

Men and Women 'Just Like Us'

Introduction:

- Q: Why does James say, Elijah 'was a man, just like us?'
- Q: Why would they/we need a reminder like that?
- Q: How or why is that important to you, personally?

These characters are 1) Real people with 2) Real needs and 3) Real weaknesses and in 4) Real situations

These characters all have one thing in common: faith in God (from patriarch to prostitute-James 2)

These characters demonstrate several things for/to us:

- God's power to transform *Gideon*
- God's promises are certain *Sarah*
- God's protection is perfect *David*
- God's purposes always succeed *Ezra, Daniel*

However, every character in Scripture is there for a specific reason:

A. Encourage Us

- Romans 15.4
- James 5.7-11

B. Warn Us

- 1 Corinthians 10.1-11
- Hebrews 12.14-17
- Eli, Uzzah, Miriam, Judas
- NT:RYR; Ananias and Sapphira

C. Inspire Us

- 2 Corinthians 8.1-9
- Hebrews 11.32-39

D. Judge Us

- Jonah Luke 11.32
- Sheba Luke 11.31
- Rahab James 2.25-26

Conclusion: What lesson/s have you learned even from tonight?

- We are no different at all-same human DNA
- We all have advantages and disadvantages-we have more I should imagine, by far!
- God is not sentimental; God has an opinion of my life, just like theirs.
- God responds to genuine faith