

Day 1

“Then he said, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain in the Lord’s presence.’ At that moment, the Lord passed by. A great and mighty wind was tearing at the mountains and was shattering cliffs 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. After the earthquake there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there was a voice, a soft whisper” (1 Kings 19:11–12, CSB).

Elijah played a key part in a resounding victory over the enemies of the Lord. Elijah challenged 450 prophets of Baal to a test to determine whose god was better. Formerly rebellious Israelites fell prostrate and worshiped God at His mighty display of power. Directly following this literal mountain-top experience, Elijah ran for his life, feeling completely alone in his service to God. In a moment of despair, God made His presence known to Elijah. God did not reveal Himself in the way Elijah expected—in the powerful wind or the earthquake. He revealed Himself in “a soft whisper.”

As we begin our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, making the effort to still our minds and our surroundings to hear God’s soft whisper will allow us to seek His presence in a more intimate way. Just as Elijah put himself in position to see God, may we put ourselves in position for God to reveal Himself.

How will you prepare yourself to hear from God as you pray during these 21 days? What will you fast from to seek God’s presence in the next 21 days?

Lord, as I start this 21-day journey with You, show me what You would have me to fast from so that I can better focus on You.