

## Going Deeper

In this passage Paul and Barnabas are at the start of their first missionary journey on Cyprus. Like Elijah they are engaged in a battle for hearts and minds. This time their opponent is a sorcerer and the battle is over the proconsul, the Roman governor of the island. Note that in this passage Paul starts off being called, 'Saul.'

### Read **Acts 13:4-12**

5. What was the main activity of Paul and Barnabas?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Why did the proconsul want to hear from Barnabas and Saul?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Why do you think Elymas was so keen to stop the proconsul believing Barnabas and Saul? Why are people keen to stop others becoming Christians today?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. What does Paul stress when he condemns Elymas? Why is it important to see that ideas opposed to the gospel are false?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Why is the punishment of Elymas appropriate? (cf. 9:8,17-18; Matthew 15:14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What convinces the proconsul to believe?

*Now do the applying it to our lives questions...*

# GROWTH TEAMS



**Week Beginning  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

### Growth Team News

This week we have the next instalment on Elijah and his battle with those who are promoting worship of the false god Baal. This is the big showdown, where Israel has to decide who the real God is.

After this week Growth Teams will take a break for a couple of weeks. They will be back the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever**



## Elijah: The LORD versus Baal

1 Kings 18:16-46 (page 359)

Space to take notes on the talk

A world full of \_\_\_\_\_

Do you make \_\_\_\_\_ things \_\_\_\_\_ things?

Which god will \_\_\_\_\_?

What \_\_\_\_\_ will you \_\_\_\_\_?

### Starter question

- ❖ What is the most exciting sporting fixture or competition you have ever watched or taken part in?

### Responding to the talk

1. What one question did this week's talk raise in your mind?
2. Read 18:16-46. Now re-read 18:16-20,41-46 – Elijah and Ahab
  - a. How does Ahab describe Elijah? Why does Ahab think in this way? (cf. 17:1, 18:2-5, 10)
  - b. Who does Elijah think is the troubler of Israel?
  - c. How does Elijah treat Ahab at the end of the passage? What is he trying to show Ahab?
3. Read 18:21-24, 39-40 – Elijah and the people
  - a. What is Elijah challenging the people to do? How much is this a challenge for Christians today?
  - b. How successful was Elijah at convincing the people that the LORD is God?
  - c. Why did Elijah have the prophets of Baal killed? Was this an appropriate action? (cf. 18:1,4; 19:1-3; Matthew 5:44)
4. Read 18:25-38 – Elijah and the Prophets of Baal
  - a. What does Elijah's taunting of the prophets of Baal achieve?
  - b. What is the significance of building an altar of 12 stones?
  - c. How does Elijah make it clear that this is a true act of God and no trick?

*You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.*

### Applying it to our lives

11. What good thing is in danger of becoming a 'god' thing in your life?
12. A Christian friend has identified something that has more of a hold on them than God. They want to become fully committed to God. What advice would you give them?