

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

February 27/28, 2016; Altars

Speaker:

Campus Pastors

Scripture Focus: 1 Kings 18

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed how Elijah acted out of faith and stood upon the Altar of God's Sovereignty with confidence. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don't feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don't have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: What does faith mean to you? If we all have faith in someone or something, what seems to be the most popular to have faith in today?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend's message?
3. In what ways did Elijah's story speak to you?

Specific Questions:

1. BR: In Elijah 18, we see that Elijah built an altar on a place where there once was faith. The altar was for many generations to come. What are you building today that will affect you and other generations to come? Where do you need to take a step of faith and begin to pick up or place the stones that are the foundation of an altar?

2. BR: Elijah poured 12 jugs of water over the altar making it even more difficult for fire to ignite, yet was confident that it wasn't too much for God to display his sovereignty. What areas in your life require more faith? Where do you need to pour more water on the altar, like Elijah, in order to display God's power and sovereignty?

3. GV: Elijah had confidence in God's sovereignty and therefore acted in a way that showed immense faith. Have you ever been in a situation where you *know* that God is seeing you through but have had a hard time trusting in that? If so, how did that situation turn out, and what lessons did you learn? How have you responded in moments like that since? If not, how

do you keep a faith like Elijah's – fully confident of God's power and ability to see you through?

4. BC: What are some lies/opinions you've believed that have kept you from serving Him effectively? What steps can you take in order to take those thoughts captive and truly embrace the power and authority of God?

5. KT: Pastor Joshua gave three reasons why we tend to break the rules or don't follow instructions: Ignorance, impatience, and influence. Who or what is influencing your life and are they pushing you towards or away from God?

6. ES: What are some altars of blood, sweat, and tears that you have created and put in place of God's Altar of Sovereignty?

7. BC: What is one practical thing you can do this week to rise up in a challenging situation? What is an area where it will take only God's power to "show up and show off"?

Challenge/ Read, Pray, Act:

Read- Continue to read 1 Kings 18 this week. Memorize key phrases (like shown below) that will help you rise against the challenges that you will face in the coming days.

- "I will send rain on the land" (18:1).
- "As the Lord Almighty lives, whom I serve..." (18:15).
- "Come, here to me" (18:30).

Pray/Act- Even though Elijah was the minority (in the presence of all of the other prophets and King Ahab), he called upon the name of the Lord to do two things: 1) Let God's Name be made known. 2) Bring the people to their knees in repentance. What are some ways you can pray for the "King Ahab" in your life?

"O Lord answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again" (18:37).