

Discipleship Tip

"Nothing organic continues to grow forever. God continues growth by planting new seeds. As leaders we must figure out ways to plant new seeds." - Dan Reiland.

I'd say connect groups are new seeds!

Connect Group Notes

28 Mar 2010

Ps Phil Pringle

Energised

John 4:14 (NKJV). "But whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

If we drink the water that God gives us, Jesus says it becomes a fountain. He says we will never thirst again; it will keep bubbling up inside of us. For the person who is a believer, out of our belly will flow a river. This water has a multiplying impact in our lives. If we just drink some of the water of God, we will find ourselves flowing like a river.

When we get ourselves into a position where we can receive the fresh life, the fresh water coming out of heaven, we will find ourselves with an energy that is unexplainable.

It doesn't matter how great things are, if they aren't connected to power, they won't work. We need to be re-energized. A person who needed to be re-energised was Elijah. (**1 Kings 19:6**).

When Elijah defeated the false prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel (**1 Kings 18:20-40**), the Bible says that "he repaired the altar of the Lord". This is something that we can do at a moment like Presence or every week when we come to church. As years go by, the fire in our lives become dulled. We need to rebuild the altar in our lives. The altar is the place of sacrifice, the place where we worship, the place where we bring offerings. The altar we build establishes who is number one in our lives.

After Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal, he heard the sound of an abundance of rain. Even this prophet thinks he has a breakthrough, but it isn't yet. He doesn't take a lack of results as evidence of it not happening. It generally takes more than we thought to get a breakthrough. Elijah checked seven times before he saw what he could hear, a small cloud. That small cloud was the beginning of the breakthrough, the drought breaking rain, that the nation of Israel saw.

The hand of God came on Elijah and he was able to outrun Ahab who was travelling in a chariot (**1 Kings 18:46**). We are living in a day when the spirit powered church is being accelerated way beyond anything the world is doing. Just by being who we are, we will find ourselves reaching more people, touching more lives, healing more sick, bringing more miracles than we have ever done in times past. This is the decade of God doing exceedingly above what we have imagined for our lives (**Eph 3:20**).

After the great victory, Elijah's life was threatened and he became discouraged and wished he was dead. Even when we are in the place of discouragement, running, desperate and away from God, God meets us there. (**1 Kings 19:5-7**). God gave Elijah two meals:

- The first meal was to heal Elijah from the past. Whatever has been in our past, we need food that will fix it up. We get faith to believe that whatever damaged us then we are now healed of.
- The second meal is a meal about the future. The journey ahead is too great for us. We need a meal to re-energise us to get us walking toward the future. There are some revelations, some worship moments, some encounter moments that will keep you going for your whole life!

TALK ABOUT

- Do you need to rebuild the altar in your life? What can you begin to do to rebuild it?
- What abundance can you hear in your future, despite what the forecasts might be?
- What 'meals' have you had in the past from God that have sustained you for a long time?

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