

Does my life matter?

GO FURTHER | OCTOBER 2 | WHEN IS IT TIME TO GO ALL IN?

START TALKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- WHAT WAS THE FIRST FUNERAL/MEMORIAL SERVICE YOU ATTENDED? WAS THE EXPERIENCE MEMORABLE? DID YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING?

START THINKING | ASK A QUESTION TO GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- Read 2 Kings 2:1-3. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- How does Elisha respond to the news Elijah is leaving?
- Is it the same way we respond to loss? Do you tend to rush through loss or let yourself sit with the sadness?
- Read 2 Kings 2:11-14. What words or phrases stand out to you?
- Elijah departs in dramatic fashion. List Elisha's actions.
- Elisha heard from God in the divided river, just like Elijah saw God in the divided river earlier in the passage.
- How do you experience God in the midst of grief or loss?

START SHARING | CHOOSE A QUESTION TO CREATE OPENNESS.

- Even though it is the last thing we want to do, we need to share our grief and loss with others. A group of prophets was ready for Elisha. Who are the people you can share your grief and loss with?
- We have many questions are dying, death and what's next. Ponder your answers to the following questions. Do you see the answer in Scripture? Or is it merely your best guess of what is next?
- When we die, do we sleep or go right to God?
- Will we recognize each other in a disembodied state?
- Do our loved ones who have died see us in this life?
- Are dogs/cats/favorite pets in heaven with us?
- What can we say with certainty?

START PRAYING | BE BOLD AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Loving God, we do not like to face death, we do not want to face loss. But it is the reality of where we live and you've promised to be with us, even through the valley of the shadow of death. May we seek to live with your Son, to be with Christ, everyday, so we can share his love with others, so we can endure the pain and suffering and heartaches and loss that come our way, so we can be with you for all eternity, in heaven and in the new heaven and new earth that is yet to come.

START DOING | COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- For more on grief with hope, check out this 5-day reading plan: <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/19738-grieving-with-hope>