



Real Relationships

Elijah and Elisha: Investments Worth Making

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Investing in someone is not a suggestion, but a command. Jesus was always investing in His followers and commanding them to do likewise. Read Matthew 28: 18-21. (Message)

1. What do these verses say to you about investing in others?

The true account of Elijah and Elisha is a biblical example of how the real-relationship investment works. Elijah was a mighty prophet in Israel during the reign of King Ahab. (For background on Elijah, read 1 Kings 18 – 19:14)

Read 1 Kings 19:15-21. (Message)

- Real-relationship investment requires obedience (v 19)

2. What role does obedience play in investing in someone?

- Real-relationship investment takes intentionality (v 19)

3. Share a time when you were intentional about investing in a relationship?

4. What was the outcome of this relationship?

- Real-relationship investment requires commitment (v 21)

5. What type of commitment would it take for you to invest in someone?

6. What type of commitment would it take for someone to invest in you?

- Real-relationship investment should include celebration (v 21)

7. Why is celebrating an important piece of investing in others?

- Real-relationship investment requires a personal touch: a personal ask. Elijah threw his own cloak on Elisha, a very personal ask. (v 19)

8. When was the last time you made a personal ask to someone to join you for something; someone you didn't already have a relationship with?

Real-relationship investment challenge questions:

- Will you ask God to help you identify someone that you can invest in so that they experience salvation?
- Will you ask God to help you find a Belonger that you can invest in and start a real-relationship with?
- Will you ask God to lead you to a Belonger who can invest in you?

Family Connect Discussion Starter:

Share with your family the story of Elijah and Elisha. Ask them if anyone has ever asked them to 'take over' for them – playing a sport, in a class project, etc. Discuss how it felt to be asked to 'take over' for someone else.