

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of November 8 - November 14, 2020

Desiring the Kingdom

2 Kings 8:1-29 How to Grow in Faith and Overcome Temptation

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What is your plan for Christmas shopping this year?

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

Growing in faith and overcoming temptation both happen through input, delight, and reliance.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **Read 2 Kings 8:1-6.** What gave the Shunammite woman the courage she needed to make an appeal to the king? What prompted the king to respond as he did? In what ways does this story speak to the role of faith in our lives?
2. **Read 2 Kings 8:7-15.** How did Elisha tell Hazael to respond to the king? Was he telling him to lie to the king? Explain your answer.
 - a. In 2 Kings 8:11-13a, Elisha weeps, and explains why he is weeping. How do you react to Hazael's response? Does he seem concerned about Elisha's prophecy?
 - b. In 2 Kings 8:13b, do you believe Elisha gave Hazael instructions to kill the king? If not, how do you explain what he told him? How do you explain Hazael's resulting action?
 - c. **Read James 1:13-15.** How might these verses explain Hazael's actions? How do these verses serve as a warning to us?
3. In 2 Kings 16-29 we see a succession of kings who do evil in the sight of the Lord. Why do you think this happens? What temptation could draw them to disobey God and lead the people astray?

4. **Read Luke 4:1-13.** In these verses, how did Jesus respond to temptation? How can we use His example to also respond to temptation? What temptations in today's society are most responsible for separating people from God? How can we as believers help others in fighting these temptations?
 - a. **Read Hebrews 2:18.** How does Jesus aid us when we are tempted?
 - b. How does our faith help when we are tempted?
5. **Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10.** In these verses, what is Paul's admonition to Timothy? How does Paul advise Timothy to stay content? What advice does he give him regarding temptations? Relate this to the temptations which may have caused the kings in our study chapter to go astray.

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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