**Chapter 15: god’s messengers**

**Icebreaker Question**: When you were growing up how did your parents warn you that you were in trouble? Was there a special word or phrase that they used?

1. What is it about Ahab and Jezebel that provoked such anger from the LORD? How does this relate to the first two commandments?

2. Look up Deuteronomy 13:1-5. Was Elijah justified or too zealous in slaughtering all the prophets of Baal? Why does God take idolatry so seriously?

3. Baal worshipers believed their god made rain and storms, and during the dry season he needed to be brought back to life. Mount Carmel was his supposed sacred dwelling place. What was the point in God taking the battle to enemy territory?

4. Despite a recent, dramatic victory, Elijah was scared and depressed when he ran from Jezebel. Why do the deepest doubts often come on the heels of great triumphs or strong spiritual advancement?

5. Elijah ended up at Mount Horeb, the same mountain where Moses received the Ten Commandments from God (p. 207). What other parallels do you discover between Elijah and Moses?

6. Elisha’s spiritual insight allowed him to know the plans of the king of Aram and to see God’s angelic armies. Are there forces at work in our world today that we cannot see (p. 211-212)? What did this episode teach you about spiritual warfare (Eph. 6:12)?

7. What is the role of the prophets in this chapter? Was their role predicting the future or calling the people to repentance? Does God still send prophets today?

8. Do you see any similarities between the prophecies of Amos and Hosea and our world today? What do you think they would say to Canada? Our church?

9. Evaluate the prophets’ ministries. On what basis would you judge whether or not they were successful? How should we evaluate success in our work for God? How should we evaluate our own success for the kingdom?

In the time remaining ask your group members to share any of their personal reflection insights from their journal entries.