

MICAIAH

~~FOLLOW YOUR GUT~~

BADVICE

1 KINGS 22; 1 CHRONICLES 18-19; 1 KINGS 18-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:14FF

Mistake Made:

Ahab was unwilling to examine his life from the Lord's perspective.

1. Feeling wronged often leads to bad decisions. Ahab had been wronged by Ben Hadad and felt it right to exact punishment for the broken treaty (1 Kings 20:34ff). When you are wronged, how strong is the tendency to lash out and exact revenge? How do you suppress the desire to respond to wrong in the wrong way?
2. What is your process for making important decisions? With what we know about Ahab in mind, what lessons can we learn about when following your gut is #badvice?
3. What's really going on is often not what we think is going on. There are often issues lurking underneath the issues we are facing. Knowing this to be true, what can help us discern what is really going on underneath?
4. Jehoshaphat entered business with a person of different values. Have you ever entered an arrangement with someone of different values? How did that work out for you? If it worked well, why did it work well? If you struggled, why was it a struggle? What #goodvice can you give about what you learned?
5. We are more prone to #badvice when we close ourselves off from critical words. Read verses 8-9 where Jehoshaphat responded to Ahab's emotional 'always' and 'never' with a word of rebuke: "Don't say that!" How easy do people find it to tell you, 'No'? Do you have relationships where people can speak openly and directly into your life? If so, why do you think such a relationship works for you? What wisdom would you give to those who do not have such relationships? In what ways can such relationships go wrong?
6. Read verses 1 Kings 22:13-16. Why do you think Micaiah initially followed the 400 prophets' directive and stated a positive outcome? What lessons can we draw from this brief interchange about how prior history (see v8) plays a crucial role in current relationships?
7. With one eye on 1 Chronicles 19:1-3 and 1 Corinthians 6:14ff, and the other on Jehoshaphat's actions, how do we see God protecting Jehoshaphat? Can you think of a time when God protected you despite you putting yourself in a 'compromising' situation?