



## **PART 2**

### **INTRODUCTION**

When we find ourselves in a spiritual drought season, God does not want us to run away or change the circumstances that we are in. He wants us to stand in the midst of the drought to proclaim His Word and call forth rain. God is looking for rainmakers.

Before Elijah could stand on Mount Carmel challenging the Baal prophets, he needed to sit by brook Cherith. Cherith is a place of isolation and the ravens brought food to him daily. It is a season of waiting and learning to trust completely in God. Before God releases us to be rainmakers in our world today, there must be the maturing experiences of the Cherith brooks of life. These are the testings of life that purify and build us as they teach us to trust God—that we shall find out all in Him and lean, not on His gifts and provision, but on Himself.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. God's provision for Elijah was at the brook of Cherith. If Elijah had stayed where he was, he could have prayed and fasted, saying, "God, why haven't you supplied my needs?", but he would not have seen God's provision if he had not gone where God instructed. Have you found yourself at Cherith before? Share the experience.
2. How have you experienced God's provision in that season?
3. Are there times when you find it hard to trust in God? Give examples. What have you learned about God after those times?
4. What would you say to someone who is in Cherith or finding himself/herself in a difficult place?
5. Read 1 Kings 17:1-7. Do an inductive bible study (observations, interpretation and application). You can use the following as a guide.

i. Posture your heart. Spend some time in prayer and ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher. Open your heart to the Lord to speak to you.

ii. Read the passage aloud

iii. Ask some context questions of the passage:

- What sort of writing is this? (a letter, a poem, a narrative etc?)
- Are there any clues about the circumstances under which it was written?
- What has happened so far in this particular book of the Bible?

iv. Some observation questions of the passage:

- Are there any major sub-sections or breaks in the passage?
- What is the main point or points?
- What surprises are there?
- What are the key words? What words or ideas are repeated?

v. Some leading questions of the text:

- How does this passage relate to other parts of the book?
- How does the passage relate to Jesus?
- What does this teach us about God?
- How could we sum up the meaning of this passage in our own words?

vi. Some application questions of the passage:

- How does this passage challenge (or confirm) your understanding?
- Is there some attitude I need to change?
- How does this passage call on me to change the way I live?

### **WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**

When we find ourselves in Cherith, reflect on these two questions and have a conversation with someone you trust.

- What is God trying to change in me?
- Am I truly trusting God through the circumstances?

A rainmaker learns to truly trust God.

### **CHANGE YOUR MINDSET**

*“So he went and did according to the word of the Lord. He went and lived by the brook Cherith that is east of the Jordan.” ~ 1 Kings 17:5 (ESV)*