

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of January 31 - February 6, 2021

Desiring the Kingdom

2 Kings 14: That Which is Truly Life

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What career highlight are you most pleased with?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

MAIN POINTS

To people with full bank accounts and empty souls, God sent a prophetic witness to call them to discover true riches and to share his heart for the poor and the nations.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **Read 2 Kings 14:1-8.** Amaziah, son of Joash, becomes king of Judah. What words would you use to describe his actions and his approach to being king. What do you think led to his plan to attack Israel?
 - a. **Read 2 Kings 14:9-10.** How would you describe King Jehoash's response to Amaziah? Why was Amaziah not discouraged by this response?
 - b. **Read 2 Kings 14:11-15.** What was the result of the conflict begun by Amaziah? In what ways can we learn from Amaziah's folly?
2. **Read 2 Kings 14:23-24.** The king referred to in these verses is often called Jeroboam II. (Jeroboam I is also called Jeroboam, son of Nebat, while Jeroboam II is also called Jeroboam, son of Joash). What traits did Jeroboam II share with his predecessor?
 - a. **Read 2 Kings 14:25-29.** What acts did God use Jeroboam II to achieve for Israel? How did this profit Israel? In what ways was Israel not restored?

- b. Under the rule of Jeroboam II, Israel became very wealthy, but was still spiritually poor. Is wealth sometimes a downfall for us? **Read Luke 12:13-21**. Does this support your answer? In what way?
- c. **Read 1 Samuel 16:7**. What does this say about the way in which we are viewed by God? Is wealth important to God?
- 3. In 2 Kings 14: 25, God had spoken through His servant Jonah. This is Jonah the prophet from the book of Jonah. Other prophets who were living during this time period were Amos and Hosea. Of what importance would this have been to the people of Israel?
 - a. **Read Jonah 2:1-10**. This is Jonah's prayer from inside the great fish. What does this say about Jonah and his relationship with God. How was this prayer received by God? When we are in a time of despair, how can we be encouraged by Jonah's prayer? Has God been faithful to you in times of trouble?
 - b. **Read Hosea 13:1-6, and 14:9**. Written during a time of abundance for Israel, what does God speak to the nation through the prophet in this scripture? What wisdom can we draw from this scripture?
 - c. **Read Amos 2:6-7 & 4:1**. The prophet wrote this during the reign of Jeroboam II, when wealth was abundant but the poor were suffering. What lessons can we learn from this for application in modern times? In verse 4:1, he refers to the women of Israel as the "cows of Bashan". What is meant by that phrase? What is the message he is sending by using this phrase?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at this week's study, what is important for you to remember and why?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

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