



## In the Absence of a Crisis

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### 1. Change happens when the pain of staying the same is greater than the pain of change

<sup>19</sup> So Elijah went and found Elisha son of Shaphat plowing a field. There were twelve teams of oxen in the field, and Elisha was plowing with the twelfth team. Elijah went over to him and threw his cloak across his shoulders and then walked away. <sup>20</sup> Elisha left the oxen standing there, ran after Elijah, and said to him, "First let me go and kiss my father and mother good-bye, and then I will go with you!" Elijah replied, "Go on back, but think about what I have done to you." <sup>21</sup> So Elisha returned to his oxen and slaughtered them. He used the wood from the plow to build a fire to roast their flesh. He passed around the meat to the townspeople, and they all ate. Then he went with Elijah as his assistant.

1 Kings 19:19-21 NLT

One of King Joram's officers replied, "Elisha son of Shaphat is here. He used to be Elijah's personal assistant.

2 Kings 3:11 NLT

### 2. Phase One - Implementing change

- Take drastic action
- Let everyone see it

### 3. Phase Two - Implementing change

- Steady progression
- Long-term consistency

### 4. Phase Three - Implementing change

- Momentum
- Allow consistency to fuel the changes that impact my future

<sup>8</sup> Then Elijah folded his cloak together and struck the water with it. The river divided, and the two of them went across on dry ground! <sup>9</sup> When they came to the other side, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I can do for you before I am taken away." And Elisha replied, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit and become your successor." <sup>10</sup> "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah replied. "If you see me when I am taken from you, then you will get your request. But if not, then you won't." <sup>11</sup> As they were walking along and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire appeared, drawn by horses of fire. It drove between the two men, separating them, and Elijah was carried by a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha saw it and cried out, "My father! My father! I see the chariots and charioteers of Israel!" And as they disappeared from sight, Elisha tore his clothes in distress. <sup>13</sup> Elisha picked up Elijah's cloak, which had fallen when he was taken up. Then Elisha returned to the bank of the Jordan River. <sup>14</sup> He struck the water with Elijah's cloak and cried out, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" Then the river divided, and Elisha went across.

2 Kings 2:8-14 NLT

### Next Steps:

- Re-read today's Bible verses this week
- Attend the rest of "You in Five Years"
- Take the drastic step of committing my life to God, making Jesus my Lord and Savior
- Work on consistency in my life: \_\_\_\_\_
- Seek God for direction for my next 5 years
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