

## STUDY GUIDE - FIGHT WK3

**Key Scriptures:** (Joshua said to all the tribes of Israel,) "Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! 15 And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:14-15

- 1 Kings 18:17-18 "Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, 'Is that you, O troubler of Israel?' And he answered, 'I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals.'"
- Proverbs 26:11 As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.
- 1 Kings 18:21 "And Elijah came to all the people, and said, 'How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.' But the people answered him not a word."
- 1 Kings 18:38 "Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench."
- 1 Kings 19:3 (Elijah) –"he arose and ran for his life."

### Start Talking:

Referring to the drought in Ahab's time, Pastor Jason said, "When things are dry, things get tense." Share about a dry time (even now) in your life (personal, family, physical, emotional, spiritual). What did God do to end your drought? Share.

Read 1 Kings 18:17. Have you ever been considered a nuisance for trying to do the right thing? Share.

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Proverbs 26:11 reads, "As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly." Do you know of anyone who was on fire for the Lord, then went back to the sins that once separated him from God? Share.

Read Joshua 24:15. Do even practicing Christians sometimes waver between serving God and serving themselves or the things of the world? What are some examples? Share and discuss.

### **Start Thinking:**

Have you ever challenged someone, then hoped you really heard from God? How can you be assurance that you are actually hearing from God? What is your instrument of measurement?

Do you think that the killing of the prophets of Baal and of Asherah, and the death of Jezebel, are too harsh for today's culture in America? Discuss this, and the subject of capital punishment. Was "The Cross" capital punishment?

### **Start Sharing:**

Read 1 Kings 19: 3. Have you ever done the right thing, but still became afraid of retaliation from someone? Share what happened.

Think about "your they" – God, family, friends, and "those they" - all others. Is your mood or self-worth often effected by those in your "those they" whom you really want to like you? Be honest and share.

Share a time when you let someone's words take root in you and distract you from cheerfully following God.

**Start Praying:** "Lord, help us put the words of others in their proper place. Give us eyes to see the blessing of those who truly love us, and the damage that can come from giving too much power to those who do not truly seek our best. Only You can help us navigate the deceptions of

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humanity. We trust You and need you to give us discernment in the deepest and closest places.”

### **Start Doing:**

“Sticks and stone can break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” Is this statement true? Discuss.

Who is in your entourage? Who is your corner man (woman), your cut man (woman)? Have you ever had a corner man who advises you to throw in the towel in a certain situation, and he (she) was right to do so? Share.

Has God ever had to remind you that your behavior is “not who you are”? Who are you in Christ? Define your identity as a Christian? Believe it.