

CONNECT GROUP GUIDE: 21 Oct 2018

WELCOME [KNOWING EACH OTHER DEEPER]

Let's make everyone feel welcome, especially the new faces in the group.

Connect Question: What's the thing you lost that was actually in your possession all along?

WORSHIP [TAKE OUR LOVE FOR GOD DEEPER]

Let praise flow from my lips, for you have taught me your decrees.

Let my tongue sing about your word, for all your commands are right.

PSALMS 119: 171-172 (NLT)

WORD [LIVING DEEPER FOR HIM]

The company of the prophets said to Elisha, "Look, the place where we meet with you is too small for us. Let us go to the Jordan, where each of us can get a pole; and let us build a place there for us to meet." And he said, "Go." Then one of them said, "Won't you please come with your servants?" "I will," Elisha replied. And he went with them. They went to the Jordan and began to cut down trees. As one of them was cutting down a tree, the iron axehead fell into the water. "Oh no, my lord!" he cried out, "It was borrowed!". The man of God asked, "Where did it fall?" When he showed him the place, Elisha cut a stick and threw it there, and made the iron float. "Lift it out," he said. Then the man reached out his hand and took it. 2 KINGS 6:1-7 (NIV)

Have you lost your spiritual edge?:

- Prayerfully ask God to personally show you what significance this story has for your life. Spend a few minutes in prayer.
- Consider if there was another time in your life when you felt spiritually sharper than you do today? Share with the group as you feel led.
 - Perhaps for some, there was a time when you served in church and experienced the thrill of being used by God through your gifting. What stopped you doing this? When will you do it again?
 - Perhaps for some, there was a time when you had a passion for prayer, and you would get up early and pray for some time (and for many others). When did you lose this? When will you pick it up again?
- Read 2 Kings 6:6 again:
 - The man of God, Elisha, asks, "Where did it fall?"
- Read: Revelation 2: 4-5
 - He said, "You have forsaken the love you had at first." Then Jesus said, "Consider how far you've fallen."
- Reflect on this scripture, and consider your prayer upfront regarding the significance of this story to your own life, and ask yourself (in all honesty) if there is some truth in it for you at all?
- Discuss the importance of these three things in helping you to keep your edge:
 - spending time in God's word
 - spending time in prayer
 - spending time with other believers

In these times, we need to constantly evaluate where we are in our walk with God. Are we growing ourselves, and are we helping others grow on a regular basis. Let us encourage each other to grow and serve, so that the world will see in and through us, as a church and individually, what real love is about! Let's sharpen ourselves and get our edge back, so that we can be more effective for God.

WORKS [GOING DEEPER IN PRAYER]

Let's pray for:

- For each other to regain or sharpen our edge.
- Any special needs in the group.