(2 Kings 2:1-18)

Catalyst: Becoming a Change Agent in a "Couldn't Care Less" Culture, No. 7

2 Kings 2:1 (NIV)

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

1. Realize all spiritual leaders are "short" term (2:1-6).

2.

3.

2 Kings 2:7 (NIV)

Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan.

2 Kings 2:8 (NIV)

Elijah took his cloak,
rolled it up and struck the water with it.
The water divided to the right and to the left,
and the two of them crossed over
on dry ground.

2 Kings 2:9 (NIV)

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

2 Kings 2:10 (NIV)

"You have asked a difficult thing,"
Elijah said,

"yet if you see me when I am taken from you,
it will be yours—otherwise not."

- 1. Realize all spiritual leaders are "short" term (2:1-6).
- 2. Retain the spirit of a spiritual leader (2:7-12).
- 3.

2 Kings 2:11 (NIV)

As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.

2 Kings 2:12 (NIV)

Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.

2 Kings 2:13 (NIV)

He picked up the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan.

2 Kings 2:14 (NIV)

Then he took the cloak that had fallen from him and struck the water with it. "Where now is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" he asked.

When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.

2 Kings 2:15 (NIV)

The company of the prophets from Jericho, who were watching, said, "The spirit of Elijah is resting on Elisha." And they went to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

2 Kings 2:16 (NIV)

"Look," they said, "we your servants have fifty able men. Let them go and look for your master. Perhaps the Spirit of the Lord has picked him up and set him down on some mountain or in some valley." "No," Elisha replied, "do not send them."

2 Kings 2:17 (NIV)

But they persisted until he was too ashamed to refuse. So he said, "Send them." And they sent fifty men, who searched for three days but did not find him.

2 Kings 2:18 (NIV)

When they returned to Elisha, who was staying in Jericho, he said to them, "Didn't I tell you not to go?"

- 1. Realize all spiritual leaders are "short" term (2:1-6).
- 2. Retain the spirit of a spiritual leader (2:7-12).
- 3. Recalibrate your ears to listen to a new spiritual leader (2:13-18)