

## Small Group Discussion Questions

Following the Weekend of Oct 5-6, 2024

No need to answer every question. Feel free to jump around.

## Wickedness, Justice, and Mercy

(I Kings 21)

Alan Kraft, Lead Pastor

## Group Interaction & Application

Read aloud together I Kings 21.

What words, phrases, concepts, or images from these verses stand out to you as you just read them, or create a curiosity for you in some way?

What aspects of Pastor Alan's message gave you fresh insight into this passage, or helped you the most in understanding these verses and what we experience here?

Within these verses, we encounter a terrible injustice committed against Naboth.

We too experience injustice around us – on the news, at our workplaces, at our schools. Some of this injustice is severe and others less so but they can all be hard to take.

How do you process the injustice you witness around you – both the extreme and the less so?

Do you get angry? Do you take action? Are you apathetic? No matter the response, what is the heart posture behind your response?

Now take a moment to process how you and those around you interpret God's heart and His response to injustice?

If you or those around you ever feel like the God described in Scripture is too angry, share what causes these feelings.

If God failed to act on injustice, how would you feel about His failure to act?

In verses 20-25, we see God's judgement being proclaimed on Ahab, and then we encounter an unexpected twist - repentance from Ahab (vs. 27). And out of this repentance, we see God offering mercy (vs. 28-29).

What is your response to how this story is playing out?

Whether you find yourself encouraged or discouraged by the mercy being shown Ahab, share why you think either is the case?

Pastor Alan made the statement that, "God always responds to repentance with mercy."

What response does this reality stir in you?

As we take this story and apply it more personally to our lives, process the following together:

Where do you have power and how are you leveraging that power?

How do you respond to the injustice around you?

If you are feeling called to act on an injustice around you, what steps could you take?

If you ever question whether God's mercy is big enough for you or certain acts you have committed, why is this so and how might the story of Ahab and Naboth be speaking to you right now?

Conclude by praying for one another in taking practical next steps in applying this weekend's message and group discussion, after which pray for group needs and concerns.

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