

WHEN EVERYTHING SHAKES

2 Kings 6:8–17 • Psalm 46

Big Idea: When everything around us is shaking, God's presence is not. The Lord does not promise that we will never face trouble, but He promises that we will never face it alone.

1. WHAT YOU CAN SEE ISN'T THE WHOLE STORY *2 Kings 6:8–17*

Elisha's servant could see the enemy surrounding him, but he couldn't see everything that was true. His circumstances were real, but they weren't the whole story.

Remember

- Sometimes what we see can overwhelm what we know.
- The enemy was real. The circumstances hadn't changed.
- God was present before the servant could see it.
- God's presence isn't dependent upon my ability to recognize it.

Ask Yourself

- What feels like it is surrounding me right now?
 - Have my circumstances become bigger than what I know to be true about God?
 - Where do I need to pray, “Lord, open my eyes”?
-

2. THE PROMISE GOD KEEPS REPEATING

“I am with you.” When God's people face uncertainty, fear, inadequacy, or circumstances beyond their control, God repeatedly reminds them of His presence.

Key Scriptures

Genesis 26:24 • Genesis 28:15 • Exodus 3:12 • Joshua 1:5, 9 • Judges 6:16

Remember

- God doesn't always answer our fear by explaining what happens next.
- He doesn't promise His people that what they're facing will be easy.
- He promises to be with them in the middle of it.
- I don't have to know what's ahead to know Who goes with me.

God's answer to our uncertainty is often His presence.

3. HIS PRESENCE DOESN'T MEAN THE ABSENCE OF TROUBLE

Valleys still come. The earth still trembles. Waters still rise. God's presence isn't a promise that nothing will shake; it's the promise that when it does, we have a refuge that doesn't.

Remember

- The Shepherd walks through the valley with us.
- The Lord is near to the brokenhearted.

- God is our refuge and strength in trouble.
- The presence of trouble is not evidence of the absence of God.
- Sometimes God changes the circumstance. Sometimes He gives us what we need to walk faithfully through it.

Key Scriptures

Psalm 23:4 • Psalm 34:18 • Psalm 46:1–7 • Isaiah 43:1–2 • Isaiah 41:10 • 2 Corinthians 12:9

Ask Yourself

- Have I been measuring God's presence by my circumstances?
- Am I asking God only to change what is around me, or am I trusting Him to sustain me in it?

Our confidence isn't that our world won't shake. Our confidence is that our God won't leave.

4. GOD WITH US

The promise running throughout Scripture ultimately leads us to Jesus—**Immanuel, God with us**. Jesus entered our suffering, defeated death, and promises His presence to His people always.

Remember

- Jesus knows grief, rejection, betrayal, pain, and suffering.
- His presence is not only comforting; His grace is sufficient.
- Jesus promises, “I am with you always.”
- Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Key Scripture

Matthew 1:22–23 • Matthew 28:20 • Romans 8:35–39

Ask Yourself

- Where am I struggling to believe that Jesus is with me?
- What would change if I stopped measuring His presence by how I feel?
- Can I trust His presence even when I don't understand His purpose?

RESPONSE *Psalm 46:10*

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Maybe I don't need to figure everything out today.
 Maybe I can't fix everything that's surrounding me.
 Maybe I don't know how the story ends.

But I can pray: **Lord, open my eyes. Help me see You.**

What am I afraid of?
 What am I trying to control or fix?
 Where do I need His strength?
 Where do I need His grace to be enough?

Be still. Know that He is God. The Lord is with you.