Series: Family Tree

Message: Elisha-Kingdom Sight for Sore Eyes July 7, 2013

The story: 2 Kings 6:8-23

Their story, our story

Kingdom Sight for Sore Eyes

2 Kings 6:8-10

Be <u>Aware</u>: Our lives are a battlefield and the enemy is on the <u>prowl</u>. 1 Peter 5:8; Ephesians 6:10-12; Genesis 4:6-7

Keep <u>Connected</u>: The Holy Spirit gives us <u>insight</u> about the tactics of the enemy.

John 17:15-19; Matthew 12:15;

2 Kings 6:11-18

Check your <u>Glasses</u>: Through what lens are you <u>seeing</u> the world? 2 Samuel 22:3-4; 2 Thessalonians 3:3; Psalm 91:1-3

Never <u>Surrender</u>: The enemy is <u>blinded</u> by the light Ephesians 6:10-12; 2 Timothy 4:18; Psalm 138:7: Matthew 6:9-13

2 Kings 6:19-23

Stay <u>True</u>: The <u>Kingdom of God</u> is not of this World. Luke 12:32; 1 John 2:15-17; Romans 12:2

Food for thought

Continue to discover God's word on your own or join with others to continue the conversation.

KNOW YOUR ENEMY: KNOW YOURSELF

Sometimes like Elisha's servant, we can feel totally overwhelmed by the circumstances in our lives. In the midst of these crisis moments, God desires that we can put our trust in him. What sorts of things can you do to ensure that the lens you are seeing the world through are with a Kingdom perspective and not a worldly perspective?

Read Ephesians 6:10-12

When thinking about your own life, what seem to be some common tactics of the enemy?

Sometimes we help the enemy by consciously putting ourselves in compromising situations, in what ways do you find yourself assisting the enemy?

DIG DEEPER: THINK DEEPER

Read Matthew 5:29-30

While Jesus is not at all suggesting that you really go out and pluck out your eye or cut off your hand, he makes a pretty intense point here. Are there things in your life that merely contribute to a life of sin and suffering

rather than the life of joy, peace and abundance that God has for you (Television? Movies? Facebook? Youtube? Alcohol?). Jesus wants us to take our lives seriously, meaning if something in our lives is constantly giving the enemy the upper-hand, what's the point of keeping that in our lives? Please reflect.

One of the points this last Sunday, talked about how God is a God of the third way. Like Elisha, we need to handle the trials of our lives by seeking out the Kingdom response, not the world's response (even if that way seems to make perfect sense). Jerad talked about how, as Christians, the Kingdom response is always the response that looks most like Christ. In what ways does the Kingdom perspective on life challenge the worldly perspective on life when faces with trials (hint: how did Jesus respond when facing trials)? Reflect.

PRAYER TIPS:

Use these prayer tips to talk it over with God:

- God my protector, help me trust faithfully in your ways, your protection, and your guidance. Help me see the people and the trials I face today through the perspective of the Kingdom of God and not the Kingdom of this world. Might my spirit be sensitive to your leading and my response be faithful to your will. Amen.
- Lord, deliver me from the snares of my enemy. For, you are the God of resurrection, who conquered even death itself. You are the God who always provides a way out, even when it appears that there is none. May I know that truly and deeply in my own heart and life. Might I hold steadfast in your love, trusting your light. May I never allow fear, whether it be about the future or the abilities of my enemy, to influence the decisions that I make. Amen.