



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

EAST ABBOTSFORD CAMPUS

MARCH 8, 2020

INFO AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Baptism Class May 6** || For those wanting to know more about baptism and those wanting to be baptized. Let us know you are coming by filling out the online Questionnaire at northview.org/baptism. || 7-9pm in West Court || ASL interpretation available
- **Special General Meeting:** We have a Special General Meeting coming up on March 10th at 7:00 pm in the Worship Center. Meeting packages will be at the Connect Desk and Usher Cart for people to pick up.
- **Calling all Trades!** The Development Committee is extending an invitation to anyone at Northview who would like to tender quotes and pricing towards the construction of the new building at Downes Road. Email jgiesbrecht@northview.org for more details
- **Men's Retreat:** April 3-5th. Cost: \$200. Location: Rockridge Canyon. Register online: northview.org/men.
- We could use more help on the **Baking Team** at the East Abbotsford Campus! Email Dee at deirdre@northview.org to get involved.
- Sign up for Northview's Newsletter at northview.org to never miss another event.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the ACS renovation/ construction project (for health, safety, speed, etc.)
- Pray for the DR Campus Worship Centre capital campaign (that money would be raised quickly!)
- Pray for opportunities for us to engage our neighbours, coworkers, and other people we are connected with in gospel conversations
- Pray for people who live in east Abbotsford to have a hunger for God and good news, and that they would hear it through our campus and people

LEADER NOTES

Suggested Timing for a 2 hour meeting:

Connection: 30 Minutes (visiting / snacks / announcements / ice breakers)

Content: 30 Minutes (Observation and Interpretation questions):

Commission: 10-15 minutes (Application questions)

Care: 15-30 minutes (Sharing and Prayer)

Connection: 15-30 minutes (visiting / snacks)

LEADING SERMON-BASED DISCUSSIONS:

- Read the scripture passage(s) together as a group.
- Direct people back to the text if they are going on rabbit trails or talking about opinions and speculation, by asking, "Where do you see that in the text? What answer does the text provide for that question?"
- As you transition to prayer time, pray through the issues and ideas that the text brought up.

RESOURCES FOR 1 & 2 KINGS

Commentaries:

Paul House, *1 & 2 Kings - New American Commentary*

Iain Provan, *1 & 2 Kings - Understanding the Bible*

Donald Wiseman, *1 & 2 Kings: An Introduction and Commentary*

Tyndale Old Testament Commentary

August H. Konkel, *1 & 2 Kings*

(The NIV Application Commentary)

Gavin Ortlund, *1 & 2 Kings: A 12-week Study*
(Knowing the Bible)

The Gospel Coalition Course:

God's Big Picture. Unit 5: The Partial Kingdom: Place and King

www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/gods-big-picture-tracing-storyline-bible

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Observation

This section is aimed at helping people observe the details of the text: what is written, what words or ideas are repeated and emphasized, the text's structure and how this text fits into the wider context of the book of Romans.

1. Read 2 Kings 4:8-37.
2. How does the Shunammite woman provide for Elisha?
Builds a small room on their house for him to stay in (v10)
3. How does Elisha respond to this act of hospitality?
Elisha promises that she will bear a son (v15)
4. How does the woman respond to Elisha's promise (see also v28)?
She does not want to have her hopes raised/dashed (v16)
5. What happens to the son she is given? Who does she turn to for help?
He dies unexpectedly (v18); she goes to Elisha, the man of God, for help (v22)
6. How does Elisha respond to this situation?
He sends his servant first (who cannot raise the boy) and then goes to the boy himself and raises him from the dead (vv29, 32-35)

Interpretation

This section is aimed at linking the current text to other texts or to the bigger biblical narrative. If you are running out of time, feel free to skip this section.

1. In 2 Kings 4, read of the Lord providing a son to the Shunammite woman.
Read Matthew 6:25-34. How does this text help us understand the Lord's provision for His people?
We need not worry because the Lord is in control and provides.
2. Read 1 Kings 17:7-24.
 - a) What are some similarities between this story and the story in 2 Kings 4:8-37?
The prophet is shown hospitality; the sons die; the women question the prophet's motives; the son is raised by the prophet laying upon him

b) How do these stories help us understand the succession from Elijah to Elisha?

Elisha has been given the same power/Spirit that Elijah had and is able to do the same things

3. Skim John 11.
 - a) How do Lazarus's sisters respond to Jesus when he comes to town? What does Jesus say about his delay in verse 14?
They question why he came so late (v21) He is glad he wasn't there so that they would believe. (v14) (There is a greater purpose in the death of Lazarus)
 - b) How is the way Jesus raises Lazarus different than that of Elijah/Elisha?
Jesus calls him out; Elisha/Elijah ask God to do the raising

Application

This section is aimed at helping people apply what we have read in the text to our lives. It is intended to foster more open-ended discussion as people connect the text to their everyday life, and reflect on how it changes the way they think and act.

1. The Shunammite woman ran to Elisha, the man of God, when she was facing troubles. Where do you run when you are in trouble? How does our view of God affect the way we see Him caring for us in our hurt?
Various Answers
2. The Shunammite woman was scared to ask God for a son because she did not want to get her hopes up. Are there things we are scared to ask God for because we don't want to get hurt?
Various Answers
3. The Shunammite woman's son is dead and then brought back to life. In every Christians' walk, this is true: we were once dead but now, through Christ, have been brought to life.
Take some time in your group to share your stories of coming to new life in Christ.
Various Answers