

## **GOD PROVIDES**

**2 Kings 4:38-44**

### **FROM PASTOR MARK**

*“Give us this day our daily bread,”* sounds hollow in a culture like ours, but was a critical reality in many biblical situations and in much of our world today. The repeated word in these two accounts of Elisha’s miracles is “eat.” Does God care about mundane needs? We may not feel much physical hunger; but oh how we need “The LORD our Provider” (Genesis 22:14).

#### **I. GOD’S MERCY PROVIDES IN THE FACE OF DANGER (4:38-41).**

- A. Desperate Need (4:38)
- B. Dangerous Negligence (4:39-40)
- C. Delightful Mercy (4:41, Philippians 4:19)

#### **II. GOD’S POWER PROVIDES IN THE FACE OF DEFICIENCY (4:42-44)**

- A. The Man who Brought What He Could (42)
  - 1. Loyal to God’s Prophets
  - 2. Separated from the Evil Priesthood (Numbers 18:13, Dt. 18:4, 1 Kings 12:31)
- B. The Prophet who Trusted His God (43)
  - 1. The Faithless Servant
  - 2. The Prophetic Word
- C. The God Who Provides (44)
  - 1. “According to the word of the LORD”
  - 2. The Foreshadowing of a “Greater than Elisha” (John 6)
  - 3. Jehovah Jireh’s Greatest Provision (Genesis 22:14... ROMANS 8:32)

These accounts should not leave us saying, “What a prophet,” but “What a God!”... A God of Mercy, a God of Power, a God Who Provides, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Will we trust Him?

**FOR NEXT TIME**—Read 2 Kings 5, *“Our Missionary God”*

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

1. Read 2 Kings 4:38-41. What do we learn here about God’s mercy and provision?
2. Have you seen God provide your “daily bread” or basic needs in any special ways?
3. Read Philippians 4:19 (and the verses before and after). To what kind of Christians was this promise given?
4. Read 2 Kings 4:42-44. How does this miracle foreshadow Jesus and His miraculous provision?

5. Read Genesis 22:11-14. How does the name “the LORD will provide” foreshadow Jesus? (Check out Romans 8:32 for a connection with God not sparing His own son and what that implies for us.)
6. Pray together for the Lord’s wisdom concerning the IBC Executive Board recommendation to purchase property to provide another entrance/exit. PLEASE ENCOURAGE your Life Group to attend the Congregational Meeting next Sunday, 9/24 at 6:30 PM.