Showing the Reality of God

Heroes of Faith – Part 6 (1 Kings 18:16-39) Life Church St. Louis – June 17, 2012 Pastor Dan Walker

Ephesians 3:14-15 (HCSB) For this reason I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

1 Kings 18:26 (NIV) So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

1 Kings 18:27 (NIV) At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened."

Ephesians 6:4 (NIV) Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

4. Prepare and ______ for God's answer

1 Kings 18:30 (NIV) Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which was in ruins.

1. Everyone must make a _____

1 Kings 18:17-18 (NIV) When he [Ahab] saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD's commands and have followed the Baals.

1 Kings 18:21 (NIV) Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing.

1 Kings 18:36-37 (NIV) At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

5. Respond to God's _____

1 Kings 18:38 (NIV) Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

2. Believe you can show God's _____

1 Kings 18:24 (NIV) Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire--he is God." Then all the people said, "What you say is good."

1 Kings 18:39 (NIV) When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD--he is God! The LORD--he is God!"

Showing the Reality of God – Study Guide

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- Intro. Why is it important that earthly fathers represent their heavenly father (Ephesians 3:14-15)?
 - Explain in your own words what Ephesians 6:4 instructs fathers to do.
- 1. Why had trouble come to Israel in the form of drought (1 Kings 18:16-18)?
 - Why is it not possible to follow both God and an idol of any kind (1 Kings 18:19-21, Matthew 6:24)?
 - What kinds of idols tempt fathers away from putting God first in their lives and families?
- 2. Why do you think that God wants to show his reality (1 Kings 18:22-24)?
 - Why is what Elijah did not putting God to the test (Luke 4:9-12, 1 Kings 18:36)?

3. Why do you think that people who worship idols often hurt themselves (1 Kings 18:26-29)?

What does 1 Corinthians 10:9-10 mean when it says that sacrifices offered to idols are offered to demons? What power do idols have?

What kinds of idols tempt children and youth these days?

4. What would it mean for you to repair the altar of the Lord in your family (1 Kings 18:30-32)?

Why was Elijah asking the Lord to answer his prayer (1 Kings 18:36-37)?

How is prayer essential in showing the reality of God in our world?

5. What emotions do you think the Israelites felt when the fire of God fell (1 Kings 18:38-39)? What lessons can you learn from God's revelation?