

Elisha: A Tale of Ridiculous Faith

Week 1: Get Your Call On

TALK IT OVER

KEY SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 19:19-21 NLT: *So Elijah went and found Elisha son of Shaphat plowing a field. There were twelve teams of oxen in the field, and Elisha was plowing with the twelfth team. Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak across his shoulders and then walked away. ²⁰Elisha left the oxen standing there, ran after Elijah, and said to him, “First let me go and kiss my father and mother good-bye, and then I will go with you!”*

Elijah replied, “Go on back, but think about what I have done to you.”

²¹*So Elisha returned to his oxen and slaughtered them. He used the wood from the plow to build a fire to roast their flesh. He passed around the meat to the townspeople, and they all ate. Then he went with Elijah as his assistant.*

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Day 1: 1 Kings 19:19-21

Day 2: 2 Kings 2:1-18

Day 3: 2 Kings 2:19-25

Day 4: Luke 9:57-62

Day 5: Matthew 16:21-28

Day 6: Matthew 4:18-22

Day 7: Mark 8:34-38

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share a time when you thought God might be calling you to something new (a job, a move, a relationship, etc.). What made you think that? How did you respond?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Describe a time when you obeyed God even though you didn't fully understand His direction. What resulted from your obedience?
- Read 1 Kings 19:19-21. What is the point of Elisha slaughtering the oxen and burning the plow?

Start sharing. Choose some questions to create openness.

- What security do you need to step away from that will allow you to step toward where God is calling you?
- What examples of ridiculous commitment to God have you witnessed in your life?
- How would you describe your level of trust in God? What might be keeping you from trusting Him fully?
- How do you know when God is leading you? How can you tell the difference between something *you* want and what *God* wants for you? (In other words, how do we avoid using “it’s what God wants me to do” as an excuse to do whatever we want?)
- Pastor Matthew said, “Those God uses the most are the ones who hold on to the least.” What does that mean? Have you experienced this in your own life? If so, how?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Jesus, You call us to follow You with all that we have and that’s not an easy thing. Give us a hunger to be in Your Word so that we can recognize Your voice when You call, and give us the faith we need to trust in You to lead and provide. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Spend time in prayer specifically listening for God this week. Talk to Him but remember to leave space to listen, too.
- Find someone to talk to about something you feel God calling you to do. Be honest about your excitement and apprehensions.
- Let go of something that has been holding you back from following Jesus more closely (such as a bad habit, something that has become an ‘idol’, or even something good – they can get in the way, too!).