



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: Dealing with Life's Battles

Date: September 27, 2026

Scripture Text: 2 Kings 6:8-23

Notes:

We all have times when we are challenged. We experience stress and tension around every corner, it seems. Big things like health issues, depression, relational tensions, world events, and even the weather can be challenges, or 'battles', we face. We can also face spiritual battles that can test our faith. It may cause us to ask, "Where is God in my time of trouble?", or "Why did God allow this to happen?". It is times like this we need to pause and remember who the God we serve is and His love for us. In today's sermon we'll look at some reminders that will encourage us as we struggle with life's battles.

I. God Knows Your Battles (2 Kings 6:8-12)

Elisha is a prophet of God for the Northern Kingdom, Israel (this is after the united Israelite kingdom split north (Israel) and south (Judah)). Israel was being threatened by its neighbor, Aram (Syria). God, through Elisha, was giving the king of Israel intel on the movements of the Aramean army so they were unable to surprise them. The king of Aram assumed he had a traitor in his midst, but they informed him it was Elisha, the prophet in Israel.

- The events in 2 Kings 6 were during a time when Israel was weaker than her surrounding neighbors. Aram knew this and was trying to take advantage of the situation. How was God intervening on Israel's behalf?
- How did God's actions demonstrate He knew what was going on, even if Israel didn't?
- Even in Israel's weakness, God showed He was in control and knew all that was going on. There is nothing that God does not know.
- How has God demonstrated in your life that He knew what was going on, or that He knew what was best, even if you, in your naivety, thought you might know best?
- The king of Israel knew he needed to listen to what Elisha told him concerning the movements of the Aramean army for his own protection. When was a time you listened to God for your own protection?

Psalm 27:1-3

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation— so why should I be afraid?

The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?

2 When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall.

3 Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart will not be afraid.

Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident.



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II. God is Present in Our Battles (2 Kings 6:13-17)

The king of Aram was frustrated that Elisha knew his army's movements, so he commanded his troops to go seize him at his home. As they arrived, Elisha's servants saw them and began to panic. He saw troops, horses, and chariots everywhere. Elisha told him not to be afraid, then asked God to show the servant what he saw. God did so. The servant was able to see that the hillside was filled with horses and chariots of fire.

- This encounter showed that God's presence was there with Elisha as he faced this 'battle'. When was a time you felt God's presence during your own 'battles'?
- Elisha's servant was focused on the problem (the Aramean army outside). Elisha was focused on God (and saw God's army up on the hillside). How can being too focused on our circumstances make it hard to focus on God?
- Even though Elisha could see God's army on the hillside, the Aramean army was still outside waiting to take him. God's presence may not remove our problems, but it can make dealing with them easier. When was a time God's presence helped you through a problem?
- What are steps we can take that can help us focus more on God during times of trouble?
 - [Ps. 91:11](#); For He will order His angels to protect you wherever you go.
 - [Rom. 8:31](#); What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?

III. God's Power Carries Us Through Our Battles (2 Kings 6:18-23)

As the Aramean army closed in on Elisha, he called out to God to make them blind. He then led them to Samaria, Israel's capital city. Once he arrives, Elisha prays to God again, asking that He restore their sight. They find themselves in the heart of Israel, as prisoners. The king asks what he should do with them. Elisha told him to feed them, then send them back home.

- God delivered the Aramean army to Elisha/Israel. He only sought out God and His power. He did not try to handle the situation on his own. When was a time you tried to handle things on your own only to figure out in hindsight that you should have sought God out?
- If you were part of the Aramean army, what would you be thinking? What if you were the Israelite king?
- What do you think of Elisha's merciful direction he gave the king to feed the Aramean troops and send them home?
- Even in the midst of our own battles, how can we show mercy to others?

Remember, the God that was there for Elisha is the same God who is there for you today.
Will you trust Him?