

Beacon Church

Succession – Elijah Taken up to Heaven –18 February 2018

Read 2 Kings 2:1-18

1. Elijah and Elisha were both prepared for a change in their lives and ministry. Share as a group how you react to change? How can it be embraced? How can it be prepared for?
2. Discuss how we can ensure we are trusting God for our security and not people. Share how over-investment in people rather than the LORD makes us vulnerable when change occurs.
3. We are all different characters – sometimes what we see for sin is actually just a difference in character – how can we learn what is sin and what is difference?
4. The church will change; and leaders must be allowed to make changes and supported in them. Spend a little time in prayer asking the LORD whether any part of church life has become an idol so that, if changed or challenged, it would cause members to resist following the leaders. Destroy your idols early!
5. Take some time to reflect:
 - a. Is it time to lay something down and allow another generation to take hold of the baton?
 - b. Is it time to be active and take the baton on from someone who is carrying a responsibility?
6. [Give the connect group paper and pens.] If you had ten lessons you learned from Andrew Ryland – what would they be?
7. Look at the ten things Andy Phillips learned from Andrew Ryland and discuss what has helped and encouraged you:
 1. Worship of the Lord is of first importance
 2. Honouring – Use things – love people
 3. God is worth knowing and understanding
 4. Celebrate even the smallest of victories
 5. To get a Friend be a Friend
 6. Work REALLY hard!
 7. If you know you are loved you can challenge someone with anything
 8. Persevere despite set backs
 9. Be Loyal
 10. Servant Leadership
8. How can we apply these ten reflections into the home and work context?
9. Practically what steps need to be taken to build friendships inside the church, with non-believers and with family? Share with the group and write down what actions are to be taken and make the person accountable in ensuring steps are taken. Read the list again in a month.
10. Pray for Andrew and Elspeth – for their move and future, pray for Nathan and the Elders at Beacon Church as Jesus builds His glorious church