

# ANSWER KEY

## Life Lessons for Leaders



## From II Kings

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## Lesson One

### ATTITUDE

II KINGS 1:1-14

1. Defend this statement: “*In leadership one’s attitude speaks plainly and loudly before others, greatly impacting the overall effort of any project or undertaking.*”

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

Leaders carry an important responsibility regarding their attitudes. By definition, leaders are different; they are “in the lead,” out in front, and stand before the rest of the church congregation in whatever roles they play in the Kingdom. They are constantly watched and regularly assessed by church membership because the members need a model by which to gauge their own willingness to participate in the overall work of the body. Whether or not a leader wants to be a model before the others, he will certainly be such a model—either for the good or for the bad. Therefore, the impact of a poor attitude in leadership can only spell disaster for church ministry. On the other hand, a good and proper attitude and outlook on the part of church leadership virtually guarantees a successful outcome.

2. What metaphor is shown in the story of Elijah and Ahab?

The story of Elijah and Ahab is a perfect metaphor revealing the power of the good will of God overcoming the evil will of flesh.

3. What does the story of Ahaziah’s accident reveal to us about the attitude of *Not Allowing God to Be God*?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

To know that God is real, that He is powerful and merciful, and yet not allowing Him the freedom to act in His power and mercy in and through our lives is an attitude that is simply unacceptable to Him.

4. Ahaziah’s second sinful attitude was: *Not Submitting To Spiritual Authority*. Explain how a leader’s walk with God is represented when he submits to spiritual authority.

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

- To know about the man is one thing, but submission to the authority of the man’s ministry is entirely another
- Whether for good or evil leaders will always have a potential of influencing others.
- Submission to spiritual authority represents a leader’s walk with God
- We set a clear example for all those that look to us for silent guidance.

5. What is biblical meekness?

A spirit that is like the potter’s clay: soft enough to be molded in the Master’s hands.

6. What is the real test of a leader?  
total submission to God's will once revealed.
7. What was the third sinful attitude that Ahaziah portrayed?  
commanding the will of God according to one's own desires

## Lesson Two

### JUST WAIT HERE

II KINGS 2:2-10

1. Explain why 1 Corinthians 10:13 is a key point for leaders to remember.  
*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

He alone knows what we can bear and what we cannot. He knows exactly when it is just too much. But He also knows when it's just too little. So, whatever is put on our plate we are able to consume—but only with His help. When we do not seek His help and guidance, how could we possibly know when enough is enough? Or, how could we realize that we are capable of even more?

2. Jesus asked Peter 3 times if he loved Him. What does this show about a leader's capabilities and being tested?  
*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

God is willing to take leaders where they need to go to show them what they can be and do because of His power in them. Failing during these times of testing and proving does not always mean that they have sinned and fallen from His grace. Failures might simply be tests by which leaders qualify for more and more usefulness in the Kingdom, a means by which they realize that with Him, truly, all things are possible.

3. Elijah told Elisha to wait at Gilgal. What characteristics of real leaders is shown by Elisha's refusal to stay behind?  
*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

Real leaders are those that will seize the moment, grasping opportunities that the Lord makes available to them. They are those that long to not only hear about the promise, but they want to become part of the fulfillment of such a promise!

4. What is one reason that local churches stop growing.  
The leadership becomes satisfied with what they have already seen accomplished.

5. What are 3 important elements for a leader who would join himself to the promise of God?

- 1) The leader knows Who the Lord is and what He wants to accomplish
- 2) The will of God for the leader becomes a reality in his life and ministry
- 3) The commitment, the determination to see the promise realized

6. Sometimes leaders must stop their ears from listening to the doubts and fears of those that are only spectators to the work of God.

7. What must the leadership of the church understand in order to fulfill God's plan and accomplish His will?

Leaders must be brought to the place of the impossible from time to time.

## Lesson Three

### DEAD PROMISES

II Kings 4:8-20

1. Summarize Ephesians 1:4-5 and Ephesians 3:10-12 as they relate to the promise given to the leadership of the Church.

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

The Church should know what it is destined for, what its vocation is, and what its purpose is that was determined long ago. The Church was brought about by a promise of God and by the faith of men and women.

2. The leadership of the church must:

- a) understand when others struggle
- b) pursue and persevere when others lag behind
- c) press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God

3. Referencing the story of the Shunamite woman, explain what qualities are needed to receive an “unexpected promise”.

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson referenced in subheading “An Unexpected Promise”.*

- Recognized the presence of God in the prophet
- Wanted the abiding presence of the Lord to rest a while in her own home
- Never asked for anything in return
- Content knowing that God’s presence would bless her home and her marriage
- Wanted to be closer to God than anything else

4. If the enemy can succeed in bringing problems to the leadership, the promise is doomed to die.

5. What does it mean for a leader to “*know the source of the promise*”?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

- knowing that God has foreseen the promise as part of His overall plan to build His Church
- knowing that He gave the promise for a good reason and that the reason is still valid, even if the promise seems to be dead or dying
- knowing that the leaders are the ones responsible for clinging tenaciously to the promise, even while others may be making funeral preparations for a dead promise

6. As a leader, what do you think it means to “take the promise back to the source”?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

- Promises are made as part of His global scheme, His plan in carrying out His divine and supreme will
- Leaders can agree once more to participate in the promise, no matter what others might wish to do
- Leaders can once again be a part of the promise’s fulfillment

- Leaders have to hold on to the promise by faith and watch it come to fruition
- Leaders cannot simply let a promise expire in their arms
- God's precious promises have been given to a special Church with special faith
- Leaders must hold on and never let go of such a God given treasure

**Lesson Four**  
**WINDOWS IN HEAVEN**  
II Kings 6:8-16 & 7:1-2

1. In Luke 8:10 Jesus spoke of two kinds of people. Describe these two kinds of people.
  - True disciples that would seek to know everything that Jesus had to share with them
  - Those that simply did not care deeply enough to go the extra step and find out what Jesus was really saying and doing
2. Explain how Gehazi is an example of what those in leadership must avoid.

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

  - It is far easier to simply be a servant of the man of God than to become a man of God oneself.
  - Gehazi was content to listen to the prophet and relied on him to tell him what to do.
  - He never looked for a deeper relationship with the God that Elisha so evidently knew.
  - Gehazi needed his own walk with God instead of relying on Elisha's relationship with God to save him.
3. Sometimes leaders must simply pray for spiritual eyesight—that they might see as the Master does.
4. What makes the difference between men of God and those that merely want to serve men of God?

The difference is true vision. To hear and to understand, to see and to perceive, and to be part of the work of God instead of a spectator to it.
5. No leader should simply “serve” without a personal understanding of and connection to a God-given vision.
6. What is “real unity”?

The Church is one body. This body is moving in one single direction toward a common goal.
7. What is needed to possess unity?

Vision

**Lesson Five**  
**BAD ADVICE FROM THOSE YOU LOVE**  
II Kings 8:16-19

1. Feelings, such as fear, discouragement, and doubt can act singly or together as enemies to our souls.

2. In the story of Joram king of Judah what are the three mistakes made and the lessons that leaders can learn from these mistakes.

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

1) MISTAKE: He received the kingdom by birthright.

LESSON: Too many churches have leaders that have achieved their positions and responsibilities through means other than spiritual qualification. Spiritual demonstration and God-given anointing should not be neglected in choosing and using leadership in the Church.

2) MISTAKE: His ascension was premature.

LESSON: Positions must be “grown into” by personal dedication and practical experience

3) MISTAKE: He leaned on a model of wickedness and listened to wrong counsel.

LESSON: Principles must be learned and established in the lives of church leaders.

3. Christian leaders must find true direction, true anointing, and surround themselves with true fellow believers that will help them on their journey.

## Lesson Six

### A BOW AND ARROWS

II Kings 13:14-19



1. What truth is taught in the story of Joash going to Elisha when he is on his death bed?

Leaders need to have the ability to focus on getting back to the basics. They should remind themselves regularly of what is really important in life and gear their energies toward that.

2. What is the symbolism of Elisha placing his own hands on those of Joash when he shot the arrows?

God is the bow and we are His arrows. His power launches us into the fray. His wisdom directs us precisely toward the target. His hands guide us in all that we accomplish for His Kingdom.

3. Joash hit the arrows on the ground only 3 times and Elijah was not pleased. What does this say about the passion of a leader?

We have to believe in it and we have to give ourselves to it—but we also must participate in it with passion.

4. Leaders should carry a passion in their hearts about the privilege of participating with Him in His harvest. Nothing can substitute for a leader's passion for godly living. Nothing can replace real Holy Ghost directed zeal in the life of church leadership.

5. Leaders should pursue with zeal and passion the calling of God and never have to look back sadly and ask, “What could have been?”

**Lesson Seven**  
**A STRANGER ALTAR**  
II Kings 16:10-15

1. In I Corinthians 11:31-32 Paul speaks of the responsibility of judging oneself. For a real Christian what does this mean?

Judging oneself is a part of the process of sanctification. Real Christians must constantly assess their walk with God, determining whether or not they are progressing, are stalled, or actually are backsliding.

2. II Kings 16:10-15 tells us that Ahaz replaced all thoughts of God and His true Kingdom with a strange altar that he found in the enemy's capital. What lesson can leaders today learn from this story?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

In the midst of all the innovation and creativity that are part of a leader's life, he must remember that some things must never be replaced. Godly actions and ministry must be founded upon godly principles. These are irreplaceable. There are certain standards that we must cling to and live by. No modern versions, no fancy attempts at duplication, and no seductive substitutes should be allowed in a leader's holy temple. In the rush to improve our methods and strategies, we must be absolutely strict and adamant in never substituting our own new altars for the one that stands before the Holy Place.

3. The brazen altar stands for what two fundamentally essential things?

- 1) sacrifice
- 2) genuine repentance

4. What stands as the standard of holiness and is the definition of true righteousness?

The Bible

5. What are two very necessary attributes for today's leaders?

- 1) Deep humility
- 2) Willingness to go into the harvest

6. Real repentance and genuine sacrifice will always remain an essential part of a true leader's life and ministry.

## Lesson Eight

### JUST A PIECE OF BRASS

II Kings 18:1-4

1. The lesson of Hezekiah shows us that despite all of the pressure to continue doing things as his father had done, Hezekiah turned whole heartedly to God. All that he would do in his official capacity would be based on his spiritual perspective. What important lesson does this teach leaders?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

Leaders are in their respective places of responsibility because of who they are. They are first of all spiritual men and women, and after that they take their respective roles in church leadership. It should not be the other way around! Positions do not make one spiritual. In fact, for someone that is struggling spiritually, a place of authority or a leadership position will often be abused and misused. Much damage has been done when these so-called leaders have been put into places of authority before they were spiritually qualified.

2. According to the lesson about Hezekiah, what is the greatest responsibility of leadership in today's church? Explain your answer.

Positive measures must be taken to lead the work of God in the proper direction.  
(Explanation should include some of the following)

- Begin to change what is wrong
- Should be people of action
- Plan for change and implement the changes
- Do what is right first of all
- Have a clear outlook based on a spiritual perspective

3. What can leaders learn from the serpent on the pole that was an object of deliverance (Numbers 21) but became an object to worship (II Kings 18).

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

Sometimes, a miracle can become more important than the Miracle Worker. Some Christians spend a lot of energy and time focusing on and boasting about what God has done for them, rather than in a real relationship with Him. And sometimes, a God-given miracle can become a symbol of our “good standing” with God. But God does many miracles for many kinds of people. To confuse the grace of God (that which He freely gives us for His purpose) and let it become a symbol of how we are “obviously” accepted by Him is a grave mistake. He does what He does because of who He is. And we are who we are because of who He is. When a spiritual act becomes an object of worship, there is a problem. When leaders focus more on what they do than who and what they are, there is a problem. When leaders think that what they do is more important than the One for whom it is done, there is a problem. And when what we do becomes more important than the reason for which it was done, there is a major problem.

4. Leaders do not work for God to make themselves acceptable—they work because

they are the children of the King and they love His work.

5. What is the meaning of “Nehushtan”?

an ordinary piece of brass

**Lesson Nine**  
**SHOWING OFF**  
II Kings 20:1-19

1. Leaders know that what they do has long-lasting effects.

2. What must be the leader's perspective of death?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

- Seeing things the way God sees them
- Knowing how to live based on the reality of eternal life
- A genuine understanding that our lives are hid with Christ in God
- Seek for the things that are from above
- Focus on the reality of eternity and overcome the cares of this life

3. What was Hezekiah's prayer that should be applicable to us at any point of our lives?

*"Lord, remember how I have walked with You, and give me more time to serve You if You so choose. If not, I am ready to go to You now. Nevertheless, not my will, but Yours be done."*

4. Every day that is given to us by God is in reality

an extension of life.

5. What does it mean that "the enemy will try to form alliances with those in the Church"?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

*Power with God means trouble for the kingdom of darkness. Assurances from God will be met by lies and seduction from the enemy. Promises and signs that God gives to us become signals to the adversary that he must take action to undo what God is effecting.*

6. What is the important principle that Jesus explained in Luke 8:18 about the operation of the Kingdom?

*The man that has is the one who takes what God gives him and uses it for the right purpose. He will be given even more. But the man that abuses what God gives will one day be stripped of what he "seems" to have.*

7. A leader should have something to leave behind for the future.

## Lesson Ten

# SEEKING THE GOD OF DAVID

II Kings 22:1-2

1. Josiah's first step to become a godly leader was to seek the God of David. What does this show about beginning leadership?

*The response should include the following/some of the following from the lesson:*

The only thing that we can do at the beginning of our leadership experience is to seek the God that the Church presents. He, at first, may be simply the God of the pastor. He might be the God of the church service. We know that He is real. He has even filled us with His Spirit. But we cannot say that we quite know Him in His fullness—not yet. We must walk with others as they walk with Him.

2. There will always be a need for real mentors in the Church.

3. "Obedience and submission 'establish' true leadership." Defend this statement.

*The personal response should include thoughts from the lesson subtitle: "Obedience and Submission".*

4. Leaders need their own personal relationship with God, but it may start with emulating another leader's commitment and dedication.