

Prophets and Kings Discussion Questions 6.5.16

Leader Prep Section

Take time before your small group meeting to prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select 4-5 questions that are best suited to your group.

Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.

When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Questions

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

1. Share a time when you have seen God do something amazing as a result of prayer.

Background

After Elijah appears on the scene and confronts Ahab and Jezebel Elijah has been living with the widow of Zarephath for the bulk of the three years of the drought in Israel. Elijah was told to present himself to Ahab and for the drought was going to end, God would make it rain. God used the opportunity to make it clear that troubles of Israel were rooted in their worship of Baal and their abandonment of YHWH as the one true God. At the close of chapter 17 we see Elijah pray and the widow's son is brought back to life, so when he prays in chapter 18 and the miraculous occurs we are once again ready for it.

Read 1 Kings 18

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

1. Who is Obadiah and what does the passage tell us about him?
2. How many prophets of Baal are there against Elijah?
3. What is the first step Elijah takes before making the sacrifice on the altar?
4. How many times does Elijah pray before God answers?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

1. Have you ever been afraid to do something that God has clearly asked you to do? What did you do?
2. Which character in the story do you most easily relate to?
3. What is our equivalent of facing 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel? Where are the places that God wants us to take a stand for him?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

1. How can you take a stand for God in your family, school, workplace, neighborhood?
2. What stories could you share of times when God has miraculously intervened in your life?
3. What steps can you take to develop a faith like Elijah's so that when we are asked to take a stand we are not deterred by fear?

Closing

As the school year ends and we all start thinking about vacations and life transitions now is a great time to focus on building our faith up. That way we will be sure to be prepared for whatever the next chapter or season in our lives brings to us. Spend some time together praying for eyes to see clearly what God is up to in the world and a clear mind to recall the things he has done in the past.

Reminder: We are called to live in such a way that those around us recognize that we are patterning our lives after someone who is different. When we choose the world over our compassionate God we are on a path that leads us nowhere good. Even then, our God chooses to pursue us with love and call us back to relationship with him.