

# MARRIAGE...

## FOR BETTER? FOR WORSE?



Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

### Ahab and Jezebel

*No one else so completely sold himself to what was evil in the Lord's sight as Ahab did under the influence of his wife Jezebel.*

1 Kings 21:25 NLT

- Ahab represents the passive husband.
- Jezebel represents the controlling wife.

### THE PASSIVE HUSBAND

*Ahab said to Naboth, "Let me have your vineyard to use for a vegetable garden, since it is close to my palace. In exchange I will give you a better vineyard or, if you prefer, I will pay you whatever it is worth." But Naboth replied, "The Lord forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers." So Ahab went home, sullen and angry because Naboth the Jezreelite had said, "I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers." He lay on his bed sulking and refused to eat.*

1 Kings 21:2-4

### THE CONTROLLING WIFE

*His wife Jezebel came in and asked him, "Why are you so sullen? Why won't you eat?" He answered her, "Because I said to Naboth the Jezreelite, 'Sell me your vineyard; or if you prefer, I will give you another vineyard in its place.' But he said, 'I will not give you my vineyard.'" Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel? Get up and eat! Cheer up. I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."*

1 Kings 21:5-7

### The Controlling Wife...

- Belittles her husband with her words.

*Jezebel his wife said, "Is this how you act as king over Israel?"*

1 Kings 21:7a

*Words can bring death or life.*

Proverbs 18:21 CEV

- Takes over.

*"I'll get you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite."*

1 Kings 21:7b

### **Wives...**

- 1) Ask God to help you love him, faults and all, without taking control.
- 2) Pray and stay out of the way.

### **The Husband's Calling to Lead...**

- The Provider
- The Protector
- The Pastor

### **God will hold the husband accountable...**

*As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned to death, she said to Ahab, "Get up and take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite that he refused to sell you. He is no longer alive, but dead." When Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, he got up and went down to take possession of Naboth's vineyard. Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite: "Go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He is now in Naboth's vineyard, where he has gone to take possession of it. Say to him, 'This is what the Lord says: Have you not murdered a man and seized his property?' Then say to him, 'This is what the Lord says: In the place where dogs licked up Naboth's blood, dogs will lick up your blood — yes, yours!'"*

1 Kings 21:15-19