

PQ: PERSISTENCE QUOTIENT

1 KINGS 18:42-45- ERIC SIMPSON - APRIL 7, 2019

1 Kings 18:42-45

...42 Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees. 43 "Go and look toward the sea," he told his servant. And he went up and looked. "There is nothing there," he said. Seven times Elijah said, "Go back." 44 The seventh time the servant reported, "A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea." So Elijah said, "Go and tell Ahab, 'Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.'" 45 Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain came on and Ahab rode off to Jezreel.

Raising our PQ:

- Navigating the gap between "prayers prayed" and "prayers answered"

"We stop praying because we can't see any tangible difference with our natural eyes.

We allow our circumstances to get between God and us instead of putting God between us and our circumstances." - Mark Batterson

- Staying with Jesus even when He seems inattentive & unresponsive

Matthew 11:2-6

2 When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples 3 to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?" 4 Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: 5 The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. 6 Blessed is the one who does not fall away on account of me."

"Prayer is not begging God to do something for us that he doesn't know about, or begging God to do something for us that he is reluctant to do, or begging God to do something that he hasn't time for. In prayer we persistently, faithfully, trustingly come before God, submitting ourselves to his sovereignty, confident that he is acting, right now, on our behalf...working his will in our life and circumstances. So, keep praying. Don't quit." - Eugene Peterson