

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Windows in Heaven**

2 Kings 6:1-8:15

APPLY // 2 KINGS 2:15-5:27**Main Idea:** The power of God's word brings blessing and life to the desperate and undeserving.

1. Discuss the aspects of the Lord's characters on display in 2 Kings 2:15-5:27. How do these attributes invite us to be honest in our desperation? How do these attributes comfort us in our desperation?
2. How does the ministry of Elisha call and compel us to look to the Lord and his word for hope? What other things are we tempted to look toward for help and hope? How is the Lord and his word better?
3. Discuss how the ministry of Elisha point us to Jesus. How does Jesus bring help and hope in the midst of our desperation?

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // 2 KINGS 6:1-8:15**Main Idea:** The word of the Lord is trustworthy and true.

1. Read 2 Kings 6:8-23. Notice how Elisha prays for God to "open his eyes" and to "strike this people with blindness". Discuss the purpose of each prayer and how the answer to each prayer reveals God's power.
2. Read 2 Kings 6:24-33. Discuss the events in this section. What caused the famine? What can be learned from the discussion between the king and the woman? How should we understand the king's response to the news of how bad things are in Samaria?
3. The idea of a famine that is so great that it leads to the cannibalism of children is hard to fathom. However, this should not have come as a surprise to Israel. Read Leviticus 26:29 and Deuteronomy 28:53, 57. In light of these verses, how should we interpret verses 28 and 29? What does this tell us about the truthfulness of God's word?
4. Read 2 Kings 7:1-20. What promises did Elisha make concerning the famine? Were these promises fulfilled? If so, describe how the fulfillment points to the power and primacy of God by his word.
5. Read 2 Kings 8:1-6. Why do you think God included the story of the Shunamite woman within the larger context of 1 & 2 Kings? What does this story reveal about God's character, especially his view of and care for outsiders?
6. Read 2 Kings 8:7-15. What are the two promises that God makes through the words of Elisha? Will these promises make life good for God's people? How should we understand such a terrible outlook for God's people in light of the truth of God's word in places like Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28, 2 Samuel 7, as well as the theme of God's power and primacy throughout Kings?
7. How do these chapters prepare us for and point us to Jesus?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Where are you desperate? Where are you looking for help and hope?