



WEEK 7 DEVOTIONAL

THE PERSON AT THE PLOW | Calling Up the Next Generation

RECEIVE

Slowly. Prayerfully, read and/or listen to **1 Kings 19:19–21** 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, what does God want you to reflect on and learn from?

REFLECT

1. Share the names of spiritual leaders who have influenced your life towards Jesus. What are some of the lessons they taught you?
2. In what ways have they shaped your life? What did they do or say that made you recall them today?
3. Elisha's life prior to being called by Elijah was not glamorous. Suddenly, he was invited into the work of God. Have you ever felt like the work of God was for other people but not you? What does God's use of people from all walks of life like Moses, David, Peter, and Rahab indicate about the type of person God wants to invite into His work?
4. What is most memorable and significant to you in the way Elijah called Elisha and in the way Elisha responded?

5. Verse 21 tells us that Elisha slaughtered the oxen and fed them to the neighbors. He did not have a Plan B in case things with Elijah didn't work out. What would it take to cause you to follow God's direction in such a way? Does reading a story like this make you uncomfortable? Excite you? Why?
6. A major lesson of the Book of Kings is that leadership matters. As you steward your God-given influence, what wisdom have you gained that you'd like to pass on about following Jesus? Imagine your group is a group of friends asking you how to be better at following and hearing Jesus. What would you say? Work together as a group and come up with your top three practical steps.

RESPOND

Jesus gives the ultimate invitation to His disciples in asking them to participate in His mission to redeem the world. He extends the same invitation to us. One way of following the invitation of Jesus is to serve in the local church. Explore our serving opportunities [here](#) and see where God might be leading you to expand His kingdom.

RESOURCES

It is often helpful to know 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](#)

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 19:19–21 New International Version

¹⁹ So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. ²⁰ Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. “Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye,” he said, “and then I will come with you.” “Go back,” Elijah replied. “What have I done to you?” ²¹ So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant.