



Life Group Discussion Guide

October 3 – 1 Kings 18:17-40 – How Long Will You Limp?

Discussion Questions:

1. What's one thing that stood out to you from the sermon?
2. How do Elijah's prayers in this passage contrast with the prayers of the prophets of Baal? How does Christian prayer look differently from that of other worldviews?
3. What are some false gods in our lives? Are there ways in which we "dance" and "bleed" in an effort to serve them?
4. Notice how the Baal prophets cut themselves when their idol did not come through for them. How might we become progressively and destructively more attached to our idols and addictions when they repeatedly fail us? Have you ever experienced that yourself?
5. The Scottish writer Thomas Chalmers in his essay "The Expulsive Power of a New Affection" said that to break the power of our idols over our heart, we can either "Withdraw its regards from an object that is not worthy of it; or, [set] forth another object...as more worthy of its attachment, so as that the heart shall be prevailed upon not to resign an old affection, which shall have nothing to succeed it, but to exchange an old affection for a new one.... We must address to the eye of [the] mind another object, with a charm powerful enough to dispossess the first of its influences. What is he saying about how to change the object of worship (idol) in our hearts? How is Jesus' affection an expulsive power?
6. How does the fire from heaven—which consumes the sacrifice, the wood, the altar, the soil, and the water—turn the people's hearts back again?
7. What do these verses reveal about how your heart can be changed, if you have given some idol too much power in your life? (hint: by seeing the sacrificed that was consumed for your sin)
8. 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?