

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM ELISHA #14 “Spiritual Perspective”

2 Kings 6:13-18

Leadership: We will need to help struggling people. Key issue: Bringing spiritual perspective.

I. BEING OVERWHELMED

A. The nature of life: It can be overwhelming

1. *2 Kings 6:14-15* Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

- a. Circumstances
- b. People problems
- c. Finances
- d. Fears

2. Often these problems seem to come at the same time

a. *Psa 143:4* Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate.

1. Overwhelmed: To be covered up/covered over: Has idea of darkness and weakness – to faint!

a. Feeling of weakness/inadequacy: Unable to see way out – unable to function/continue

B. Being overwhelmed is not necessarily a bad thing – it can be good

1. **It forces us to see our need:** When things are going well – we usually don't examine ourselves honestly

a. But crisis makes us see things clearly/see ourselves honestly: *I need help!*

2. **It can open us to a Pastoral relationship:** *V15* And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"

- a. This can protect us
- b. This opens us to greater wisdom

1. *Proverbs 20:5* Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water; but a man of understanding will draw it out.

3. **It is training for our future:** Anything larger will involve greater needs/problems

- a. So what we go through now is actually preparation for our future

1. *Mark 1:17* Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

II. SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE

A. The great need in life is perspective

1. The ability to see things correctly – in their proper size or importance

a. *2 Kings 6:16* And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

1. Not a denial of problems: Just factoring God into the equation

2. Ministry is all about getting people in touch with God: That makes all the difference

a. The disciple is looking to Elisha – Elisha wants him to see God!

B. Giving people spiritual perspective

1. **Through prayer:** We pray specifically for revelation “open their eyes, Lord!”

a. *2 Kings 6:17* And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

1. We evangelize/follow up/help people in crisis/help people grow through prayer

b. *Ephesians 1:16-17* Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

2. **Through words:** *2 Kings 6:16* And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

a. You don't say all that you feel: *I would give up too! It is hopeless!*

1. We need to speak words of faith: *God can help us. This won't last forever.*

3. Through our personal reaction to trouble: Elisha didn't freak out – which helped his disciple

a. If you are an emotional baby in crisis – people will take their cue from you; No confidence!

1. *Stories: The stewardesses started to scream & cry...we're in trouble! Put on your game face: Act like men!*

III. CHANGING THE FACTORS

A. It's not enough to help people to feel good in their problems

1. At some point – we need to help people experience supernatural power to change things

a. *2 Kings 6:18* And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.

2. This is bigger than simply getting out of a jam/solving a problem

a. This is a life lesson – a ministry lesson: When you are overwhelmed – pray & see God change things

1. *Mat 16:19* "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

a. Bind: I forbid whatever is stopping/blinding/ripping off... *Acts 16:18* come out of her!

c. *Dad/Wickenburg: Devil, get your hands off the finances God has ordained. Woman brought \$1100/another brought \$300*

b. Loose: Release what is needed...conviction/revelation, etc.