

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of September 27 - October 4, 2020

Desiring the Kingdom

2 Kings 4:38-44 - Provision in the Midst of Famine

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Where did you grow up? What did you like about it? What didn't you like about it?

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

In the famine of body and soul Jesus tasted death for all of us and provided Himself as the bread of life. Whoever comes to Him will never be hungry, whoever believes in Him will never die.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **Read 2 Kings 4:38-41.** As Elisha came to Gilgal, the people were experiencing a famine in the land. Often, in Old Testament stories we find pictures of New Testament principles. Discuss this story in light of the principles contained in it.
 - a. In what ways can the famine being experienced by the men in Gilgal be applied to something we might experience spiritually. What is a "famine" of the soul? Have you experienced it? If so, how did you recover from it?
 - b. **In 2 Kings 4:39**, one man gathered vegetables for the stew. Even people of faith sometimes walk blindly into a situation without recognizing the perils of it. Have you ever mistakenly caused a problem even when your intentions were good? If so, describe the situation. What was the result?
 - c. **In 2 Kings 4:40-41**, the men sought after Elisha to help them. Elisha performed a miracle that saved the lives of the men. What purpose do you

believe was served by this miracle? **Read Acts 5:12-14.** Considering this verse, does this affect your answer? How and why?

2. **Read 2 Kings 4:42.** The city the man came from, Baal-shalishah, was a pagan city. Do you consider it unusual for a man from a pagan land to bring the prophet of God his firstfruits? Why or why not? What is the significance of bringing the firstfruits?
 - a. **Read Romans 11:1-5.** How could these verses explain the man's actions? Do people of faith exist in every culture? Explain your answer'
 - b. **Read John 1:45-46.** How does it seem that Nathaniel feels about someone of significance coming from Jesus' hometown? How does this affect your thoughts concerning a man from a city of ill repute?
3. **Read 2 Kings 4:43-44.** Describe the miracle performed in these verses. Does this miracle seem consistent with other miracles in the Bible? If God can multiply bread and corn, what else is possible.
 - a. **Read Matthew 28:16-20.** Who is Jesus speaking to in this passage? Does what He is asking seem possible? Considering the number of Christian believers in the world today and in the past, how successful were these men? Is that a miracle? How does it compare to the miracle in 2 Kings 4:43-44?
 - b. If asked to explain how God's miracles have influenced your faith, how would you answer? Considering all of the miracles performed by God through His prophets, His Son, or the Apostles, which do you consider to be the most glorifying? Why?

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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