

# THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

*2 Kings 1:1-18*

## **SERMON SUMMARY:**

Continuing our study of Elijah, we see Elijah once again being under threat. Ahab's son, Ahaziah, was trying to kill Elijah. Ahaziah was motivated by his continued worship of Baal. In our message today, we will consider the perspective of Ahaziah and his captains.

## **SERMON OUTLINE:**

When we only read the Bible from the perspective of the "good guy" we miss important lessons from God.

### **The Truth about Idols**

Idols promise relief from suffering but end up increasing suffering.

When our idols are threatened, we move to protect them.

Repent of your idols or go down with your idols.

### **Application**

Idols take you further than you want to go and cost you more than you may want to pay.

Be prepared to feel alone when you repent from idols.

## **THINK ABOUT IT/TALK ABOUT IT:**

- Share an example of a Bible story where you learned a significant lesson by identifying with a character who made mistakes or sinned.
- Discuss examples of modern-day idols that promise relief or happiness but ultimately lead to more suffering.
- How can we recognize when something in our life has become an idol?
- How can we respond when we realize we are protecting idols in our lives?
- Discuss the consequences of clinging to idols instead of repenting. How have you seen this play out in your life or in others' lives?
- Share strategies for remaining steadfast in repentance even when it feels lonely.