



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“SHUNAMMITE WOMAN ” ON MAY 5 AND 8, 2022

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed affect your week?

DISCOVER: HEBREWS 11:32-40/2 KINGS 4:1-37 /SHUNAMMITE WOMAN

- What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?
- How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
- Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

Hebrews 11:32-40/II Kings 4:1-37 Do you trust WHO God is and His plan for your life? The study of the Hebrews 11 Hall of Fame of Faith has shown us one example after another of people who were confronted with situations in which they chose to trust God and to be obedient to His instruction. They CHOSE to trust God more than themselves, their culture – anyone or anything. Are you willing to truly trust God in every situation in your life?

ELISHA: What do you know about the prophet Elisha? Find what you can about him – the people he served, the nature of his ministry, the miracles God did through him- read II Kings 2:1-18 to learn of his relationship with Elijah, his predecessor and mentor. Then review today’s passage – II Kings 4:1-37. Through Elisha, God brought about miracles only He could accomplish!

- Why was Elisha seen as a ‘man of God?’ What do his actions tell us about obedience and trust in God? About being a servant of God? What can we learn from him about being God’s ‘messengers’ to those around us in need?

TRUST AND THE WIDOW’S OIL: The first 7 verses of II Kings 4 describe a widowed prophet’s wife crying out to Elisha, a man of God, at a time of extreme need. Elisha’s response to that need teaches us a great deal about the God we serve and what it looks like to trust Him.

- What was Elisha’s immediate response to the woman’s plea? Why do you think he asked these particular questions?
- Elisha then asked the woman to (1) go ask all her neighbors for empty jars – not just a few – and to then (2) go inside and (3) shut the door behind her before beginning to (4) fill each jar. Why do you think he gave each of those specific instructions? What was he showing her about trust and obedience?
- The woman’s response was to do exactly as Elisha had instructed. What was the result of her trust and faith in his direction, and what does this story show us about the character of God?

THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN: The remainder of Chapter 4 tells the story of a generous Shunammite woman who trusted in Elisha as a holy man of God.

- Elisha’s response to the wealthy woman’s generosity in vs. 11-14 was to ask what he could do for her. What does this story teach us both about being generous and being grateful for others’ generosity?
- Just as Elisha had promised, the barren woman bore a child – but then the child died! To whom did the woman first turn for help – who did she trust above all others? Why do you think this was her choice?
- To whom do you first turn to in a moment of need? What does this show about your willingness to trust God first with your future and to follow Him in obedience?
- Elisha sent his servant Gehazi to lay a staff on the dead child’s face to revive him, but the woman insisted on remaining with Elisha. Read vs. 30.....then go back to II Kings 2:1-18.....how do you think the woman’s words impacted Elisha, and his immediate response to get up and follow her? How does this encourage you to keep laying your requests before the Lord?
- Upon seeing the boy, Elisha (1) shut the door, (2) prayed to the Lord, (3) and lay on the boy face to face. Why do you think each of those actions was significant in this story, and what do they demonstrate about the God who sees our situations?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

What was the woman's immediate response in verse 37 when she found her son alive? Do you think her trust and obedience brought about peace and fulfillment in her life? How will that awareness impact your life and actions this week?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.