

Small-Group Notes

Into the Wild | 1 Kings 18

This week, we learned how Elijah prophesized to Israel during a time of rampant rebellion against God. Though he faced almost certain death, Elijah confronted King Ahab in obedience and faith about doing more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him (1 Kings 16:30). Upon Mount Carmel, Elijah challenged King Ahab and the 450 prophets of Baal to demonstrate the power of their god against the power of the one true God. Though hours had passed and despite the prayers and shouts from the 450 men, their god was proven insufficient.

Elijah then took 12 stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, as a reminder to the spectators of who defined them as God's chosen people and placed them on the altar. In stark contrast of the prophets of Baal, Elijah prayed a simple prayer. The power of God was then demonstrated as fire fell and burned up the altar and its surroundings (1 Kings 18:38).

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- If you had one super-power, what would it be?
- What is your favorite memory of Halloween as a child?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

WATCH THE VIDEO

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What next step of obedience on your journey with Jesus do you need to take?
2. As we read about how the people of Israel were worshiping false gods, we tend to think we aren't like them. However, we make false gods out of anything we are putting our faith into other than God. What area of your life are you making more important than your relationship with God? (Work? Money? Power?)
3. Based on the story of Elijah, God wants us to depend on His power and provision. What would placing God first in all areas of your life look like for you?
4. Knowing you have a BIG God who loves you, what risk are you willing to take to put God first?
5. Read aloud **Joshua 1:9**. There are many stories in the Bible that tell how God sent someone to accomplish His work. These stories explain how God walked alongside them as they accomplished their mission. Share a moment in your life that took courage to obey God. How did you feel God walk along side of you?
6. God has commanded us to be strong and courageous! Is there a situation in your life you know is wrong or unhealthy and God is asking you to make a change?

7. Elijah took 12 stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord has come (1 Kings 18:31). Elijah did this to remind the Israelites of their past relationship with God. Today, you are defined by God as His beloved child! What does this mean to you to be defined by God as his beloved child?

8. Read aloud **1 Corinthians 2:4-5**. Know that you do not have to share your faith in God with wisdom or persuasive word. You just need to share it. Who in your life are you willing to courageously share your faith with this week?

PRAYER

Take time to pray for each other in your group. Ask God to reveal in each person a place we need to give to God. Pray God would give each of you the courage to accomplish God's will in your lives.

ACTION ITEMS

Our next baptism weekend will be November 14 & 15. To learn more and to register, visit <http://baptism.sv.cc>