

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GUIDE: October 24, 2010

Route 66 (a spiritual journey through God's 66 books)

“A WRONG TURN” (N. Kingdom Kings)

Highway: I Kings 12-end; II Kings; II Chronicles 10-end

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Name some things or skills you really want but don't really need.

DIG INTO IT

1. To covet is to desire wrongfully, inordinately, or without due regard for the rights of others: e.g. to covet another's property or someone else's wife or family or animals (Exodus 20:17). King Ben-Hadad of Aram coveted the land and people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, attacked its capital Samaria and said to King Ahab, “Your silver and gold are mine, and the best of your wives and children are mine” (I Kings 20:3). Even though Ahab “did more evil in the eyes of the Lord” than the previous kings (I Kings 16:30), God spared him from covetous King Ben-Hadad (I Kings 20:13). But Ahab learned nothing from it. Shortly after this incident Ahab was filled with covetousness. In the large group read aloud I Kings 21:1-29 and then discuss what other sins can result from “the sin of covetousness”.

2. James 1:14-15 describes the progression from temptation to destruction: “Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire [original sin], he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin [actual sin]; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.” Who dies because of King Ahab's covetousness?

I Kings 21:13 –

II Kings 10:17 –

I Kings 22:37-38 –

I Peter 3:18 –

II Kings 9:36-37 –

DISCUSS IT (at your tables)

1. From your own experience, what are some signs of *covetousness*?

2. Talk about the difference between “wanting” something and “needing” something and how one's motives can turn one's desires towards evil or good.

3. What's the antidote to covetousness and greed according to I Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19?

PRAY ABOUT IT

Name some things God wants us to desire and pray to receive...