

## **Elijah/Elisha – Standing Alone**

### **Week 6 – The Vineyard**

**Transition:** Last week, we watched Elijah go from a spiritual high to a spiritual low. After trusting that God would show Himself in obvious and powerful ways (which He did...fire from heaven and bringing rain), once he heard of Jezebel's threat on his life, out of fear, he ran to the wilderness to hide, where the Lord met with him, One-on-one.

**Context:** This week, we once again witness the sheer and unmistakable wickedness of Jezebel. When King Ahab does not get his way (taking possession of another man's vineyard), Jezebel concocts a conspiracy that clears the way for Ahab to acquire the land illegitimately. But God is not pleased so He sends His prophet to confront the king.

#### **Opening Questions:**

- How do you feel when someone "gets away" with a blatant sin? (There's no apparent, immediate repercussion to him/her.) Why does God allow this to happen?
- Have you ever struggled with forgiving someone who repented? Did you ever forgive him/her? If so, what process did you go through to be able to forgive? If not, why not? Briefly describe the cause of your struggle.

**Scripture/Storying:** 1 Kings 21

#### **Discipleship Questions:**

- What is your overall reaction to this passage? What impression does it make on you and why?
- Why was Naboth unwilling to make a deal with Ahab for his property? What do you think of Naboth's decision?
- What is Ahab's sin that gets the downward spiral of sin started? What do you learn from this that you can apply to your own life?
- Why does one sin often lead to another sin? When has it happened to you? How do you break this cycle?
- What do you make of the townspeople who went along with Jezebel's conspiracy? When is it appropriate for a Christian not to go along with a governmental leader's directions?
- What leads to Ahab's repentance? What are your feelings about Ahab's repentance? Why do people sometimes take offense at God when mercy triumphs over judgment (James 2:13)? How does this relate to the gospel?
- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?

**Prayer time:** This week we are praying for Calicanto, Honduras, where a ministry that Providence supports is located.

- Pray for the people in Calicanto who have been suffering from bad weather. They have been unable to leave their villages due to the destruction of the river crossing. Pray that this trial will draw them to trust in the Lord.
- Pray that the passage through the river will be restored quickly so that Julio and the team can continue their missionary work and so the people can get back to life as usual.
- Pray that the government will build a permanent solution, so this doesn't happen again.