

Discussion Starter – Are you a good listener? What is the difference between hearing and listening? What is key to giving difficult advice? Do you make it difficult for people to give you loving advice?

Ahab's Heart (1 Kings 22:1-18)

- List the ways God tried to reach Ahab? How did Ahab respond?
- What does the bible say about receiving advice (See Proverbs 19)? Are you open to receiving advice?
- How was Jehoshaphat's approach to decide to go to war different from Ahab's? What was good and bad about Jehoshaphat's approach?
- How do you think Ahab's prophets were chosen? What qualifications were required to be a prophet in the Northern Kingdom at this time?
- What was Ahab's problem with Micaiah?
- What did Ahab's prophet say would happen if Israel attacked Syria?
- How do you respond to loving criticism or difficult advice? Have you ever had to give difficult advice to someone?

Consequences of Poor Leadership (Isaiah 49:14-16, 1 Kings 22:19-28)

- Read Isaiah 49:14-16. How does this describe the results of poor leadership?
- What did Micaiah say would happen to Israel and Ahab? What is the significance of the term "sitting on his right and on his left"? What does this portion of the story demonstrate about God's sovereignty?
- What Ahab's response to Micaiah? What happened to Micaiah? How did Zedekiah respond to Micadia?
- Jehoshaphat was a Godly leader? Why do you think he ignored Micaiah?
- How did Ahab enter battle? How did Jehoshaphat enter battle? What happened to Ahab? What happened to Jehoshaphat?

Listening to Truth - Application

- Do you surround yourself with people who only tell you what you want to hear?
- Are you open to hearing loving truth? How do you respond to truth, even if not given in a loving way?
- It is difficult to speak truth to a friend. What can you do that will help you to be more open to listening to truth from friends?