



WEEK 1 DEVOTIONAL

Facing Our False Gods

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to 1 Kings **16:29–33**, two times. Before and after each reading, pray asking the Spirit of Christ to guide you into knowing and living what you are receiving from the Scriptures. Consider where there is instruction by biblical author. What am I intended to reflect on and learn from?

REFLECT

1. Our key passage today starts in the midst of the history of the Book of 1 and 2 Kings. It assumes we are familiar with names, places and stories. Take some time and using a Bible dictionary, or study Bible look up the following people and items from our key passage. This can help us understand what is going on here. Don't have a Bible dictionary or study Bible? Try Googling the words and use an online version to look up...
 - Asa King of Judah
 - Ahab son of Omri
 - Jeroboam son of Nebat
 - Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal
 - Baal Worship
 - Asherah pole

2. Verse 30: As you reflect on your life, how are you doing in your faithfulness to following in the way of Jesus? How are you closer or further away from Jesus this day, week, month compared to yesterday, last week, last month or last year?
3. Is it easy or hard for you to reflect on your life in this way? Elaborate or journal through it.
4. As a follower of Jesus, how would you restate verses 31–33 for us in 2022? Or how would you restate in light of your own life, temptations and failings?
5. In 2022, what false gods do followers of Jesus often get tempted by?

RESPOND

Spend some time reviewing the new information you gleaned from the Scriptures today. In response to today's key passage and in light of what you learned, write a prayer of commitment and gratitude to Jesus and share it with someone. If you need a someone to send it to, Pastor Eric Haskins would love to read and pray along with you. ehaskins@ChristChurch.us.

RESOURCES

As we start this new series it's often helpful to know where the context and a little background about the Book as it can help inform our understanding of the stories shared. Take a few minutes and watch this overview of the [Book of Kings by the Bible Project](#).

Share or journal about two new things that you learned from the Bible project video.

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 16:29–33 | New International Version

29 In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab son of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria over Israel twenty-two years. 30 Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him. 31 He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him. 32 He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria. 33 Ahab also made an Asherah pole and did more to arouse the anger of the Lord, the God of Israel, than did all the kings of Israel before him.