

“By the Brook”
I Kings 17:1- 6 (Matt. 17:24-27)

I. Regardless of _____, you must Depend on God (vs. 1-3)

a. Boldness – “...shall not be dew... rain” vs. 1

Elijah had a boldness about him. His faith was such that the rain held off as a result of his prayers (James 5:17-18).

Quote: “The autumn and spring rains and summer dew were necessities for the crops of Israel. The Lord had threatened to withhold these from the land if His people turned from Him to serve other gods.” (Lev. 26:18, Deut. 11:16-17) – John MacArthur¹

b. Dependence – “hide thyself” vs. 3

The first mention of Elijah pictures him flaming up like a torch and just as quickly he is whisked away to another place. (*Psalm 127:1, John 3:27, II Cor. 3:5*)

II. God’s Plan _____ as You Walk by Faith (vs. 3)

When you’ve completed the first step, God lets you know the next step.

Quote: “The Lord usually leads His faithful people a step at a time as they tune their hearts to His Word. God didn’t give Elijah a three-year schedule to follow. Instead, He directed his servant at each critical juncture in his journey, and Elijah obeyed by faith.” – Warren Wiersbe²

Psalm 143:10 Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

¹ MacArthur, John. *The MacArthur Bible Commentary*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

² Wiersbe, Warren W. *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary: Old Testament*. Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2007.

III. God may use _____ to Provide for your Needs (vs. 4,6)

Ravens= birds that are scavengers. Sometimes they store some of their food in rocky crags.

(Consider the account of Peter taking the coin from the fish’s mouth to pay the tribute. Matthew 17:24-27)

My thought: It’s not about when Christ is made aware of our need, it’s about when we are in need, we are still aware of Him.

IV. Where God _____ He Provides (vs. 5-6)

“there” – it was **there** by the brook that God led Elijah to. It was also there that God used the water and the ravens to give Elijah what he needed. The place called **there** is where God provides.

Quote: “Never take for granted a place where God is working in your heart.” – Paul Chappell³

Psalm 23:2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Conclusion: Maybe you are at a place by the Brook. And there are some unexpected things going on. Don’t mistake it for anything other than what God is doing. And always depend on the Lord.

³ Chappell, Paul W. *In Desert Places*. Lancaster, CA: Striving Together Publications, 2011.