

## *Small Group Discussion Guide*

The Ministry Continues  
Part 8 of the “Courageous Faith” teaching series

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(Discussion Guide by Craig Peterson)  
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Have you ever sat around a table or a campfire with friends and asked, “If you only had one day to live, what would you do?” It’s safe to say that none of us will ever enter a day of our lives knowing that day will be our last on earth. But, Elijah did. In 2 Kings 2:1-14, we follow the prophet Elijah and watch what he does with his last day. He didn’t check the remaining items off his bucket list. He didn’t blow his life’s savings on a crazy adventure. He didn’t even lie in the sun and relax, contemplating what it will be like tomorrow...in Heaven. Elijah did what Elijah always did. He taught. He walked in faith. He mentored his successor. He passed on the faith to further the ministry of God Almighty long after Elijah departed.

“My mentor said, ‘Let’s go do it,’ not ‘You go do it.’ How powerful when someone says, ‘Let’s!’” — *Jim Rohn*

**Opening Question 1: What would you do if you knew today was your last day here on earth? (be honest!)**

**Opening Question 2: Who has been the greatest mentor in your life and what is one thing they passed on to you?**

### Read aloud 2 Kings 2:1-14

- I. **Elijah went on a walk with Elisha to four places of significance to the ancient Israelites. Have each person choose one of these places to discuss:**
  - a) Gilgal was a place of **COURAGE**. This was the where the Israelites first set up camp after crossing the Jordan River and entering the promised land. From there they attacked Jericho. People of God are called to be a people of faith and courage.
    - 1) **Share a time when you took a step of faith that required courage. What helped you to take that step?**
    - 2) **How are you making sure that the next generation of believers is seeing and learning from your spiritual courage?**
  - b) Bethel was a place of **PRAYER**. Abram and Jacob interacted with God at Bethel. We are never too young or too old to make prayer a priority for ourselves and our family.
    - 3) **What is your current pattern of prayer? Is prayer an area you’d like to grow in?**
    - 4) **Do your prayers sound more like a grocery list of wishes or a conversation with a powerful heavenly Father who loves you? Are your prayers bold?**

- 5) **How are you making ensure that the next generation of believers is a generation of prayer?**
- c) Jericho was a place of **BATTLE**. This was the place where God fought the Israelites' enemies and the walls came tumbling down. Our battle is not against flesh and blood. Our battle is spiritual. (Ephesians 6:12) Our battle is the battle for our minds. Will we believe the deceiver who says we are not good enough and allow ourselves to be rendered ineffective? Or will we believe that our God gives us everything we need to be "more than conquerors." (Romans 8:38).
- 6) **Share a way that you have fought spiritual battles in the past and how God has shown His power in your circumstances.**
- 7) **Is there a lie from the Enemy that you are currently fighting? Share and pray with one other declaring the truth of God's Word, victory in Christ, and asking for the power of His Spirit to win the battle of your mind and heart.**
- d) The Jordan was a place of **REMEMBERING**. This was the river the Israelites crossed leading to the Promised land. God is a promise maker and a promise keeper. When God gives us a promise in His Word, we can trust Him to keep it...in His time.
- 8) **What are some promises from God's Word?**
- 9) **What is a promise you have held on to and how did God fulfill that promise?**

**II. Elijah's final interaction with Elisha is packed with significance. Have each person choose one of these points to discuss:**

- (vs. 8) Elijah is growing in his faith on his final day of life on earth. He does something he has never done before. No matter what our age or how long we have left on this earth, God wants to do a new thing in and through us.
- 10) **Share a new way that God is using you. (This might be something you have been thinking about and need to share with the group as a next step)**
- (vs. 9) Elisha asks for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. He was confessing that God can do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)
- 11) **Is there an area of your life where you need to ask God boldly for what you want and declare God's power confidently?**
- (vs 10-11) Elisha's most powerful moment (receiving a double portion of the Spirit) was also his most painful moment (witnessing the death of his greatest mentor and friend). Yet, Elisha kept his eyes on God, saw what God was doing and chose to keep going.
- 12) **How might God use your painful experiences to reveal His power? Could your weaknesses be something God uses to help and bless others?**

The man of God goes away, but the mission remains. The mission must be passed along from one generation to the next. And we are the ones who are called to do it.

*Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."*