



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Discovery Digs Series, Lesson 8

Lesson Title: God Works Miracles through Elisha

Take Home Point: Trust God... especially during hard times.

Warm-Up:

Imagine God could send you an email tomorrow morning. Since he knows all about you, what might he want to tell you? Perhaps it would be something like this: "Good morning! Today I will be handling all of your problems. Please remember that I do not require your help. When there is a situation that you cannot handle, DO NOT attempt to resolve it. Just put it in the SFJTD (Something For Jesus To Do) box. It will be addressed in MY time, not yours, and in the best possible way. Trust me in this and see what happens. Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold on to it or attempt to remove it. Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your problem and cause you needless fear and worry. Because I do not sleep nor do I slumber, there is no need for you to lose any sleep. If you need me, I am only a prayer away."

Read: 2 Kings 2:19-22; 4:1-37; 5:1-14; Romans 8:28

Observation (What happened?):

What nationality were the three recipients of the miracles?

Who did Naaman have to listen to in order to be healed?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

How do you think Elisha felt during each of these situations?

Why did each of these people come to Elisha for his help?

Insight:

There is a common thread running through these three miracles – each of them gave life back to the people who thought life was over. Even the first woman, though not necessarily looking at her own physical death, saw the death of her family. Elisha's time as prophet was marked by many other miracles of hope and life for those who received them. And it didn't stop when he died. After his death, here's what happened according to 2 Kings 13:20,21: *"Elisha died and was buried. Now Moabite raiders used to enter the country every spring. Once while some Israelites were burying a man, suddenly they saw a band of raiders; so they threw the man's body into Elisha's tomb. When the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet."* (NIV) Even in death he brought life! Sounds familiar, doesn't it? This was planned by our omniscient God. For John the Baptist was the "Elijah to come" of the New Testament, preaching judgment ahead of the coming life-giver (see Matthew 17:11-14). Then Jesus came, the life-giving One of whom Elisha was only a pale foretelling shadow. What wonderful symmetry in the Bible written by the hand of God.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What situation are you facing that requires more than you have to get through it?

Pray for God to help you through it.

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