

Elisha 1 Kings 19:19-21

Elijah approached Elisha and threw his cloak around him. Thus, signaling the transfer from one-to-the-other as prophet over Israel. Who may have struggled with this transfer most: Elijah or Elisha? Discuss what each may have given up and what the cost was to step into the new role and step away from it.

Pastor Joe references two principles of Godly Commitment:

We don't have to **fully** understand to **immediately obey**.

Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye," he said, "and then I will come with you." 1 Kings 19:20

The people God uses **most** are the ones who hold on to the least.

So Elisha left him (Elijah) and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant. 1 Kings 19:21

1. When has God directed you to do something swiftly, or immediately that would 'cost you'? How did you respond and what influenced the way you responded?

2. If you delayed responding or didn't obey, what was the outcome?

What we often **hold** on to can hold us **back**.

Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62

3. Imagine you are 'an Elisha' and God calls for you to walk away from your lifestyle; you are to leave everything - to serve Him. What would be hard for you to let go of? As a group discuss the many possible things you might have to leave behind (job, creature comforts, conveniences, your country, even certain foods)

4. What did Elisha's step of slaughtering the oxen and burning the plow equipment signify? Do you think he did this as an act of commitment to God or a step of prevention - to stop himself from returning to 'the plow'? Is there a 'plow' in your life that you would have to burn to stop yourself from returning to it. If you said 'no,' consider: your phone, tablet, vehicle, home, savings account...