

LESSON 9—May 2, 2021

Spring Quarter 2021 Theme:
Prophets Faithful to God's Covenant
Unit III: Courageous Prophets of Change

Lesson Titles:

Speak Truth Boldly
(Faith Pathway Bible Studies)

Micaiah: Speaking Truth to Power
(Townsend Press Sunday School Commentary)

Devotional Reading:

1 John 3:23–4:3a; Deuteronomy 18:19-22

Background Scriptures:

1 Kings 22:1-40

Print Passages:

1 Kings 22:15-23, 26-28

Key Verse(s):

Micaiah said, As the LORD liveth,
what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.
(1 Kings 22:14, KJV)

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Micaiah said, "As surely as the LORD lives,
I can tell him only what the LORD tells me."
(1 Kings 22:14, NIV)

► **Questions to Consider:**

1. What did King Ahab ask Micaiah?
2. What was Micaiah's message to King Ahab?
3. What did Micaiah call upon the people to remember?

► **Lesson Context:**

- King Ahab preferred to have prophets around him who would tell him what he wanted to hear.
- The prophets' blind loyalty to Ahab aroused Jehoshaphat's suspicions about their genuine ability to give a true word from God.
- Jehoshaphat was not convinced and wanted to know if there was another prophet of the Lord who might be more credible.
- King Ahab is hesitant, but he sent for Micaiah and had him brought before them to give the word from the Lord. Micaiah became God's spokesman for the occasion.
- The king of Israel was warned not to go up against the king of Aram because he would die in the battle.

► **Lesson Aims:**

As a result of experiencing this lesson, the participants should be able to do these things:

- Identify with Micaiah's boldness in declaring the word of the Lord.
- Aspire to be like Micaiah when speaking the word of the Lord.
- Commit to tell those in power what the Lord has said.

► **Lesson Outlines/Key Points:**

I. “Thus Says the Lord” (1 Kings 22:15-18)

Key Point 1: Ahab was only interested in hearing “prophetic” voices that agreed with him.

Key Point 2: Micaiah delivered the Lord’s message to Ahab and it was not favorable for him or Israel.

II. Ignoring the Truth (1 Kings 22:19-23)

Key Point 1: God gave Micaiah a vision to substantiate his message to Ahab.

Key Point 2: God had permitted Ahab’s four hundred prophets to speak with a lying spirit to deceive Ahab and seal his doom.

III. Truth Will Prevail (1 Kings 22:26-28)

Key Point 1: Ahab refused to repent.

Key Point 2: Micaiah challenged the people present to take note of his words and remember them.

► **Lesson Summary:**

- This lesson challenges us individually and collectively to commit to being the courageous voice that will always speak the Lord’s truth even when it is unpopular.
- It is important for God’s leaders and God’s people to be willing to stand firm on the truths as revealed through the teachings of Jesus Christ. “

What Do You Think? (These questions are found in this week’s Faith Pathway student book.)

1. What are the risks of seeking important advice from people who tell you only what you want to hear?

2. What can cause us to become “dull of hearing”?

3. What are the possible consequences of telling an unpleasant truth to leaders who do not want to hear it?

As a result of this lesson, I will do the following:
