



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Discovery Digs Series, Lesson 10

Lesson Title: God Rescues a Starving City

Take Home Point: Don't keep good news to yourself.

Warm-Up:

Imagine you have always suffered from poor vision – even with glasses or contacts everything is fuzzy during the day and you can hardly see at night. You can't drive because you can't read the signs, nor can you read a book or enjoy visual delights. Then a relative tells you of someone who can help you with a new procedure. Desperate, you take a chance and have it done. The results are miraculous! You can see clearly for the first time, and it is wonderful! The world is a different place, full of color and clarity; you can now read the signs along the road to lead you in the right direction. Now also imagine you have family and friends who suffer from the same malady. Do you tell them about your doctor and the procedure, or keep it to yourself? What do you think?!?

Read: 2 Kings 6:24—7:20

Observation (What happened?):

Who did the king of Israel blame for the famine in his city?

Why did the lepers go back to tell everyone in the city about their discovery?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What do you think the king meant in 2 Kings 6:33: "Why should I wait for the Lord any longer?"

Do you think the lepers were rewarded for doing the right thing and sharing their good news?

Insight:

This lesson's reading shows how God wants us to view the good news of our rescue through Jesus Christ. The people of Samaria desperately needed food. The lepers who discovered food declared, *"We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this."* (NIV) The same is true for us. We are not to keep what God gives us to ourselves; we are to give it away to those who need his grace as much as we do. What has God given us? 1 John 5:11: *"God has given us eternal life."* 1 Peter 1:3,4: *"In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade."* 2 Peter 1:3,4: *"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises."* Colossians 2:10: *"You have been given fullness in Christ."* Romans 5:5: *"God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."* (NIV) So much good news!

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What good news do you have? Who can you share it with this week?

Who do you blame when you are facing difficulty? How do you "wait for the Lord"?

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