

## Outline

### Introduction

"Things are not what they seem."

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

Some people wait for their circumstances to bring them hope; other people bring hope to their circumstances.

### Moses and the Scouts

### The Stories in the Bible

### Elijah

"May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like [the dead prophets of Baal]." I Kings 19:2

## Miracles in the Bible

### Three Hope Killers

#### I. Fatigue.

“Never forget in the Bible Elijah was like, 'God, I'm so mad I want to die,' so God was like, 'Here's some food. Why don't you have a nap?' So Elijah slept and ate and decided things were not so bad.”

~Joy Clarkson

#### Slow Down & Rest

#### II. Isolation.

"What are you doing here, Elijah?" I Kings 19:11

"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." I Kings 19:10

"Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."  
(I Kings 19:11)

Isolation will diminish hope. Connection will multiply hope.

Get Connected to Other

III. Fear or Worry.

Hope & Fear

"The person who is plunged into doubt is not an unbeliever but is a person who has no other hope but hope." ~Jacques Ellul

"The Lord said to him, 'Go back the way you came...'" I Kings 19:15

It is much easier to act your way into a feeling than to feel your way into an action.

## Take Action

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labor and to wait.