



# THE MIRACULOUS LIFE OF ELISHA

1/30– 2/17 [DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG](http://DISCOVERTHEWORD.ORG)

**Times were dangerous. National security was at risk. Food supplies were running low. Yet rumors were spreading about a prophet who seemed to be able to heal leprosy, multiply food, and even raise the dead.**

**If we know what it means to live in fear and uncertainty, maybe we will better understand Elisha who also experienced these feelings. He was a prophet who seemed to be able to do Jesus-like miracles eight hundred years before Christ was born.**



## THIS WEEK'S DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What keeps the story of Elisha's healing of a leprous general, and his refusal of a gift for doing so, from sounding like an urban legend? (See 2 Kings 5:15–16.)
- Can you identify with the young assistant who got up in the morning only to see that he and Elisha were surrounded by enemy soldiers? What prompts similar emotions in you? Do you see any connection between what Elisha did for his assistant and what Jesus would someday do for His disciples and us? (See 2 Kings 6:15–17; John 18:3–11.)
- What are we to make of Elisha's kind treatment of the soldiers who had previously wanted to kill him? Can you see how this merciful treatment of prisoners relates to the bigger story of the Bible? (See 2 Kings 6:21–23; Gen. 12:1–3; Rom. 5:6–11.)
- What can we learn from Elisha if, like Elijah before and Jesus after him, he didn't do the same kind of miracles for everyone? Would we trust God more if all of us had access to Elisha-like or Jesus-like miracles? (See 2 Kings 13:20–21; Luke 4:25–27.)



## CHALLENGE

Even without floating axe heads, multiplying food, or miracles on the battlefield, every spark of life is a mystery. Nothing about us or our world is as common or natural as we might think. Our lives are filled with wonders that science cannot explain. So let's allow the miraculous life of Elisha to help us see that the God of creation is more likely to display himself within the familiar faces and facts of life than to do miracles on command.



## COMMIT TO MEMORY

“Don't be afraid!” Elisha told him. “For there are more on our side than on theirs!” Then Elisha prayed, ‘O Lord, open his eyes and let him see!’ The Lord opened the young man's eyes, and when he looked up, he saw that the hillside around Elisha was filled with horses and chariots of fire” (2 Kings 6:16–17 NLT).



## PRAYER

Father, please use the story of Elisha's miraculous life to remind us that Your ability to care for us is not limited to either supernatural or natural means. Amen.