

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GUIDE: October 31, 2010

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

"DRIVING WHILE TIRED" (N. Kingdom Prophets)

Highway: I Kings 12-end; II Kings; II Chronicles 10-end, (Elijah, Elisha) Hosea, Amos, Jonah

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Name some experiences in life that cause Christians to get discouraged.

DIG INTO IT

1. Read I Kings 19:1-4. Instead of repenting after experiencing a famine in the land and fire on Mt. Carmel, Ahab and Jezebel try to kill the prophet Elijah. What do you think Elijah meant when he fled and told God, "I have had enough!"?

2. Elijah would agree with the apostle Paul that serving God is a "struggle (Colossians 1:29-2:1). Elijah ran for his life when threatened by Jezebel and he isolated himself from the world, even from his personal servant (I Kings 19:3). He was experiencing "spiritual depression." What might be the pros and cons of him isolating himself?

3. Elijah told God, "I am the only one left" (who believes in you). In what sense can pride be a part of Elijah's spiritual depression?

DISCUSS IT (at your tables)

1. Like Elijah, we all have "poor-little-me" pity-parties. What different ways do people hold pity-parties: Jonah's approach to a pity party (Jonah 4:5); modern ways of holding a pity-party?

2. What are some spiritual ways to prevent pity-parties and deal with them (reactively and proactively)?

PRAY ABOUT IT: Lord God, creator of all, 7,000 in Israel did not bow the knee to Baal. There are many in this country who have not bowed the knee to the gods of this age. Uplift us with the truth that we are not alone and remind us that you are in control of this world—for you are the Savior of the world. Amen.