



Answers By Fire - LG

Opening:

When have you had to stand up for what you believed in, even when others disagreed or didn't understand?

(Keep it light - could be something like a school/work situation or a moral decision.)

Read 1 Kings 18:16-39

Ask someone to read it all, or share it out.

The Scene on Mount Carmel

Discuss:

1. What strikes you most about Elijah in this story?
2. How would you describe the spiritual state of Israel at this time?
3. Why do you think Elijah challenged the people to "stop wavering between two opinions" (v. 21)?
4. What do you learn about God from the way He answers Elijah's prayer?

Insight:

Elijah stood as one man against 850 false prophets - utterly outnumbered, yet confident in the living God. God answered not because of Elijah's power, but because of Elijah's surrender and obedience.

The People's Compromise

Read: Verse 21 again - *"If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him."*

Discuss:

1. Why do people (then and now) try to “waver between two opinions”?
2. The sermon mentioned that Israel had *absorbed the beliefs of the culture around them*.
 - What are some modern examples of “Baal worship” - false gods or cultural idols we might follow today?
 - Which of these are most tempting or subtle for you personally?
3. How does compromise affect our witness to others?
4. How can we recognise and tear down “altars” to false gods in our own lives?

Optional reflection:

Invite each person to quietly consider: *Is there anything I've placed on the altar that isn't honouring God?*

(Leader may pause for a minute's silence.)

The Fire Falls

Read: Verses 36-39

Discuss:

1. What do Elijah's prayer and God's response teach us about true faith?
2. Why was it important that everything was drenched in water before God sent fire?
3. How does this picture point to what the Holy Spirit does in believers today?
4. Julie said, *“We all have what Elijah had - access to the fire of God.”*
 - What does that mean for us under the New Covenant?
 - How can the fire of the Holy Spirit empower us to stand for God in our generation?

Living It Out

Reflect & Apply:

- Where might God be calling you to stand firm or speak up this week?

- What gift or area of your life could you “lay on the altar” and invite God to set ablaze for His glory?
- How can your group encourage one another to stay faithful and courageous like Elijah?

Prayer time:

Invite each person to share one area where they need God's fire or courage.

Pray over one another for fresh boldness, purity, and passion.