



**Series: Elisha**  
**Don't Be Afraid**  
**2 Kings 6:8-23**  
**Speaker: Greg Harris**

Check out the sermon here: <https://northview.org/dont-be-afraid/>

**A Note from Pastor Dan:** Hello! Welcome to our sermon reflection. This is intended for you to spend time reflecting upon the weekend teaching of God's Word and to dig deeper into the lesson. So, it's important to have watched or listened to the message from the previous weekend. In the coming weeks, I would encourage you to use one of our Sermon Guides as you watch/listen to the sermon in order to keep focused and to note important information. As you work through this lesson, feel free to ask your parents any questions and include them in your observations.

**\*\*Quotes from Greg's sermon will be outlined in this colour.**

**The Sermon**

- ⇒ **Opening Illustration:** Greg's wife Sarah had to spend two weeks in quarantine due to visiting a friend who had Covid-19. It was a time of great stress in the Harris household as Greg's two children greatly missed their mom. Sarah tested negative and was able to return home. And the family rejoiced! But looking forward, they are still really concerned as their son is be highly vulnerable to this virus.
- ⇒ **The Point:** There are lots of reasons for us to feel weighed down by burden in this season, weighed down by worry, and by stress, and by anxiety, and fear
- ⇒ **Reflect:** Write down any worries or fears that you may be experiencing right now.

**Greg's intro to passage:**

- God's Word speaks into a situation like this.
- We don't need to be afraid.

► **Read 2 Kings 6:8-12 (NIV)**

***Elisha Traps Blinded Arameans***

<sup>8</sup> Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, “I will set up my camp in such and such a place.”

<sup>9</sup> The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: “Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there.” <sup>10</sup> So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places.

<sup>11</sup> This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, “Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?”

<sup>12</sup> “None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.”

- At this point in history, Aram & Israel’s uneasy peace has crumbled and open warfare is about to break out.
- Fortunately for Israel, the Lord directs Elisha to save the king of Israel from the approaching army time and time again in almost **a cat and mouse game**
- The king of Aram believes there is a traitor in his army warning the Israelites.

► **Read 2 Kings 6:13-17 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> “Go, find out where he is,” the king ordered, “so I can send men and capture him.” The report came back: “He is in Dothan.” <sup>14</sup> Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city.

<sup>15</sup> When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked.

<sup>16</sup> “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

<sup>17</sup> And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- Try to imagine the servant’s shock and fear when he awoke to see an army surrounding the city! But Elisha responds with the key phrase of this passage **<sup>16</sup> Don’t be afraid,**
- Elisha wants his servant’s eyes to be **opened to what the Lord is actually doing here**
- **The servant’s eyes are opened up to the spiritual realities under the material reality**
- **A good lesson for us as we don’t often think of the spiritual reality under the material reality**
- The servant’s eyes were opened up to the truth that the Lord was still in control
- The reality was that at that point the servant did not know how the situation was going to play out but he did know that the Lord was near.

- Greg FOCUSES in on the fact that the servant, at the sight of the encircling army, would have responded in surprise, shock, fear and uncertainty. It was natural that the servant would worry and ask, “What shall we do?”

**Application:** This situation has great application in our own setting with Covid-19. It is as if we have our own “*army with horses and chariots*” surrounding us:

- It is understandable to be anxious
- Loneliness
- Family tension
- **Rhythms of our life have been interrupted** ex. Birthday parties cancelled, weddings cancelled.
- Mental health issues

- Elisha has his comfort in the situation in the reality that God is still comfortably on His throne
- There are very real causes for us to feel anxiety, and yet God is close to us and He is in control

**Example of how Peter can be an encouragement to us at this time:**

- **Read Matthew 16:13-16** *Peter's boldly declares that Jesus is the Messiah!*
- **Read Matthew 26:33-35** *Peter's boldly declares that he will never deny Jesus!*
- **Read Matthew 26:69-75** *Peter denies knowing Jesus ☹*
- **Read John 21:15-17** *Jesus in His resurrection power forgives, comforts, and restores Peter!*

**1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)** \_\_\_\_\_ all your \_\_\_\_\_ on him because he cares for you

**Illustration Connect:** Greg connects back to his opening **Illustration**. The reality was that even when his wife was returned safe, the stress that they had experienced had been real & the potential for future stress is still very real. The big difference now for his family is that Mom is with them. Greg's daughter was especially relieved to be able **to cast her anxieties on Mom.**

**The Point:**

- For a 2yr old, the one who can console their soul is their mom, but who are we casting our anxieties upon?
- God is real, He is close, He is in control. So we can cast our anxieties on Him because He cares for us even if we don't know how the situation will be solved.
- So, if you have been a Christian for a long time, you need to remind yourself of the truth that no one will bring peace to your soul except the presence of our saviour.

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**Going deeper:**

A. Open your Bible and read the following verses that serve to comfort us when we are in fear. Jot down a couple of thoughts on how each verse may resonate with your life and your situation now.

- **Psalm 27:1**
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- Isaiah 41:10
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- Isaiah 43:1
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- Psalm 46:1
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- Psalm 55:2
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- Psalm 56:3
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- Psalm 94:19
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- Philippians 4:6-7
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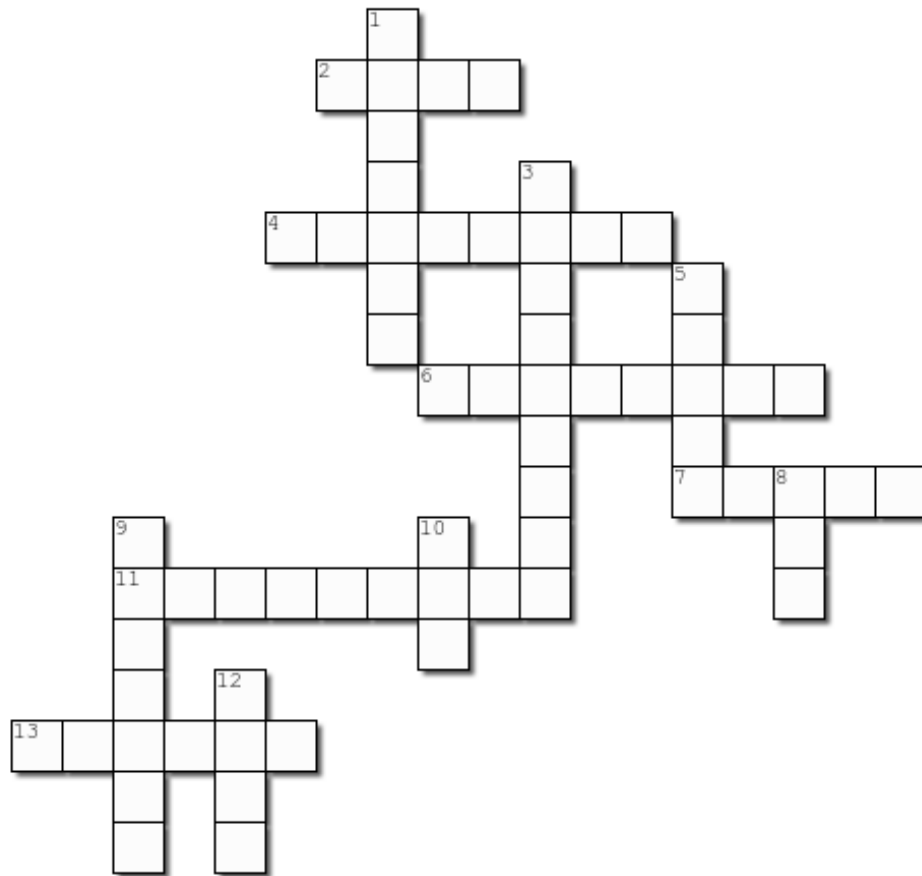
- John 14:27
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- Romans 8:38-39
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- 2 Timothy 1:7
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- Peter 5:6-7
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**B. Look up Psalm 23 (NIV) and complete the crossword**



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

**Across**

2. \_\_\_\_\_ will follow me
4. Surely your \_\_\_\_\_
6. The Lord is my \_\_\_\_\_
7. he \_\_\_\_\_ me beside quiet waters
11. my cup \_\_\_\_\_
13. He \_\_\_\_\_ me along the right paths

**Down**

1. they \_\_\_\_\_ me
3. he \_\_\_\_\_ my soul
5. I will \_\_\_\_\_ in the house of the Lord forever.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ the days of my life
9. I lack \_\_\_\_\_
10. for \_\_\_\_\_ are with me
12. I will \_\_\_\_\_ no evil