



TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

The LORD said [to Elijah], “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks 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 came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

1 Kings 19:1-18

Giving Up

“I WISH I’D NEVER BEEN BORN AT ALL!” I yelled as I slammed the door to my bedroom. It had not been a good day for eight-year-old me. Nothing seemed to be going my way. Things seemed so rotten that not only was I longing for that day to be over, I was actually wishing that I wasn’t even alive!

I don’t remember for sure what it was that was bothering me that day, but I’m sure it wasn’t actually that bad. It’s almost funny sometimes how little it takes to get a small child upset. As we get older, we gain more and more control over our emotions and feelings. The problem is our problems tend to grow up with us, don’t they?

As we grow older, we discover that there are still times when we want to give up, moments when we wish we had never been born, and days when it seems like the whole world is out to get us. It’s on days like those that God reminds us with the gentle whisper of his Word—just like he reminded Elijah—that he is never out to get us. He tells us that we are never alone because he loves us and will always be there for us.

It may be hard to see it right now, but God promises that no matter what your circumstances are, he can and will make things work out for good.

PRAYER: Merciful Father, forgive me for the times that I forget the promises you have given me and begin to despair. Help me to find refreshment and strength for each day in your Word. Thank you for always being there whenever I am need. In Jesus’ name, Amen.