

Your Power or God's Power**February 26, 2012**

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step.

With your Bible or Youversion.com read Ezekiel 18:17-21

King Ahab has been a wicked king who has led the nation to worship idols. Because of this God's judgement has come upon the people and there has been no rain and his prophet Elijah has eluded capture by Ahab.

- Ahab blames Elijah for all of the trouble in the land but Elijah counters that the trouble has been caused by Ahab and his family. Why does he say that the trouble has come?
- Elijah has come out of hiding and it is time for a showdown. Why does Elijah feel that the odds are overwhelming?
- Are there areas of your life that you know you need to deal with but you feel like there is no way to win the battle? What has led you to that conclusion?
- Elijah accused the people of wavering between who is God - The LORD or Baal. What are some areas where people tend to waver trying to have both God's way and there way? Is it really possible to do both? Do you ever feel like you are "straddling the fence"?

Read Ezekiel 18:22; Isaiah 55:8-9 & Psalm 127:1

We all eventually have to come to a decision. Who will we serve? One of the options is that we will do life based on our power

- What are the problems that these verses point to when it comes to us doing life on our power?
- Is there a recent example of a time that you tried to do it on your own power? How did it come out?

Read Ezekiel 18:23-39; Ephesians 3:20 & 1 Corinthians 2:2-5

The story of Elijah's showdown is so detailed that you can picture it in your mind. But in reality what makes it truly amazing is that it actually ends up being God's showdown with Baal.

- Do you tend to live a life that demonstrates your belief in God's mighty power? Why or why not?
- We often focus on what we don't have. Notice that Elijah acts with what he has access to - the materials for a sacrifice. Do you ever fail to act because you end up focusing on what you don't have? Would it help for you to remember that you have Christ in every situation?
- Elijah prayed out loud so that everyone would know who he was counting on. Do you easily give God the recognition so that others know who you depend on? If not, why not? If so, how do others react to that?
- Because Elijah trusted God, he and all those who had gathered that day get to see God at work. Are you limiting others opportunity to see God because of your lack of belief?

My Next Step Today Is To . . .

- Choose to follow Christ so that I can experience forgiveness and live by God's power.
- Stop wavering between God's way and my way, as I fully commit my life to Christ.
- Trust in God's power to work in and through me by committing to sign The Resolution.
- Meditate on and/or memorize Ephesians 3:20

Talk It Over with God:

These prayer tips can guide your time alone with God each day. Praying with a friend or a small group might help you stick to it.

- Ask God to help you live trusting in his power rather than your own.
- Pray for wisdom as you seek to live out the high calling of The Resolution. If you didn't sign The resolution ask God to help you take that step.
- Pray that God will help you be a faithful witness to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

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