

May 31, 2011
Charles Stanley's Life Principle #19
Anything you hold too tightly, you will lose.

PRAYER FOCUS: _____

King Ahab and Naboth's Vineyard
The Proposal and Manipulating Plot

What did King Ahab request of Naboth? Why did Naboth refuse him?

What was King Ahab's response? What did his wife, Jezebel, do in reaction to her husband's response?

God's Judgment

Why do you think Ahab greets Elijah as "my enemy" (v. 20; recall 1 Kings 18:1-46)?

What does Elijah predict the punishment of Ahab will be (1 Kings 21:20-24)?

Ahab Repentance and God's Mercy

What was Ahab's response to God's judgment?

Do you think King Ahab was sincere?

Application

Why do you think Christians sometimes strive for less than God's best, forsaking what will bring them lasting peace and joy?

For you to ponder . . .

It's also possible to cling too tightly to the past—whether it was good or bad. Sometimes we're prideful because of our accomplishments or even rebellion. Or we might place too much focus on our mistakes, regrets, or the way others wronged us.

- Do you ever dwell upon any part of your past in an unhealthy way?
- How does thinking about previous experiences hinder you from enjoying life today, obeying God, or discovering His plans for your future?
- Read Isaiah 43:18-19. What is God's perspective on living in the past?
- How could you apply that passage to your life?