

Wrecked

Wrecked To Renewed (Week 1)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

A wrecked life is ready for renewal.

Key Scriptures

At the usual time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet walked up to the altar and prayed, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. Prove that I have done all this at your command. O Lord, answer me! Answer me so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God and that you have brought them back to yourself. Immediately the fire of the Lord flashed down from heaven and burned up the young bull, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up all the water in the trench! And when all the people saw it, they fell face down on the ground and cried out, "The Lord—he is God! Yes, the Lord is God!" 1 Kings 18:36-39

Then the Lord said to Elijah, "Go to the east and hide by Kerith Brook, near where it enters the Jordan River ... But after a while the brook dried up, for there was not rainfall anywhere in the land. 1 Kings 17:2-3, 7

Your next summit can only be reached through another valley.

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. Matthew 16:25

When life is wrecked:

- **Come close.** — start in God's word. *Come close to God, and God will come close to you. James 4:8*
- **Follow through.** — be obedient. *... even more blessed are all who hear the word of God and put it into practice. Luke 11:28*
- **Take the shot.** — step out in faith. *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. 2 Timothy 4:7*

Start talking.

- What are some of your favorite sports celebrations?
- Why do we tend to celebrate wins, but look past losses?

Start thinking.

- Read 1 Kings 18:36-39. What conclusions would we make about God and Elijah if this was all we knew of the story?
- How would such a view skew and limit our understanding of God?
- Read 1 Kings 17:2-3, 7. Kerith means, "the cutting place". Why did God lead Elijah there even when he had been faithful?
- Read Matthew 16:25. How does Jesus flip the prosperity/success paradigm?

Start sharing.

- Describe a time you have resisted the "valley" God has wanted to lead you into?
- How have you seen wrecked lives result in renewal?
- What are some lessons you've learned in "valleys" that helped you reach another summit?

Start doing.

- What commitment will you make this week to be in God's Word?
- What have you felt God speaking to you in this season? How will you apply that this week?
- How can you step out in faith during this season?

Closing prayer.

Jesus, forgive me for those times I have resisted the lessons you want to teach me in the valley. O LORD help me trust you when life feels wrecked. Help me to follow you, as you lead through each new valley. Give me the courage to know there is a season of renewal on a future summit. Father I believe you are for me even when things are overwhelming and uncertain. I will come close to you and follow through on the leading of your Spirit.