

6. The prophets not only spoke the word of God, they sometimes performed miracles. Read 2 Kings 4:1-7. In this story, Elisha (who replaced Elijah as prophet) does a miracle for a poor woman. How does this miracle show the true nature of the office of the prophet?

Taking It Home

The distinguishing marks of a true prophet was that their predictions came true, that they lived with integrity, and that they spoke only that which God told them. The people refused to listen to them because they didn't like the message. Therefore they suffered the consequences of disobedience. The message to us today is that we need to listen to truth whether we like it or not. Is there anyone in your life that is speaking truth to you but you don't want to listen because they are not telling you what you want to hear? If so, start listening.



Small Group Lesson - 1& 2 Kings The Office of Prophet February 9, 2014

Quick Review:

What insight, principle or observation from this week-end's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye opening or troubling?

My Story:

Which office would you dread going into the most and why; the Doctor's office, the lawyers office, the politicians office, or the corner office?

Why do you think people want the corner office?

Digging deeper:

The prophets play a significant role in the book of Kings. There are at least a dozen prophets mentioned in Kings. Two prophets dominate the book, Elijah and Elisha. Elijah became a symbol for the office of the prophet during the monarchy period (1000BC – 500BC). There were three political offices during this time; the prophet who was over the king and declared the word of the Lord, the priest who taught the Law of Moses (word of God) and mediated between God and the people, and the king who shepherded the nation. The prophet actually held a political office during the monarchy. As pastor Bob shared in his message the role of the prophet was four fold (which he likened to offices). He was a father to the king in the sense that he was to keep him obedient to God. He was a doctor, lawyer, and preacher. We will now look at the ministry of Elijah.

1. The prophets were sent by God to get His people to turn from their sin. In 1 Kings 11:29-33, Ahijah the prophet was sent to Jeroboam with a word from God telling him that He was going to give him part of Solomon's kingdom. Discuss how Ahijah delivered this word. Talk about the reason why God was doing this to Solomon and how this action on God's part could have helped them if they had learned from it.

2. Once again in 1 Kings 17:1 God takes corrective measures by revealing to Elijah the prophet that there would be a drought. In the third year of the drought Elijah was sent to Ahab the king to confront the king and the false prophets (the prophets of Baal) who were advising the king. Read 1 Kings 18:17-21 and discuss how Elijah was like a lawyer making God's case and calling for action. What action did he call for and why?

3. In 1 Kings 22 Jehoshaphat the king of Judah asked Ahab the king of Israel if there was a prophet of God available to inquire of God for direction. Read 1 Kings 22:6-7. How many prophets were there? What did they say? What did Jehoshaphat ask for and why?

4. In 1 Kings 22:8 why did Ahab not like Micaiah the prophet? What lesson should we take from this for ourselves?

5. 1 Kings 22:13-14 reveal what a true prophet of God speaks. What is that? Why then did the messenger try to get Micaiah to say nice things to the king? Why is this kind of thinking dangerous and how do we do this today when we don't like what the preacher says?