

IT'S TIME TO TAKE A STAND AND SEE THE FIRE FALL

CHAPTER 15 OF THE STORY

1. We learned this week, that God sent prophets to warn people of paths that would harm them, and help awaken them to the reality of who God is and what He wants to do in the upper story of their life. Have you ever felt warned by God to avoid a temptation or a disaster? How did you respond? What would be wise to ask God to help you be warned of so that you can avoid pain and sorrow?
2. Elijah warned the people against waffling between two opinions, and having a divided heart between God and things of this world. Have you ever tried or known someone who tried to walk the fence and have one foot in the world and one foot in God? Why do people choose to do that and what is the danger of being in the middle?
3. Idolatry was the number one thing that God warned people about in Elijah's day. We said idolatry is letting something replace God at the center; it is accepting a substitute for who God is and what He wants to be for us.

A four-way test was given for idols:

- What do you boast in?
- What do you run to when life is hard for comfort and protection or satisfaction?
- What easily becomes the top of your priorities, what you give your heart, time, energy and money to?
- What gains a place of such importance that you couldn't live without?

In light of this, circle something that has or easily could become an idol that you need to be prepared to overcome?

People's approval, success and status, appearance, entertainment, money, pleasure, a personal grudge or offense we don't want to let go of, an addiction, a person, pride in my accomplishments, my personal space, our plans or dreams for the future, other _____

4. How does the stand Jesus took for us on the cross help give us the courage and conviction to take our stand for him?
5. When it comes to sharing the good news of Jesus with the world, what is the fear that you would like prayer to overcome? Who is a person or what is a place that you would like prayer for, to seek an opportunity to share your faith and what Jesus has done for you?
6. Where is a place you might need to take a stand against complacency and settling for all God has? Where do you need to take a stand to ask, seek, and step out to claim all that God has for you?
7. What is an area of your life where you see that the Lord may be calling you to take a stand? Is it against a temptation and stronghold, a stand on the promise of God for all he has, a stand to share his gospel and truth to the world around you?