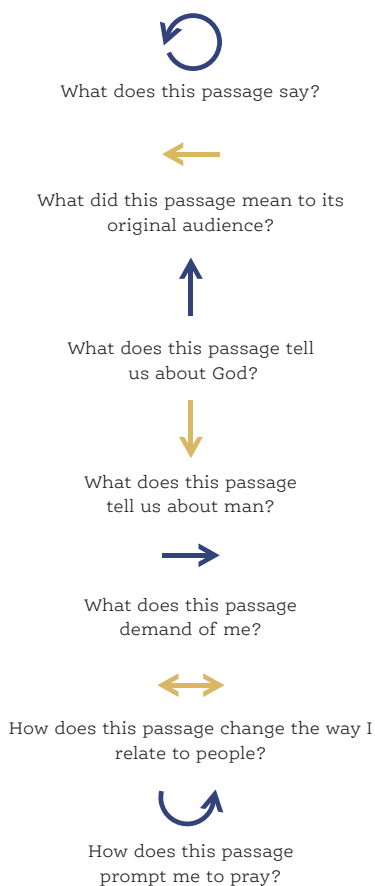




DAILY DEVOTIONS

THE 7 ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



DAY 01

1 KINGS 19:1-9

Despite Elijah's relationship with God and the spiritual victories he experienced, he despaired of life itself. He asked God to take his life. The fear and struggles he faced with Jezebel were too much. It doesn't matter how spiritual you are or how God has used you, everyone can struggle with their mental or emotional health. If you are struggling, don't be ashamed and don't be too prideful to seek help. Your life matters! Like Elijah, God wants to give you the strength to do what you feel like you cannot do in your own strength. As the angel told Elijah, so I tell you: Rise and eat and live.

HAVE YOU STRUGGLED WITH DEPRESSION? EXPLAIN.

WHO COULD YOU GO TO IF YOU WERE STRUGGLING?

HOW CAN YOU BE A FRIEND TO PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING?

DAY 02

1 KINGS 19:10-18

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED IF IT WAS WORTH IT TO FOLLOW GOD? WHY OR WHY NOT?

HOW MIGHT OTHER PEOPLE'S DISOBEDIENCE DISCOURAGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO FOR JESUS IF YOU KNEW IT'D BE WORTH IT IN THE END?

Elijah had followed the Lord with all his might. He had been “very zealous for the LORD” (19:10). But he felt like his work was in vain. Israel had abandoned the Lord, turned to idols, and killed the prophets. But God assured him that his work would be worth it. God had kept 7,000 who were committed to the Lord. He was raising up leaders to follow Elijah and continue his work. At times, you might wonder if living for God was a waste. But it will always be worth it, for “your labor in the Lord is not in vain” (1 Cor. 15:58).

DAY 03

1 KINGS 19:19-21

As a child, maybe you sang a song that said, “I have decided to follow Jesus. No turning back, no turning back.” When God called Elisha to be a prophet, that was Elisha’s mentality. He gave himself no option to turn back to his former life. He sacrificed his oxen and turned his plow into firewood. May you follow Jesus with the same single-minded commitment. Look ahead and live for Christ. No turning back, no turning back.

WHAT MIGHT YOU NEED TO TURN AWAY FROM TO FOLLOW JESUS?

HOW CAN YOU PUT IT BEHIND YOU AND NOT LOOK BACK?

WHAT MIGHT GOD BE CALLING YOU TO?

1 KINGS 21:1-26

HOW MIGHT YOU STRUGGLE WITH COVETING?

HOW DOES ENVY AFFECT YOUR RELATIONSHIPS?

WHAT CAN YOU BE THANKFUL FOR IN YOUR LIFE?

We often look at what others have and think, “If I could have that, then I would be happy.” We covet other people’s possessions, opportunities, influence, and so on. Like Ahab, coveting will lead you to misery. It will lead you to bitterness and resentment toward others. He was king, yet all he could focus on was a vineyard he didn’t have. We should all pause to consider the ways God has blessed us and all the things we can be thankful for. Gratitude will lead to more joy than you would ever gain through the things you covet.

2 KINGS 2:1-15

In a moment of great loss, Elisha received divine power. He’d left everything behind to follow Elijah. Elijah was more than a teacher or mentor; he’d become a father to Elisha. It was a day he had dreaded, but it was the only way for him to walk in the power of God. The things in life you would never have wanted or wished for will become the things that lead you to experience God’s power. As Paul said, “For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor. 12:10).

HOW CAN YOU TRUST GOD EVEN THROUGH LOSS?

WHAT LOSS HAS MADE YOU STRONGER?

HOW HAS GOD USED THINGS YOU DIDN’T WANT TO HAPPEN FOR GOOD?