easy to be on mission with Him—but He did promise us that He would always be with us. Even when it seems that things are spinning out of control in this world, we need to remember that God is still sovereign and that He will accomplish His purposes in His time.

Learning Goals

- **Explore:** Students will learn that even as the world around them may be hostile to their lifestyle, God calls them to stay committed to Him.
- **Transform:** Students will begin to value the fact that God is constantly with them as they live for Him.

Prayer Suggestions

As you prepare to teach this lesson, pray for your students.

- Pray that your students will understand that God is with them all the time.
- Pray that your students will listen for God's whisper in the midst of times of trial.
- Pray that your students will continue to carry out God's mission even when they face hostility.

Biblical Commentary

Investigation

With Moses serving as His mediator, God laid down the terms of His covenant with the Israelites. If the Israelites were obedient to God's commandments, then He would bless them. The rain would fall in season, the ground would yield fruit, and they would dwell in safety. But God also warned the Israelites that if they disobeyed His commandments—if they failed to keep up their end of the covenant—then they would be punished. The rain would cease to fall, the soil would no longer yield its fruit, plagues would come upon them, and their enemies would pursue them.

Although the Israelites knew that they were to worship only the Lord their God, putting no other gods before Him, they were repeatedly led astray by idolatrous kings and priests. In the time of **Elijah**, the Israelites chose to follow the example of the wicked King **Ahab**, who worshiped **Baal**. Consequently, God judged Israel, and the land experienced a severe drought.

After Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal to a cosmic duel on Mount Carmel, God demonstrated His divine supremacy in a dramatic fashion. When the people saw how God defeated the prophets of Baal, they responded, "The Lord—He is God! The Lord—He is God!" (1 Kings 18:39) After this battle, Elijah ordered the people to kill the prophets of Baal. Then the Lord unleashed a thunderstorm, and rain once again fell on the parched land. Capping off an extraordinary day with a burst of supernatural speed, Elijah was able to outrun Ahab's chariot as he returned home in defeat to Jezreel. Despite everything that the king had witnessed, Ahab was not ready to turn away from the false gods who had been so soundly defeated by the Lord God Almighty. Elijah still had work to do.

Importance

This passage of Scripture is important because it reminds students of the Essential Truth that **God Is**. God reminded Elijah that He is the Creator of the universe, the one who controls the forces of nature. The wind, the earthquake, and the fire that Elijah encountered were all under God's control. Even though Elijah attempted to run and hide in the face of a threat against his life, God knew where His prophet was, sent an angel to minister to his physical needs, and spoke to him to encourage him to continue on the mission. Although it seemed to Elijah like the forces of evil were prevailing in this battle, the Lord God Almighty made it clear that He was sovereign and that His will would be done. The Lord had made a covenant with His people, and even though they had turned to other gods and deserved judgment, He had a plan to spare a Godly remnant to carry on His work in the world.

These passages also touch another Essential Truth: **People are God's Treasure**.

Interpretation

1 Kings 19:1-2 After King Ahab returned to his wife at their palace in Jezreel and reported the details of Elijah's defeat of the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel and their subsequent slaughter, Queen Jezebel vowed to kill Elijah. There was no reason to doubt Jezebel's words, since she had already killed other prophets of the Lord (18:4).

1 Kings 19:3-4 How quickly things had changed. In the previous two chapters, Elijah had experienced the mighty power of God in astounding ways. While Elijah was in the wilderness, God sent ravens bearing bread and meat to sustain His prophet (17:6). God worked a miracle at Zarephath in the midst of the famine, keeping the prophet, a widow, and her family well fed with a jar of flour and a jug of oil that never ran dry (17:15-16). When the widow's son died, Elijah prayed and raised the boy from the dead (17:22). God gave Elijah the courage to confront King Ahab about his sin and challenge him to that fateful battle of the prophets on Mount Carmel (18:18-19). God responded once again to Elijah's prayers and sent down fire from Heaven to prove that He was indeed the one, true God (18:37-38). God empowered Elijah to outrun Ahab's chariot in a 17-mile race (18:44-46).

Yet now Elijah was in hiding, fearing for his life. Having learned of Jezebel's death threat from the messenger, he fled south, left his servant behind in **Beersheba**, and sought refuge in the wilderness. Feeling like an abject failure, the prophet begged God to end his misery and take his life. Jezebel's persecution was more than he could bear.

1 Kings 19:5-6 For the second time, God provided for Elijah's physical needs in a miraculous way. Elijah was in the wilderness, but he certainly wasn't alone. The "angel of the Lord" attended him, feeding him, giving him water, and allowing him to rest.

1 Kings 19:7-8 The Lord repeated His gracious gesture and sent His messenger once again to nourish the weary prophet. Divinely strengthened, Elijah was able to make a 40-day journey to Mount **Horeb**, the holy place where God had made His covenant with the Israelites. Just as God sustained Moses for 40 days and nights while he was on this mountain (Ex. 24:18), He sustained Elijah to prepare him for the next phase of his mission to turn the people's hearts back to the Lord. This was a time of temptation for Elijah: Would he be obedient to the One who had called him to be on mission, or would he be paralyzed by fear and self-doubt and abandon his calling? In a later time, Jesus would also spend 40 days and nights in the wilderness, where He was tempted by the devil as He prepared to launch his ministry (Luke 4:1-2).

1 Kings 19:9-10 Could it be that this cave was the cleft in the rock where Moses stood to watch God's glory pass by (Ex. 33:22)? Like Moses, Elijah had a unique encounter with God on this holy mountain. Because God is omniscient, He didn't need to hear Elijah's answer to know why His prophet was in such a dire state of mind in a remote location. Elijah's response was defensive in tone as if to say, "I've been carrying out your mission, and look where it's gotten me!" The Israelites had sinned grievously, the covenant had been broken, and Elijah felt powerless to make a difference.

1 Kings 19:11-13 Now it was Elijah's turn to experience the presence of the Lord on this mountain. The wind, earthquake, and fire are all characteristic features of a theophany—a visible manifestation of God (Brueggemann, 236). God had displayed fire on this holy mountain before—at the burning bush when God first called Moses (Ex. 3:2) and on the day when God descended on the mountain to speak with Moses and give Him

the Law (Ex. 19:18-19).

After the Creator demonstrated His power through three natural phenomena, He chose to speak to Elijah in a unique way. Various translations have rendered the sound as “a whisper,” “a still small voice,” or “a sound of sheer silence” (Brueggemann, 236). Whatever the case, Elijah experienced the calm after the storm. He clearly recognized the presence of the Lord, and in response he hid his face. Once again, the Lord posed His question to the prophet.

1 Kings 19:14 Elijah remained defensive. The prophet wanted God to have pity on him. After all, hadn't he been obedient? Hadn't he been carrying out God's mission? Didn't God feel the least bit sorry that His prophet had felt compelled to run for his life?

1 Kings 19:15-17 While God cared deeply about His prophet, He also felt passionately about His people. They needed a prophet in order to hear a word from God. His people needed to be prompted to recognize the error of their ways. God was not going to let Elijah off the hook since there was still work to be done. Elijah wasn't the last prophet standing; God had already made plans for a successor, **Elisha**, who would carry on His divine mission. God instructed Elijah to leave one wilderness and head to another one in the north, where he would put the next part of God's plan in motion.

Contrary to Elijah's belief, Jezebel had not thwarted God's plan. After Jehu was anointed as king of Israel, he went to Jezreel and ordered Jezebel's death (2 Kings 9:30-33). Through an elaborate scheme, Jehu was later able to assemble all the ministers of Baal, and he ordered his officers to kill them and demolish the temple of Baal (2 Kings 10:18-28).

1 Kings 19:18 Elijah thought that he was the last faithful Israelite, but in reality there were 7,000 other people who had refused to worship Baal. While 7,000 is likely a symbolic number, God's point was clear: in His grace, He had preserved a remnant (Rom. 11:2-5). The beleaguered prophet wasn't the only person responsible for carrying out God's mission. Elijah had to do his part in obedience and then leave the rest up to God.

Implications

Elijah's story should resonate with students who know all too well what's it like to be on a spiritual high one moment and in the pit of despair the next. In fact, if we're honest with ourselves, we can all identify times of emotional letdown that came on the heels of a spiritual victory. Students also can identify with Elijah's experience of “it's me against the world.” Why is it that we forget so quickly what God has already done in our lives? How is it that we can experience a sense of being all alone when Jesus has promised us that He is with us always? Consider how you can encourage your students to keep their spiritual perspective in the midst of times of trial. Is there a personal story you can share with them about a time when you felt like Elijah? How did God reassure you and get you back on track?

God never promised us that it would be easy to be on mission with Him. In fact, Jesus made it clear that we would experience tribulation in the world (John 16:33). Even the language that Jesus used to describe discipleship underscores the challenge of being a Christ-follower: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matt. 16:24). But just as God sustained Elijah and encouraged him to continue to be faithful to His mission, God will sustain and encourage us. Remind students that God is with them every moment of the day, and the one who began a good work in them will be faithful to carry it to

completion (Phil. 1:6). Ask students how God has reassured them in the past during times when they were fearful or discouraged. Challenge students to be wholeheartedly committed to God's mission.

Teaching Plan

Connect Activity

Review Questions: Moses: Surrender to the Mission

(5-8 minutes, easy set-up)

Students will answer five review questions from the previous lesson.

(5-8 minutes, easy set-up)

Download the “Review Questions” activity sheet. Print one copy for your own use.

After greeting students, use the review questions to test what they can recall from the previous lesson as well as to provide context for today’s lesson.

Media Option: Risk

(3-5 minutes, Reverb Media Pass required)

Students will watch a video about the risks that a bull rider takes.

(3-5 minutes, Reverb Media Pass required)

If your church has purchased the Reverb Media Pass or the Reverb DVD, preview and arrange to show the “Risk” video. (If your church has not purchased the Reverb Media Pass, you can purchase this single video through the “Media” tab.)

Play the video for your students. When the video is over, ask students what they thought about the video. Explain that the young man in the video has chosen to engage in a pretty hostile sport. He has to take risks to excel. Explain to students that today’s lesson is about risking it all for Christ in the face of a hostile world. Say: **Brian called the bull “an uncontrollable animal.” If we’re honest, there are times in our lives when the world feels a little like this—like it’s out to get us. Today we’ll be looking at a similar time in the life of Elijah. We’ll learn about how the world was hostile to him and how, with God’s help, he dealt with it.**

Drama: Snowball Fight

(5-10 minutes, easy set-up)

Students will watch a drama about two friends in a snowball fight.

(5-10 minutes, easy set-up)

Download the drama script. Prior to the session, enlist two students to enact the drama. Give copies of the script to cast members ahead of time so that they will be ready to perform it.

Prompt students to perform the drama. Afterward, ask: **Why do you suppose that Jared was all worked up over a mere snowball fight?** Allow students to respond. Then ask: **Do you ever get the feeling that the whole world is out to get you and that you're the only one standing?** Say: **Elijah felt that way at one point too, but God wasn't about to let him off the hook. God took care of Elijah's needs physically, spiritually, and emotionally, made him shake off his depression, and sent him back in. Today we'll consider what this looks like and how we can sometimes identify with Elijah by responding to God in obedience.**

Explore Activity

Master Teacher Key Study: Elijah; On Mission in a Hostile World

(10-15 minutes, easy set-up)

Students will study 1 Kings 19:1-18 to understand Elijah's loneliness and God's response

(10-15 minutes, easy set-up)

Download the Master Teacher Key Study. Print one copy for your own use. Also download the Master Teacher Student Worksheet. Print a copy for each learner. Also provide pens.

Learning Goal: Students will learn that even as the world around them may be hostile to their lifestyle, God calls them to stay committed to Him.

Pass out pens and copies of the Master Teacher Student Worksheet. Then use the Master Teacher Key Study to teach 1 Kings 19:1-18.

Transform Activity

Deeper Discussion

(10 minutes, easy set-up)

Students will discuss how they respond to hard times and troubling situations.

(10 minutes, easy set-up)

Learning Goal: Students will begin to value the fact that God is constantly with them as they live for Him.

Use the following questions to begin a discussion:

- **How do you normally respond to hard times and troubling situations? What do you do**

when life seems chaotic and everything is falling apart? To whom do you run? From whom do you run?

- **What keeps you from turning to God in tough situations?**
- **How does God meet you in those tough times in terms of your physical, spiritual, and emotional needs?**
- **How does God speak to you to let you know that you are not alone?**
- **How does God call you back to His plans and purposes? How do you respond?**

Creative Prayer

(10 minutes, easy set-up)

Students will pray after being inspired by stories from Scripture about characters whom God comforted in hard times.

(10 minutes, easy set-up)

On strips of paper, write the following: Daniel and the Lion's Den, Jonah in the Belly of a Big Fish, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the Fiery Furnace, Paul & Silas in Prison. Post the strips of paper in various places around the room.

Learning Goal: Students will begin to value the fact that God is constantly with them as they live for Him.

Gather students in the middle of the room. Lead them to focus their attention on the strips of paper that you've posted in various places around the room. Say: **These were real people in real circumstances. There was nothing about what was going on in their lives that was easy or uncomplicated. Each had a mission to fulfill. Each found himself in the middle of a hostile situation. Some wanted to run away, while others embraced the situation. But it's likely that each one of them felt alone in some way. Nevertheless, God revealed Himself and His purposes, sparing their lives and using them for His mission.**

Invite students to choose one of the sets of characters and form a prayer around that character. Give the following example: **God, give me the perseverance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. When I face "fiery trials," help me to embrace them, knowing that you're there with me.**

Tell students that they can pray where they are, they can find a quieter place, or they may go to where the particular strip of paper and pray. Remind students that they are not alone—God is with them.

Reverb Student Book Option: You Are Not Alone

(10 minutes, Reverb student book required)

Students will complete an activity about whether they are alone in the faith.

(10 minutes, Reverb student book required)

If your church has purchased the Reverb student book, preview the activity on page 250. If possible, provide a copy of the book to reference as you mention the activity to students.

Learning Goal: Students will begin to value the fact that God is constantly with them as they live for

Him.

As students work through pages 246-251 in the *Reverb* student book this week, challenge them to take about 10-15 minutes and read through the “You Are Not Alone” activity on page 250. Ask: **Have you ever had moments when you felt as though you were alone in the journey with Christ?** Explain that the enemy loves for us to feel alone. Explain further that when we believe that we’re the only ones, the enemy seeks to discourage us further. Say: **Don’t buy into the lie. You have God on your side—but what’s more, you have many others who are traveling the same road as you. They are in the middle of God’s mission as well. You are not alone.**

Living Loud 2, "Elijah: On Mission to a Hostile World"

Review Questions

1. When God spoke to Moses through the burning bush, He told him to _____ because he was standing on holy ground.
 - a. take off his sandals
 - b. take off his hat
 - c. take off his cloak
 - d. bow to the ground

2. Despite Moses' excuses, God still chose him but provided him with _____ as a partner in the mission.
 - a. Miriam, his sister
 - b. Aaron the Levite, his brother
 - c. Eli the priest
 - d. Joseph

3. God's mission for Moses was to _____.
 - a. go to King Ahab and bring the Israelites out of Israel
 - b. go to King David and bring the Israelites out of Egypt
 - c. go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt
 - d. go to Queen Candace and bring the Israelites out of Ethiopia

4. Moses' response to the revealing of God and His plan was basically this: "_____."
 - a. Okay, let's go.
 - b. Here I am. Send Aaron.
 - c. No way, Jose.
 - d. Please send someone else to do it.

5. Moses found the burning bush on _____.
 - a. Mount Horeb
 - b. Mount Sinai
 - c. Mount Everest
 - d. Mount Olympus

Living Loud 2, "Moses: Surrender to the Mission"

Answers

1. When God spoke to Moses through the burning bush, He told him to _____ because he was standing on holy ground. *(Lesson 1)*
 - a. **take off his sandals**
 - b. take off his hat
 - c. take off his cloak
 - d. bow to the ground

2. Despite Moses' excuses, God still chose him but provided him with _____ as a partner in the mission. *(Lesson 1)*
 - a. Miriam, his sister
 - b. **Aaron the Levite, his brother**
 - c. Eli the priest
 - d. Joseph

3. God's mission for Moses was to _____. *(Lesson 1)*
 - a. go to King Ahab and bring the Israelites out of Israel
 - b. go to King David and bring the Israelites out of Egypt
 - c. **go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt**
 - d. go to Queen Candace and bring the Israelites out of Ethiopia

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 - a. Okay, let's go.
 - b. Here I am. Send Aaron.
 - c. No way, Jose.
 - d. **Please send someone else to do it.**

5. Moses found the burning bush on _____. *(Lesson 1)*
 - a. Mount Horeb
 - b. **Mount Sinai**
 - c. Mount Everest
 - d. Mount Olympus

Living Loud 2: "Elijah: On Mission in a Hostile World"
Drama

Snowball Fight

Characters:

JARED
MACK

Props: barricade (such as a table turned on its side), paper or sock "snowballs" (optional)

Costumes: Both Jared and Mack should be dressed in the warmest winter clothes available.

Creative Note: Consider having someone pepper the barricade with the "snowballs" from backstage throughout the sketch.

(A guy, JARED, is hunkered down behind a barricade. He's dressed as if it's the dead of winter and freezing outside. Suddenly, his friend MACK comes running in yelling and jumps over the barricade to join JARED. He too is dressed as if he's ready to climb Mt. Everest. JARED looks terrified, while MACK looks like he's having the time of his life.)

MACK: Whew! That was close.

(MACK looks over at JARED.)

MACK: You okay?

JARED: What?

MACK: Are. You. Okay?

JARED: Are you kidding me? No, I'm not okay.

MACK: Oh, come on.

JARED: Do you know what's going on out there?

MACK: Yeah. It's crazy.

JARED: That's an understatement.

MACK: I've never seen anything like it.

JARED: That one too.

MACK: Yeah, it's great.

JARED: You're loving this, aren't you?

MACK: Well, I don't know if I'd say I'm "loving" it, but . . .

JARED: You're unbelievable.

MACK: Oh, come on. Lighten up.

JARED: Lighten up? Lighten up?! You've got to be joking.

MACK: What's the big deal?

JARED: I'll tell you what the big deal is. There's a whole mess of guys out there, and they're all after one thing and one thing only. And you know what that is? Us! They're after us! No matter where we go, no matter what we do, they're going to always be trying to get us.

MACK: True. True.

JARED: And that doesn't bother you?

MACK: I mean, yeah. I guess. A little bit.

JARED: A little bit?

MACK: Well, it's not like I can do anything about it. I've got what I'm trying to do, and they've got what they're trying to do, which just happens to be trying to stop me from doing what I'm trying to do.

JARED: Exactly. That's what I'm saying.

MACK: Look man, I get it. I do. But staying here and hiding doesn't accomplish anything. They'll get here eventually too. The best we can do is to keep trying, no matter what.

JARED: Yeah. I guess you're right.

MACK: Besides . . .

JARED: Besides what?

MACK: It's just a snowball fight. Now,
come on.

*(They take deep breaths, then dive out from
behind the barricade while yelling and run
offstage.)*

(The End)

Master Teacher Key Study **ELIJAH: ON MISSION IN A HOSTILE WORLD**

(15–20 minutes, easy set-up)

Use this outline and any of the corresponding activities to share the Biblical Truth with students.

Intro: What do we do when the world rejects our message and our mission?

Description: Elijah had already proven his God to be the one true God. He had killed the 450 prophets of Baal, and now Queen Jezebel was out to kill him as she had the other prophets of God. Other prophets who were still alive were in hiding.

Illustration: An organization called *The Voice of the Martyrs* sends out a monthly publication that tells the stories of Christians all over the world who endure harsh persecution by harassment from police or imprisonment or sometimes even death. They are most often accused of no more than sharing the Good News or handing out Bibles or other Christian literature. Many are persecuted for simply believing in Christ. Some of the stories are shocking. Yet this sort of thing takes place in the world we live in today. The reality is that the world is becoming increasingly hostile to the gospel of Christ.

1. Fear may cause us to abandon the mission (1 Kings 19:1–6).

Description: After hearing the threats of Queen Jezebel, Elijah was very afraid. He had seen a great display of God's power on Mt. Carmel, but his fear of Jezebel's threats now caused him to run away. Physically and emotionally exhausted, he fell asleep under a broom tree in the desert, where an angel of God attended his needs.

Illustration: On Sunday, January 30, 2005, Iraqis went to the polls for the first time in 50 years to elect an assembly of 275 representatives who would draw up a constitution. Insurgents and terrorists tried to scare away voters with threats of violent attacks. But the Iraqis turned out to vote en masse, expressing their God-given freedom. The Iraqis elected a representative government despite the threats of evil men.

Application: The hostilities directed toward Christians and the Christian faith can sometimes cause us to bail in fear. Even after experiencing a spiritual high, we're vulnerable to fear when we realize that others don't share our faith, and we become discouraged.

2. A hostile world can cloud our perspective of the mission (1 Kings 19:7–10).

Description: Elijah had convinced himself that he was the only one left who was faithful to the mission of God and that the opposition wanted him dead. Elijah was in the middle of the story that God wanted for him—even if it was a hostile story. God didn't say that He would take Elijah out of harm's way and destroy the people trying to kill him. He simply asked, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Illustration: It can be difficult to walk into an art museum, see the paintings on the wall, and fully appreciate them unless you know something of the artists who painted them. Vincent Van Gogh was a famous European impressionist painter whose paintings often displayed disturbing images. When you read about Van Gogh's troubled life, you have a better perspective on what he tried to express through art. Sometimes you have to step away from a work of art and take in the whole picture before you can understand what is happening in the picture.

Application: Our fear of what others think of us or even of what they'll do to us can keep us from being committed to living out our faith. We need God's perspective. We have to look to Him to see the big picture and not just our own circumstances. God sees beyond our circumstances and can point us in the right direction to accomplish His purposes.

3. God empowers us with His presence in order to accomplish His mission in us and through us (1 Kings 19:11–18).

Description: Although Elijah had already seen God reveal Himself as the Almighty, God took the opportunity to display His might and also to reveal Himself through a whisper as the relational, empowering God who sees and knows and who would accomplish His purposes through His servant, Elijah. Elijah would not be alone.

Illustration: Many celebrities often feel isolated and lonely. Their troubled lives are aired on the news networks and tabloids, causing them to withdraw and feel even more isolated. Michael Vick, Michael Jackson, Lindsay Lohan, Michael Phelps, and now Tiger Woods are just a few examples. Michael Jackson's life ended in tragedy as a result of a man who felt very much alone in life.

Application: The feelings of isolation and loneliness can be a dangerous thing. Throughout Scripture God has offered reassurance to His servants that in whatever He calls them to do, they were never alone but had His empowering, abiding presence with them and within them. We, just like them, are never alone.

Conclusion: The God who made us, loves us, and loves the world wants us to be with Him in His work.

Description: Elijah was a great prophet of God in a world that had grown very hostile toward the truth about God—even to the point of questioning His existence. Elijah stood against great odds, but He had God on His side, which beat all of the odds. Still, Elijah was human, sinful, and vulnerable to discouragement, depression, and loneliness. But God was faithful, patient, and loving, providing the refreshment and restoration that Elijah needed.

Application: "What am I doing here?" is a very deep question that all of us at one time or another need to consider about our lives. When we feel alone and discouraged, as if the whole world is against us, our tendency is to try to run from God. But God will use even our weaknesses to display His power and might and grace as He calls us back to Himself and His mission.

REVERB::LIVING LOUD::lesson two

ELIJAH: ON MISSION IN A HOSTILE WORLD

biblical passage: 1 Kings 19:1–18

memory verse: Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I will trust in you.

ELIJAH: ON MISSION IN A HOSTILE WORLD

1. _____ may cause us to abandon the _____ (1 Kings 19:1–6).
2. A hostile _____ can cloud our _____ of the mission (1 Kings 19:7–10)
3. God _____ us with His presence in order to _____ His mission in us and through us (1 Kings 19:11–18).

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How do you normally respond to hard times and troubling situations? What do you do when life seems chaotic and everything is falling apart? To whom do you run? From whom do you run?
- What keeps you from turning to God in tough situations?
- How does God meet you in those tough times in terms of your physical, spiritual, and emotional needs?
- How does God speak to you to let you know that you are not alone?
- How does God call you back to His plans and purposes? How do you respond?