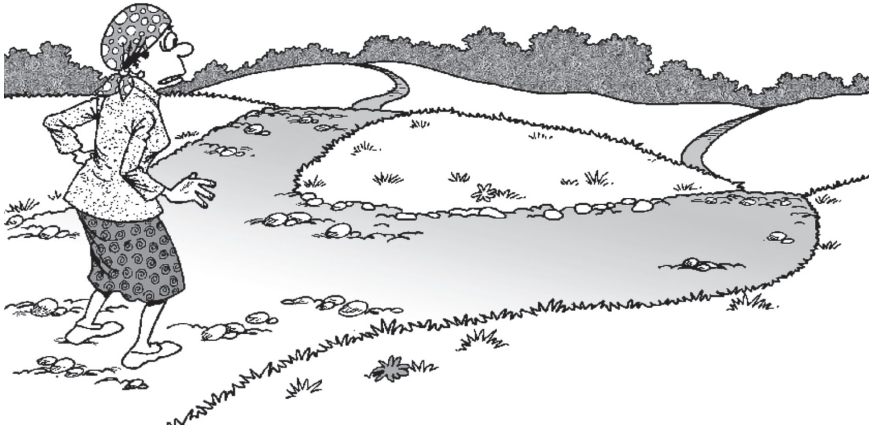


12 RESPONDING TO CORRUPTION: CHALLENGES AND BENEFITS



A. Introduction

Setbacks are set-ups for comebacks. Good things don't always come easily. Whereas a corruption free society is highly desirable, the reality is that the road to its achievement abounds with challenges. It is important to appreciate these challenges if we are to effectively and successfully confront corruption in our society. It is equally important to appreciate that such efforts would not be in vain, because there are great benefits to both individuals and societies in dealing with corruption.

B. Challenges of Dealing with Corruption: 1Kings 19:1-18

1. From this passage, outline the events that led Elijah to flee to the cave
2. a. Despite the courage of Elijah to declare the message, what challenges do you think he faced in the process of doing that?
b. Why do you think Elijah asked God to take his life?
3. Share with your group some personal experiences when you have felt like Elijah? What did you do?

C. Benefits of Preventing Corruption: Esther 6:1-14

1. Observe the sequence of events in this passage.
2.
 - a. What would have been the other possible scenarios in this story had Haman not uncovered the plot against the King?
 - b. Consequently, apart from the benefits to himself, what other benefits did Mordecai's action bring to the country?
3.
 - a. From this example, what benefits do you think preventing corruption would bring to the individual concerned and to society as a whole?
 - b. How do you think "whistle blowing" can enhance the prevention of corruption in our society?

D. Memory Verse: 1 Kings 19:14

He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

E. Point of Reflection

Look again at the commitments you have made in the course of these studies. List some challenges you have already faced or are likely to face in the course of implementing them. What have been/will be the rewards? Pray about the challenges and thank God for the rewards.

Additional Passages

2 Samuel 11 and 12.

Thousands of people struggle daily with unemployment and poverty in our nation today due to insensitivity of a few who practice corruption.

This guide is a call to Christians to believe they can make a real difference and start to take positive action.

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