

## **Lesson 15: 2 Kings 4:1 to 6:7 The Miracles of Elisha**

In our last lesson, Elijah was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind, with Elisha as a witness. Elisha, performed a few small miracles. He was also taunted by some boys who were promptly punished. Also, King Jehoshaphat of Judah entered into an alliance with King Joram of Israel and the king of Edom in a battle against Mesha king of Moab. A prophesy from Elisha, and the LORD encouraged the three kings on into battle. The King of Moab sacrificed his own son on a wall, after determining that he was about to be defeated.

### **1. Read 2 Kings 4:1-7 and foot notes. Share any helpful footnotes with your group.**

**a. Were prophets permitted to marry?**

**b. The oil in this story is not oil used for food but for anointing and thus it is quite valuable. The Anchor Bible states that it was likely that the widow only enough for a single anointing.**

**How does Elisha suggest the woman use the oil?**

**c. How did the woman, with the blessing of Elisha and the LORD, save her children from being taken into forced labor?**

### **2. Read- 2 Kings 4:8-18 and footnotes.**

**a. What do we know about this Shunammite woman from the following verses? 2 Kings 4:8-10**

**2 Kings 4:13**

**2 Kings 4: 14**

**b. How did Elisha repay the woman for her kindness?**

### **3. Read 2 Kings 4:19-37 and footnotes.**

**a. What happened to the boy?**

**b. Why did the woman go to see Elisha?**

**c. How did Elisha revive the boy?**

### **4. Read 2 Kings 4:38-41.**

**a. This is a time of famine in the land according to verse 38.**

**What miracle did Elisha bring to the table in these verses?**

### **5. Read 2 Kings 4:42-44.**

**a. What is the miracle in these verses?**

**b. Where in the New Testament can we see a similar miracle?**

- 6. Reflection: In 2 Kings 2:9 Elisha asked Elijah for a “double portion” of the older prophet’s spirit. Do you think he was blessed with this?**
  
- 7. Read 2 Kings 5:1-25 and footnotes. Share any helpful footnotes with your group. At this time in history Ben-Hadad of Aram (Syria) and Jehoram (Joram) of Israel would alternate between being allies and enemies.**
  - a. How did Naaman wind up having an Israelite maid in his household?**
  
  - b. Why does Naaman wish to go to Israel?**
  
  - c. Read 2 Kings 5:6-8. What about the situation here is upsetting to the King of Israel?  
Why does he think the king of Aram is picking a fight with him?**
  
  - d. Read 2 Kings 5:9-14. What was Naaman expecting the prophet Elisha to do for him *and how*?**
  
  - e. How did his servant convince him to follow the directions of Elisha?**
  
- 8. Read 2 Kings 5:15-19.**
  - a. What has Naaman come to believe about the God of Israel?**
  
  - b. For what does Naaman hope to be forgiven in these verses?**
  
- 9. Read 2 Kings 5:20-27.**
  - a. Elisha’s servant does not approve of Elisha’s refusing payment for his service. What does he ask of Naaman after catching up with him on the road?**
  
  - b. What lie does Gehazi tell his master, Elisha?**
  
  - c. How does Elisha know the truth of Gehazi’s interaction with Naaman?**
  
  - d. What curse is placed on Gehazi for his actions in this matter?**
  
- 10. Read 2 Kings 6:1-7 and footnotes.**
  - a. Why do the prophets want to go to the Jordan?**
  
  - b. What (minor) miracle does Elisha bring about in this story?**