

Small Group Guide: "If God is For Us"

Based on 2 Kings 6:1-23



Opening Prayer

Begin by asking God to open your hearts and minds to see the spiritual realities around you, just as He opened the eyes of Elisha's servant.

Ice Breaker (5-10 minutes)

Share about a time when you overcame a problem that initially seemed overwhelming, but turned out to be simpler than you thought. How did you feel when you realized the solution?

Key Takeaways from the Sermon

1. **No problem is too small for God** - The floating axe head demonstrates God's care for even our smallest concerns.
 2. **The spiritual realm is real** - God's army is always greater than any opposition we face.
 3. **God offers a feast instead of death** - Just as Elisha showed mercy to the Syrian army, Jesus offers us communion and fellowship instead of the judgment we deserve.
 4. **Faith wavers in difficult circumstances** - Like Elisha's servant, we can believe but still struggle with unbelief when surrounded by challenges.
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Discussion Questions

Section 1: The Floating Axe Head (2 Kings 6:1-7)

Read 2 Kings 6:1-7 together

1. What does this miracle teach us about bringing our "small" problems to God? What kinds of concerns do you hesitate to pray about because they seem too insignificant?
2. The school of prophets was growing and needed more space. What does this tell us about successful ministry? How can we apply this principle to our own church or ministries?
3. The borrowed axe was important enough to warrant a miracle. How does this challenge our assumptions about what matters to God?

Section 2: The Servant's Fear (2 Kings 6:8-17)

Read 2 Kings 6:8-17 together

4. Elisha's servant saw the Syrian army and panicked, even though he served a prophet who had performed countless miracles. Why do you think we forget God's past faithfulness when facing current problems?
5. The pastor shared: "When the world is squeezing in on you... the enemy can narrow your focus and pigeonhole you into only looking at the worst parts of things."
 - When has this happened to you?

- What helps you step back and see the bigger picture?
6. Elisha prayed for his servant's eyes to be opened to see the spiritual realm. What do you think it would be like to see the spiritual battle happening around us? How might it change the way you live?
 7. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31) How does this truth practically impact your daily life? Your current struggles?

Section 3: Three Types of People (Application)

Read 2 Kings 6:18-23 together

8. The sermon identified three groups in this passage:
 - **The enemies of God** (the Syrian army)
 - **The faithful servant** (Elisha)
 - **The one in the middle** (Elisha's servant - believing but struggling)

Which group do you most identify with right now? Why?

9. Elisha led the blinded Syrian army directly to the king of Israel, then fed them instead of killing them. How does this foreshadow Jesus' treatment of His enemies? How does it challenge how we treat those who oppose us?
10. The pastor shared: "I may not know the outcome of everything I try to do, but I do know who I'm doing it for." How does knowing WHO you're serving change your approach to uncertainty?

Personal Reflection (5-10 minutes)

Take a few moments of silence to consider:

- What "armies" feel like they're surrounding you right now?
 - Where do you need God to open your eyes to see His provision and protection?
 - Is there an area where you're living like Elisha's servant - believing but struggling with unbelief?
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Practical Application

Choose one or more of these to practice this week:

Individual Applications:

1. **Small Problems Prayer** - Commit to bringing one "small" problem to God each day this week that you normally wouldn't pray about.
2. **Big Picture Journal** - Write down three ways God has been faithful in the past that you can remember when current circumstances feel overwhelming.
3. **Spiritual Awareness** - Before making decisions or facing challenges this week, pause and pray: "Lord, open my eyes to see the spiritual reality of this situation."
4. **Enemy Love** - Identify one person who opposes you or your faith. Pray for them daily and look for one practical way to show them kindness this week.

Group Applications:

5. **Testimony Time** - Share stories of God's faithfulness with each other regularly to build faith for current battles.
6. **Prayer Partners** - Pair up with someone in the group to be each other's "Elisha" - someone who can remind you of the bigger picture when circumstances close in.

Memory Verse

Romans 8:31 - "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

Challenge: Memorize this verse and share it with someone facing difficulty this week.

Closing Discussion

1. What is one thing God spoke to you through this sermon and discussion?
 2. How can we pray for each other this week regarding the battles we're facing?
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Closing Prayer

Pray together:

- For eyes to see spiritual realities
 - For faith in the midst of overwhelming circumstances
 - For the courage to bring both big and small problems to God
 - For specific needs shared during the discussion
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Additional Resources for Further Study

- **Scripture:** 2 Kings 2:1-18 (Elijah's ascension and Elisha receiving his mantle)
 - **Scripture:** Ephesians 6:10-18 (Spiritual warfare and God's armor)
 - **Scripture:** Psalm 34:7 (The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him)
 - **Book Recommendation:** "The Invisible War" by Chip Ingram
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Leader Notes

- Be sensitive to group members who may be in the "servant" stage - struggling with circumstances while trying to maintain faith
- Encourage vulnerability by sharing your own struggles with maintaining perspective
- Don't rush the personal reflection time - silence can be powerful
- Follow up during the week with anyone who shared significant struggles

5-Day Devotional: Seeing Beyond the Visible



Day 1: No Problem Too Small

Reading: 2 Kings 6:1-7

Devotional: The floating axe head reminds us that God cares about every detail of our lives. A borrowed tool lost in the river might seem trivial compared to God's cosmic power, yet Elisha didn't dismiss this concern. He performed a miracle for what seemed like a small problem. How often do we hesitate to bring our "small" struggles to God, thinking they're beneath His notice? The truth is, nothing is too insignificant for the God who numbers the hairs on your head. Today, bring Him everything—the lost keys, the difficult conversation, the nagging worry. Your problems are never too small for the God who loves you infinitely. He invites you into relationship over every aspect of your life, not just the monumental moments.

Day 2: Spiritual Warfare is Real

Reading: 2 Kings 6:8-12; Ephesians 6:10-18

Devotional: Elisha knew every battle plan the enemy whispered in secret. This wasn't espionage—it was spiritual insight. We often forget that our struggles aren't merely against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces. The king of Syria couldn't win because God was revealing his strategies to His prophet. Today, you face battles too—anxiety, temptation, discouragement. These aren't random; they're strategic attacks. But God sees the enemy's playbook. When you feel blindsided by life's challenges, remember that God is never caught off guard. Arm yourself with prayer, Scripture, and community. The spiritual realm is real, and you're not fighting alone. Ask God today to open your eyes to the spiritual dynamics at play in your circumstances.

Day 3: Faith in the Squeeze

Reading: 2 Kings 6:13-17; Romans 8:31-39

Devotional: "Alas, my master, what shall we do?" The servant saw only the surrounding army. Elisha saw God's greater army. When circumstances squeeze us, our vision narrows to only the threat. Financial pressure, health concerns, relational conflict—these become our entire reality. But Elisha prayed for opened eyes, and suddenly the servant saw horses and chariots of fire. The spiritual reality was greater than the physical threat. Today, what army surrounds you? What makes you ask, "What shall we do?" Take time to ask God to open your eyes to His presence. He is for you. His resources dwarf your problems. If God is for us, who can be against us? This isn't denial of difficulty; it's seeing the fuller truth beyond your current crisis.

Day 4: Walking in Confidence

Reading: 2 Kings 6:18-20; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Devotional: Elisha walked confidently among those who wanted to kill him. He led the blinded army straight to the king of Israel. This wasn't recklessness—it was faith. He knew who stood with him. You may not know the outcome of every situation you face, but you can know who you're facing it with. Jesus has already conquered death—what's left to fear? This doesn't mean life will be easy or that doubt won't visit. But it means you can walk with confidence even when you don't see the path clearly. Today, identify one area where fear has paralyzed you. Acknowledge God's presence there. You don't need to see the whole staircase; just take the next faithful step, knowing the One who holds eternity walks beside you.

Day 5: The Feast Instead of Death

Reading: 2 Kings 6:21-23; Luke 22:14-20

Devotional: The enemy army expected slaughter. Instead, they received a feast. This is the gospel in miniature. We deserved death for our rebellion against God, but Jesus took our place. Now we're invited to the table—to communion, to fellowship, to abundant life. Elisha's grace transformed raiders into allies. God's grace transforms enemies into children. The Last Supper wasn't just a meal; it was Jesus offering Himself so we could feast eternally. Today, receive this gift afresh. You're not getting what you deserved—you're getting what Jesus deserved. And that changes everything. Extend this same radical grace to someone who has wronged you. Offer the feast where others expect judgment. This is how the kingdom advances—one transformed heart at a time.