

This week we will study about the miracles that God performed through the prophet Elisha.

# A DAY WITH THE KING







"The work of Elisha as a prophet was in some respects very different from that of Elijah. To Elijah had been committed messages of condemnation and judgment; his was the voice of fearless reproof, calling king and people to turn from their evil ways. Elisha's was a more peaceful mission; his it was to build up and strengthen the work that Elijah had begun; to teach the people the way of the Lord." – Prophets & Kings p. 235



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## **Miracles from God**

Daily Devotional 49



**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for taking care of me and blessing me with what I need. Lord, speak to me through what I read in the Bible today and change my heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

After Ahaziah, the king of Israel, died from an accident in the palace, his brother Jehoram, or Joram as he was also known, became king. Our reading today tells us that Jehoram was no better than his brother or his father. The Bible tells us he also 'did evil in the sight of the LORD'. The only thing which he did differently was that he put away the idol images of Baal which his father and mother had set up. Even though he did this, Jehoram still worshipped the golden calves which King Jeroboam had originally set up for the kingdom of Israel to worship.

The Bible also tells us that the king of Moab had been paying an enormous tribute to King Ahab but when Ahab died, the King of Moab ceased this payment. Jehoram was not happy with this, so he decided to go to war against Moab, asking King Jehoshaphat from the southern kingdom of Judah to join him. On the way to Moab



they collected the king of Edom to join them as well. The journey to Moab took them through a wilderness area that was well known for its lack of water. The armies had not made adequate provisions and they ran out of water to drink, both for the animals that were with them and for their vast army. King Jehoshaphat wisely suggested that they consult a prophet of the LORD to ask him what they should do. Elisha was located and the three kings went to see him. King Jehoshaphat's insistence on consulting God's prophet for advice was a good decision and we will find out the results of this in tomorrow's devotional. Asking God to help us with major decisions in our life is also a wise thing to do.

#### **FIND A WORD**

In our reading today, how many times did the name 'Moab' appear?

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 3:1-12







**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank You for listening to my prayers. Thank You for sending Jesus to this earth to die for my sins. Please bless me with wisdom so I can make the right choices today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Elisha, who was not happy with King Jehoram because of his unfaithfulness to God, basically told him to go back to his 'so called false gods' and consult them! Elisha told them if it wasn't for the goodness of Jehoshaphat he wouldn't see them at all. But despite this, God in his grace and mercy chose to perform a miracle. Elisha told them to dig ditches in the valley because God would provide water for them in a miraculous way. He would also give them victory over the Moabites. In obedience to God, they dug the ditches. The next morning, when they offered the grain offering to God, water suddenly started flowing into the ditches, filling them. God could work a miracle because they obeyed Him! When the Moabites heard that the three kings had come out against them they went out to make war with them. But they saw all the water as red as blood from the morning sun shining

on it. Knowing that the land was normally dry they assumed the water was blood and that the three armies had fought against one another. The Moabites marched towards them, confidently expecting to gather the many treasures, or spoils, left behind, but instead they were set upon and defeated by the three kingdoms.

God is such a merciful God. He chose to perform a miracle for these kings even when two of them, the king of Israel and the king of Edom, weren't faithful followers of God. This was an opportunity for them to repent and turn their hearts back to Him. Sadly they continued worshipping their idols.



#### **FIND A WORD**

In today's Bible reading, how many times did the word 'water' appear?

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 3:13-27







**LET'S PRAY** Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for the mercy and love You show me each and every day. Help me to be more faithful and shine brightly for You so people will know that You are my Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

In our reading today we discovered that when King Jehoshaphat died, his son Jehoram took his place. Jehoram of Judah chose not to serve God like his father Jehoshaphat, and his grandfather Asa. Jehoram, when he became king, murdered his six brothers and he married a daughter of Ahab from the northern kingdom of Israel. Elijah, before he was taken to heaven, wrote a letter for King Jehoram, to warn him of his evil ways, and he also prophesised that his family and possessions would be affected, and that Jehoram would become sick in his intestines. Verse 16 onwards tells us that that's exactly what happened. The Philistines and the Arabians invaded Judah and carried away his possessions and his family. Only the youngest son remained. Jehoram was struck with a terrible disease in his intestines and two years later he died. His son Ahaziah took his place as king. Ahaziah only ruled for one year because of his wickedness. Look at 2 Chronicles

22:1-9.

It's interesting to note that, at the same time as Judah's King Jehoram ruled, the other King Jehoram was ruling in the northern kingdom of Israel. There were also two kings named Ahaziah. During the time of the kings there were kings who shared the same name, just like there are popular boy's names today.

Out of the sixteen kings, which had ruled so far over Judah and Israel, only two had been good kings— Asa and Jehoshaphat of Judah. God warned the Children of Israel that this would happen when they demanded a king. Look at *1 Samuel 8*.



#### **FIND A WORD**

In today's reading, how many times does the word 'kingdom' appear?

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Chronicles 21:1-20







**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for loving me so much. Help me to be caring and helpful to someone today. Please strengthen my trust and faith in You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that one of the prophets had died leaving a wife and two sons on their own. They had debts to pay and no money to pay them. The person to whom the money was owed threatened to take the widows' two sons as payment. The widow cried out to Elisha in desperation. The Bible tells us of the amazing miracle of the empty pots being filled by oil from a jar that didn't stop pouring until all of the pots they had gathered had been filled. There was enough oil for them to sell that they could pay their debts plus have some money to live on.

What a merciful God we serve. He cared for a mother and her children who were on the verge of losing everything. Back in Bible times there was no single mothers' pension. You had to rely totally on the community to support you. This woman



trusted God and went straight to the prophet for help. The woman was obedient to the instructions, which Elisha had given to her, and God rewarded her faith.

#### **FIND A WORD**

In today's Bible reading how many times did the word 'vessel and vessels' appear?

#### WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 4:1-7





**LET'S PRAY** Dear God, thank You for my family. Help me to be kind and polite and put others first. Help me to understand what I read in the Bible today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Shunem was situated in the northern kingdom of Israel and its here that our reading today is focused. A Shunamite woman recognised that Elisha was a man of God and she would invite him for a meal when he travelled through her town. This woman was a woman of wealth and prominence in her community at Shunem and she decided, with her husband, to build a room onto their house for Elisha to retreat to when he passed through. After the renovations had been completed she invited Elisha and his servant to stay. Elisha wanted to reward the woman for her kindness and wondered what he could do for her. Elisha's servant Gehazi, pointed out to Elisha, that she had no children. Elisha told the Shunamite woman that she was finally going to have a baby. Verse 16 tells us that this must have been something she was yearning for because she told Elisha not to joke or lie to her.

But verse 17 tells us that she indeed had a baby boy in the time Elisha foretold.

The lovely thing about this story is that this Shunamite woman was not even a Hebrew or Israelite but she recognised that Elisha was a man of God and needed to be ministered to. Her kindness and courtesy is here in the Bible as a witness to us, all these thousands of years later, that God cares for everyone and will allow anyone to work for Him if they are willing.



#### **FIND A WORD**

How many times was the word 'son' mentioned in our Bible reading today? \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?



## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 4:8-17





**LET'S PRAY** Dear Lord, thank You for the blessings which You provided for me this past week. Help me to be helpful to my family in preparing for Your Sabbath. Help me to memorise scripture in the Bible so I can claim Your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

#### LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us of an incident that happened when the baby boy of the Shunamite woman was a few years old. The boy went out into the fields with his father and his head started to hurt. He later died on his mother's lap. The Shunamite woman lay her son down on the bed in Elisha's room and went off to find Elisha. The Shunamite woman knew that he had gone to Mt Carmel and when she arrived there, she refused to leave, until Elisha came back home with her. Elisha sent his servant Gehazi on ahead of them but he could not wake the boy up. Verses 34-35 tell us of the amazing miracle that God performed through Elisha to bring the boy back to life.

The Shunamite woman did not let go of her faith. As soon as her son died she

went to find God's prophet. Notice in verse 28 she claimed the promise that Elisha foretold in verse 16. She was basically claiming scripture. When we need help we need to go to God straightaway, as well, and claim the promises found in the Bible.



#### **FIND A WORD**

In today's reading, how many times did the word 'child' appear?

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 4:18-37







**LET'S PRAY** Dear Father, thank You for the Sabbath when we can stop and rest from the busyness of the week and spend some quality time with You. Help me to learn something new about You today. I love You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **MEMORY VERSE - EPHESIANS 4:32**

"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

## THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ: 2 Kings 4:38-44



#### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Our Bible reading today tells us about two miracles that happened at the school of the prophets. Elisha spent a lot of time with the students because these schools were important in restoring the spirituality of the northern kingdom of Israel. There was a famine in the land and food was very scarce. Some wild gourds were found that were like a very small pumpkin or cucumber and they were put into the stew, but they were poisonous. When the students realized this, they cried out to Elisha who told them to put flour in the stew and miraculously the stew was

made fit to eat. The second miracle occurred when a kind man brought twenty loaves of bread and some grain to the school of the prophets. Because there were one hundred hungry men to feed, Elisha's servant questioned whether it would be enough to feed them all. Miraculously there was enough for everyone with some left over! Our torchlight this week tells us about Elisha. Elisha was a very kind and faithful man whose ministry was one of healing and teaching. Even though Elisha's ministry was slightly different to Elijah's, God used them both in a very powerful way to bring reformation to Israel.



#### SABBATH QUIZ

1. From which nation was the king that rebelled against King Jehoram of Israel?

- 2. What did the armies run out of when they marched to Moab?
- 3. What did the widow sell to pay her debts? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. What did the Shunamite woman have built for Elisha?

5. How many men were fed by just twenty loaves of bread and some grain?