

^{16:29} Ahab son of Omri began to rule over Israel in the thirty-eighth year of King Asa's reign in Judah. He reigned in Samaria twenty-two years. ³⁰ But Ahab son of Omri did what was evil in the Lord's sight, even more than any of the kings before him. ³¹ And as though it were not enough to follow the sinful example of Jeroboam, he married Jezebel, the daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians, and he began to bow down in worship of Baal. ³² First Ahab built a temple and an altar for Baal in Samaria. ³³ Then he set up an Asherah pole. He did more to provoke the anger of the Lord, the God of Israel, than any of the other kings of Israel before him.

^{17:1} Now Elijah, who was from Tishbe in Gilead, told King Ahab, "As surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives—the God I serve—there will be no dew or rain during the next few years until I give the word!"

— 1 Kings 16:29-33, 17:1

Discussion/Journal Questions

What is something you have always wanted to do but lacked the courage or the means to try?

Have two or three people read 1 Kings 16:29-33, 17:1 out loud slowly. After some time of reflection, ask each other what words, phrases, or ideas stand out to everyone. What questions come to mind as you meditate on this scripture?

When you think about Old Testament prophets like Elijah or Moses, what picture comes to mind?

Read James 5:16-18. What does James say about the kind of man Elijah was? Does that surprise you?

Through Elijah, God waged a war against the pagan god Baal. How does God show Himself as more powerful than the pagan god?

What are some false gods that people follow today?

Read Ephesians 6:10-13. What does it mean to be involved in spiritual warfare?

While you may not be called to confront kings, what role are you called to play in spiritual warfare?

The Book of James says that the prayer of the righteous is powerful. Think of one person who may not know Jesus, and pray for them over the next week.