

Group Time

LOOK BACK:



1. Each participant shares one praise and one prayer request. (Commit these to prayer for the coming week.)

2. ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See page 46 for directions)

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| Y / N | Y / N | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | |

3. Review last week's lesson.



What's the first thing you did in obedience to your call?



LOOK UP:

Question: What does God need from you? Do we often act like we have something to give Him that He needs?

1. **Review your notes from the Gathering Time (Sermon).**

2. **Context:** The prophet Elijah's reign is coming to an end, and he chooses a successor. He comes upon Elisha, a farmer. (Note: 12 yoke of oxen is like the John Deere 9R 540 Tractor of his day.) Elijah puts his cloak on Elisha, symbolizing – "you're going to be me one day, so let's get busy" – like "follow me and I will make you a fisher of men."

Elisha says goodbye to family and friends and in doing so, sacrifices and cooks the oxen. Like Cortez burning his ships, he's all in – "Elisha has left the building."

3. **Discussion:** Read 1 Kings 19:19-21.

- Based on what he has, how he acts, and what he does, and without speculating too much, come up with a profile of Elisha pre-prophet. (Do you think he was well-off? Well-liked? Hard-working? Etc.)

- When Elijah put his cloak around him, how much knowledge and understanding of his future do you think Elisha had?
 - Whether the answer is a little or a lot, how much did Elisha give up (sacrifice) to pursue that future?
 - How much of his soon-to-be past life did he hold on to?
 - How did he prepare to pursue his new future?
- In light of this, explain this statement:

To serve God the most, it's not what you have, it's what you don't hold on to.
- How is this counterintuitive to the world?



LOOK FORWARD: Application

Point: *To serve God the most, it's not what you have, it's what you don't hold on to.*

At the end of our "Who Are You?" series we asked four questions:

- What need are you called to meet?
 - What hurt are you called to heal?
 - What else is Jesus calling you to?
 - What's the first thing you will do?

This week we will follow up those questions with these:

- Well, what are you waiting for?

- What's holding you back? (What is your 9R 540 Tractor?)

- What do you need to let go of?
