

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Elijah

DISCUSSION GOAL

Recognize the danger of false idols and how it impacts our lives. Identify the areas in which we worship idols in our own lives. Discover the Lord is the only God who gives life and tell of how that has happened with the group.

ICE BREAKER



What was a time that you were ripped off by a cheap imitation product or service? How did it negatively affect you to purchase a fake?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

1 Kings 18:1-40 ESV

¹After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." ²So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria. ³And Ahab called Obadiah, who was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the Lord greatly, ⁴and when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah took a hundred prophets and hid them by fifties in a cave and fed them with bread and water.) ⁵And Ahab said to Obadiah, "Go through the land to all the springs of water and to all the valleys. Perhaps we may find grass and save the horses and mules alive, and not lose some of the animals." ⁶So they divided the land between them to pass through it. Ahab went in one direction by himself, and Obadiah went in another direction by himself.

⁷And as Obadiah was on the way, behold, Elijah met him. And Obadiah recognized him and fell on his face and said, "Is it you, my lord Elijah?" ⁸And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your lord, 'Behold, Elijah is here.'"

(Turn to the ESV Bible to continue reading verses 9-40)

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Title: Elijah, A Life of Faith

Big Idea: The Lord is the only God who gives life.

Key Question: What does Scripture say about false gods? How does idolatry impact our lives?

1. Idols corrupt our lives (vv. 1-19)
2. Idols have no life (vv. 20-27, 29)
3. Idols take our life (v. 28)

DISCUSSION



- When we hear the word idol, we often think of ancient statues or pagan temples from Bible times. But the truth is that an idol is anything we worship besides God. What are some common idols in our current world? What have you been tempted to worship?
- King Ahab's fall into idolatry, especially his devotion to Baal, led to his life further being corrupted by sin. **Read Psalm 16:4.** How have your own idols led you to spiritual compromise and multiplied sorrow?
- Despite their passionate devotion, the worshippers of Baal found out that their god has no life (vv. 20-27, 29). How has it impacted you discovering that the idols you once devoted yourself to are actually lifeless and unable to give you what you really want and need?
- The climactic moment of this passage is when the Lord reveals himself to be the only God who gives life (vv. 30-40). Share an area of your life where you experienced the life-giving power of God through Jesus. If you haven't been transformed by his power, what is blocking you from experiencing more of his powerful presence?

LIFE APPLICATION



A life of faith looks like rejecting the idolatry of the world and turning to the one God who gives life. As a group talk about what it would look like for you to live a life of faith. What next steps do you need to take this week to turn from the gods you have been worshipping and to fully surrender to the one true God?

jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


