

Let's Talk: Day 169-One Story

Asa [Southern King 41 years] – Asa Relies on Syria Instead of Relying on the Lord

Today's Reading: 1Kings 15:1-24; 2Chronicles 16:1-14; Psalms 118:5-14

Think of some fairy tales or nursery rhymes where a person was corrected or given advice and they didn't listen. What was the result?

Questions:

1. How long did Asa reign in Judah? How does God summarize his life?
2. Was Asa a good king? Where did he make a mistake?
3. How did he receive correction? How do you think the end of Asa's life might have been different if he had humbled himself when he was corrected? How do you receive correction?
4. What does Psalm 118 say about trusting God over man? How do we do this practically? Did Asa do this? Did David?

Let's Talk: Day 170

Five Wicked Kings [Northern King 40 years] – The Sins of Five Different Kings & God's Anger

Today's Reading: 1Kings 15:25-33; 1Kings 16:1-28; Isaiah 65:2-3

Draw a pair of glasses on your mirror with a dry erase marker. Write on the left side "Do what is right" and on the right side "in His sight." Take a selfie of you looking through the glasses. OR take a piece of paper and fold it in half. On one side write Judah and on the other write Israel. Follow the line of kings from Solomon through our reading today (it might help keep it straight who is king and where).

Questions:

1. What happened to the house of Jeroboam? What does this tell you of God's timing? Do people ever get away with their sins?

2. List some of the kings who did not follow God and their short reign. How can God even use these kings for His purpose?
3. Were these kings from the kingdom of Israel or Judah? What started as one altar to keep people from Jerusalem led to a nation that didn't follow God. Are there any "altars" in your life that are not pleasing to God and need to be eliminated?
4. What is God's perspective toward the kings and their people, according to Isaiah? Would you consider yourself a rebellious person to God or a follower? What actions and attitudes in your life back this up?

Let's Talk: Day 171

Ahab (Northern King 22 years) – Elijah's Powerful Prayer & Drought of Three and a Half Years

Today's Reading: 1Kings 16:29-34; 1Kings 17; James 5:16-18

Write a thank-you note to God from someone in this story or act it out as a monologue. OR take turns as a family listing all the ways God provides for you. How many things can you think of?

Questions:

1. Who was the king after Omri, and what was his wife's name? How does God describe them?
2. What message did God give Ahab through the prophet Elijah? What do we learn about the power of prayer from today's reading? What do you need to pray about today?
3. How did God protect and provide for Elijah through this time? If you were one of the people of Israel during this time, what would you have been thinking about the king? About God?
4. If you had been the woman, would you have given Elijah the last bit of food you had? What blessings would she have missed if she had kept it for herself? Are you willing to give God something you highly value?

Let's Talk: Day 172

Ahab (Northern King 22 years) – Elijah's Victory, the Fires From Heaven & End of the Drought

Today's Reading: 1Kings 18; 2Kings 1:1-15; Luke 9:51-56

Have a parent demonstrate how tough it would be to light a fire with wet wood. How does this demonstration make today's reading so miraculous?

Questions:

1. Elijah and Obadiah both served God but in very different jobs. How did God use them in each of their jobs? Can you think of how God uses people you know today in very different jobs?
2. Why was Obadiah scared to tell King Ahab he had found Elijah? Did he do it? What things are you scared of doing? How can you gain confidence from today's reading?
3. Summarize the Mount Carmel showdown. Did you ever think that a prophet could be sarcastic? How did God show His power?
4. Explain the many miracles of the end of the drought. How fast did Elijah run? Can you imagine running that fast? What does it make you think of God when he mentions miracles in just one verse?

Let's Talk: Day 173

Ahab (Northern King 22 years) – Elijah's Depression, God's Compassion, the 7000 & Elisha

Today's Reading: 1Kings 19; Psalms 103:13-14; Romans 11:1-8

Elijah found God in a quiet place. Spend three minutes as a family being quiet together. Ask God to help you quiet your day so you can hear Him today.

Questions:

1. In chapter 18 God used Elijah in a showdown with 350 prophets of Baal, but in chapter 19, Elijah became scared for his life. Why? What does that teach us about how vulnerable we can be right after big victories?
2. How did God take care of Elijah while he had lost faith? How did God also push Elijah to take steps out of his depression? How well do you think God knows you?
3. Where did Elijah find God? How can you get to a quiet place so you can hear His still, small voice?
4. Who did God prepare to help Elijah? Who is a support to you? Are you a support to someone else? If not, who do you think needs your help?

Let's Talk: Day 174

Ahab (Northern King 22 years) – Syria's Threats & Naboth's Vineyard
Today's Reading: 1Kings 20 & 21; 2Kings 9:24-26

King Ahab pouted because he couldn't get what he wanted. Discuss times that you have pouted about something. Who can make the best pouting face?

Questions:

1. What did Ben-Hadad demand of King Ahab? When did Ahab finally say no?
2. Even though King Ahab was a wicked king, how did God deliver him and Israel? Why do you think God did that?
3. Did Ahab seek God's approval or man's? How can you tell from the way he treated Ben-Hadad once he was captured? Look at your actions over the last week. Would people say you want to please man or God more?
4. What did Ahab want of Naboth's? What did Naboth say? How did Jezebel respond? Why does God deliver evil kings and let righteous people die? How does Ahab's death show that God eventually dealt with Ahab's sins?

Let's Talk: Day 175

Today's Reading: Weekly day OFF

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? As a family, pick a verse from the week to meditate on or memorize.

Go do one of the things from your bucket list of summer activities today. Is there another family you know that may be new or going through a hard time that you should invite to participate with you?