

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What is one characteristic you received from your parents you want to keep and one you wish you could change?

1. In [2 Kings 2:19-22 and 23-25](#) we read the two miracles that began Elisha's ministry. What is your response to these two events?
2. "...God demonstrates that loving and following Him results in blessings no matter what happened in the past." Reflecting on your own past, how has God blessed you in spite of your choices?
3. Read [Galatians 3:13](#). Pastor Tom shared, "God has the power to break curses, unlock chains, and break down walls from the past that hold us in their grip." How has this played out in your life or the lives of those around you?
4. In explaining things, Pastor Tom said, "We get so used to grace that we call justice *injustice*." How does this truth challenge you?
5. "Whenever God acts with justice, it is a warning..." What warnings do you need to heed?

Day One: [Psalm 18](#)

Day Two: [Proverbs 18](#)

Day Three: [Joshua 18](#)

Day Four: [Isaiah 18](#)

Day Five: [Acts 18](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

## PERSONAL GUIDE



## Your story matters.



## MYRC.CHURCH



# "A PERFECTLY UNEXPECTED COMBINATION"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

## MESSAGE NOTES

How do you navigate a world that thinks truth is a moving target and that God is \_\_\_\_\_?

\_\_\_\_\_ = God is salvation...God saves

Note [2 Kings 2:1-18](#)

Elisha's public ministry begins with 2 \_\_\_\_\_ that couldn't be more opposite; but both of them tell us important truths in 2022 as Jesus followers.

### 1. God Can Break Any \_\_\_\_\_

Note [Joshua 6:26](#); [1 Kings 16:34](#); [2 Kings 2:19](#)

But God demonstrates that loving and following Him results in \_\_\_\_\_ no matter what happened in the past (note [Exodus 23:24-26](#) and [2 Kings 2:20-22](#)).

Being a prisoner to the past, living life trying to move forward while only looking through the \_\_\_\_\_ results in frustration, discouragement, lack of any forward progress, and despair.

God has the power to break curses, unlock chains, and break down walls from the past that hold us in their \_\_\_\_\_ (note [Galatians 3:13](#)).

### 2. We Can Choose to Live Under a \_\_\_\_\_

Note [2 Kings 2:23-25](#); [2:15-23](#)

Bethel = \_\_\_\_\_ of God (note [Genesis 28:10-22](#))

Note [1 Kings 12:26-33](#); [2 Kings 2:3](#)

\_\_\_\_\_ = same term used to describe males old enough to go with Abram into battle (note [Genesis 14:24](#)); for a male old enough to marry

Jacob's daughter (note [Genesis 34:19](#)); used of the \_\_\_\_\_ who went to Rahab in Jericho (note [Joshua 6:23](#)); used of Joseph when he was 17 years old (note [Genesis 37](#)).

So this is a young prophet being confronted by a large group of \_\_\_\_\_ younger men.

Go up = same word used for Elijah's \_\_\_\_\_.

What they are saying to Elisha is, *Your master, Elijah, the hairy guy, is gone. So how powerful, bald guy, are you \_\_\_\_\_? Why don't you '\_\_\_\_\_ ' just like he did?*

Embracing false gods and blaspheming the Holy Spirit (who came in double portion on Elisha) was not a petty or \_\_\_\_\_ thing.

Note [Leviticus 26](#) = blessings of obedience and \_\_\_\_\_ for disobedience (especially [vs. 21-22](#)).

We all think we love and want justice until we are the \_\_\_\_\_ of justice (and then we want \_\_\_\_\_!).

We get so used to grace that we call justice "\_\_\_\_\_."

Whenever God acts with justice, it is a \_\_\_\_\_...

### Perfectly UNEXPECTED:

- You can choose to live under the curse of sin and death, of \_\_\_\_\_ and despair that only leads to multiple dead-ends.
- Or, you can choose to embrace and follow Jesus, who \_\_\_\_\_ every curse in your place and can break every curse in your life.
- Elisha's name is also an invitation = *God saves*.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital\* or hard copy).

\*[MyRC.link/connect](#) or text **riverside** to **94000**



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## "A PERFECTLY UNEXPECTED COMBINATION"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

### MESSAGE NOTES

How do you navigate a world that thinks truth is a moving target and that God is obsolete?

Elisha = God is salvation...God saves

Note [2 Kings 2:1-18](#)

Elisha's public ministry begins with 2 miracles that couldn't be more opposite; but both of them tell us important truths in 2022 as Jesus followers.

### 1. God Can Break Any Curse

Note [Joshua 6:26](#); [1 Kings 16:34](#); [2 Kings 2:19](#)

But God demonstrates that loving and following Him results in blessings no matter what happened in the past (note [Exodus 23:24-26](#) and [2 Kings 2:20-22](#)).

Being a prisoner to the past, living life trying to move forward while only looking through the rearview mirror results in frustration, discouragement, lack of any forward progress, and despair.

God has the power to break curses, unlock chains, and break down walls from the past that hold us in their grip (note [Galatians 3:13](#)).

### 2. We Can Choose to Live Under a Curse

Note [2 Kings 2:23-25](#); [2:15-23](#)

Bethel = House of God (note [Genesis 28:10-22](#))

Note [1 Kings 12:26-33](#); [2 Kings 2:3](#)

Youths = same term used to describe males old enough to go with Abram into battle (note [Genesis 14:24](#)); for a male old enough to marry Jacob's

daughter (note [Genesis 34:19](#)); used of the spies who went to Rahab in Jericho (note [Joshua 6:23](#)); used of Joseph when he was 17 years old (note [Genesis 37](#)).

So this is a young prophet being confronted by a large group of slightly younger men.

Go up = same word used for Elijah's ascension.

What they are saying to Elisha is, *Your master, Elijah, the hairy guy, is gone. So how powerful, bald guy, are you without him? Why don't you 'go up' just like he did?*

Embracing false gods and blaspheming the Holy Spirit (who came in double portion on Elisha) was not a petty or trivial thing.

Note [Leviticus 26](#) = blessings of obedience and penalties for disobedience (especially [vs. 21-22](#)).

We all think we love and want justice until we are the recipients of justice (and then we want mercy!).

*We get so used to grace that we call justice "injustice."*

Whenever God acts with justice, it is a warning...

### Perfectly UNEXPECTED:

- You can choose to live under the curse of sin and death, of falsehood and despair that only leads to multiple dead-ends.
- Or, you can choose to embrace and follow Jesus, who bore every curse in your place and can break every curse in your life.
- Elisha's name is also an invitation = *God saves*.

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