

Life Group Topic #39
2 Kings 6:8-17
Seeing Behind the Scenes

WELCOME: (15 minutes)

If you could escape the rain for a week to vacation anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

WORSHIP: (15 minutes)

Use whatever means possible to turn the group's attention to the wonder and majesty of our God- including music, prayer, meditation on the Psalms, and other art forms.

WORD APPLICATION: (45 minutes)

Following the "Lectio Divina" model, read through **2 Kings 6: 8-17** audibly twice as a group and then silently meditate on the passage for a few minutes. Let the group share the things the Lord impresses on them. Feel free to use the application questions below.

Word Application Questions:

1. Elisha, the man of God, found himself helplessly surrounded by an enemy army with no way of escape (vs. 14-15) In what ways do you find yourself trapped or surrounded, with no way out?
2. Elisha and his servant faced the same opposition but had two completely different perspectives. While the servant felt overwhelmed by the enemy, Elisha believed that the enemy could be overcome. Think of the greatest challenge in your life right now. Is your perspective closer to Elisha or that of his servant?
3. Elisha saw a deeper reality that his servant was blinded from seeing. As members in your Group share some of their personal challenges, ask God to use each other in the group to open the eyes of each other to see things you may have missed.
4. When the servant's eyes were opened, what did he see in the hills? (vs 17) What was the meaning of what he saw, and how do you think it changed his perspective?
5. If you read on in the story (vs. 18-23) you discover that the chariots of fire did not actually engage the Aramean army in battle. But the vision of God's superior power over the enemy gave Elisha and his servant the faith to overcome the enemy. What might be the application for your life? What are the chariots of fire that we need to see in our lives?
6. Note the centrality of prayer throughout the entire story. Spend time together praying that we might see our challenges from God's perspective.

OPTIONAL: John 4:28-39

If you have time- look together at John 4:28-39. In this story Jesus saw something that his disciples were **COMPLETELY MISSING**. For them the journey through Samaria was a necessary evil. They just wanted to get something to eat and get out of there! But Jesus saw something they could not see. Finally he says: *“Look around you! Vast fields are harvesting all around us and are ready now for the harvest!”* (vs. 35) The woman Jesus met at the well opened the door for many in the whole village to come to faith in Christ.

- How does Jesus need to open our eyes to see harvest around us?
- Where is the harvest ready for us at South Abbotsford to reap?
- How has the weekend’s mission services opened your eyes to harvest?

WITNESS: (15 minutes)

This section is a vision-casting time designed to get the group strategizing and making concrete plans towards reaching outward to a lost world. Relational outreach always has the goal of ultimately enfolding those we reach into the Life Group.