



TOGETHER CHURCH

**GUARDRAILS
THAT HELP US
STAY THE COURSE AS A
DISCIPLE-MAKING CHURCH**

Week 15: June 13-19

Welcome/ Introduce Guests/ Share Life (10 minutes)
Recall the Guidelines/ Open in Prayer

Vision Casting (2 minutes): “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.” John 13:34-35

Hook Question (5 minutes): How are you doing following and fishing with Jesus in your discipleship relationships?

Ask someone to read the background for the story (2 minutes):

This week’s story from 1 and 2 Kings highlights Elijah and Elisha’s discipleship relationship. We can learn a great deal about how these men “did” life together. Elijah and Elisha clearly experienced a powerful spiritual bond of loyalty to God and one another. This Old Testament relationship can teach us about equipping and releasing new leaders today.

After Elijah’s showdown on Mt. Carmel with the priests of Baal and Asherah, he fled to Jezreel. Elijah arrived there exhausted and deeply depressed. He even asked the Lord to take his life. God provided encouragement through the provision of an angel’s touch and nourishing food and drink. God needed Elijah to anoint and develop his successor. Under God’s direction, Elijah went and found Elisha son of Shaphat. Elisha was plowing the fields with oxen when Elijah threw his cloak around him. This was Elisha’s sign and calling to ministry. Elisha told his parents farewell then slaughtered his oxen as a sacrificial preparation to follow Elijah. God’s replacement plan was underway (1 Kings 19:19-21).

As Elijah’s ministry was coming to an end, Elisha’s was about to take off. The divine handoff would be completed. These men traveled and served God together. They would soon be separated by a tremendous outpouring of God’s omnipotence- Elijah’s heavenly ascension! Let’s look more closely at 2 Kings 2:1-14 now...

Tell the story from 2 Kings 2:1-14 (12 Minutes): Change the storyteller often.

Rebuild 2 Kings 2:1-14 : Retell the story as well as possible.

Read 2 Kings 2:1-14 : Ask the group to read these verses.

Discussion Questions: Learn to talk about God’s word with others. **(Take as much time as needed)**

- What stands out to you in this story?
- What does this story teach you about God?
- What price did Elijah pay to equip Elisha? What was Elisha’s cost to follow Elijah?
- How do you need to apply this story to your discipleship relationships today?

Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week. Close in Prayer.