

LESSON PLAN

THE LORD FRIGHTENS THE SYRIANS

2 Kings 7

Lesson Memory Verse: Mark 5:19 “**Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you,** and has had compassion on you.” (Grades 1 & 2 memorize portion in **bold.**)

Lesson Aim: The Lord gives us good news to share with others; so your job is to let others know about His good news.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – Be plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Some people eat two meals a day, some three meals a day and some farmers eat six meals a day, because they work so hard in their fields, How often do you eat in your home? What is your favorite food? What foods do you least like to eat?

In our story today Elisha was in the city of Samaria, but it had a great famine. A famine is a time when food is very hard to find. Samaria did not have much food because its enemy, Syria, had sent its army to Samaria to camp around it and stop everyone from bringing food into the city. Soon all of their favorite foods were gone; then all of their least favorite foods were eaten. At last the famine got so bad that some people even began to eat their children. That was sinful, but that is what some people did.

One day when the famine was very, very bad, God told Elisha that there would be plenty of food the next day. That was such good news that it was hard to believe. Some people simply would not believe it. But whether they believed it or not, it was going to happen. Elisha was faithful to God and told the people this good news, even though they thought he was crazy for telling it.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse tells us about another kind of good news. It is about a man who was saved from some terrible demons by the Lord Jesus and from going to hell. After he had been so wonderfully saved, he was told to tell his good news of being saved to his friends. This is the best good news in the entire world because everyone needs to be saved from going to Hell. Hell is a terrible place where God will put Satan and all of his demons. It is a place of fire and pain. It is also the place where all people will go that have not asked Jesus to cleanse them from all of their sins. Why do they need to be cleansed from all their sins? So they can go to Heaven. Are you saved by Jesus from all your sins? If you are, will you tell your friends about this good news so they can be saved, too?

Difficult word for children that should be explained:

“**Compassion**” – to care for someone and help him in his troubles

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. In this Bible lesson we will learn about some men who shared their good news with those close to them.

I. The Good News of Elisha (2 Kings 7:1-2)

As we said before, there was a great famine in the city of Samaria. Can anyone tell me why that city had a famine? (The Syrian army stopped everyone from bringing food into the city.) What food they had left was very bad and very expensive. What did some of the people start to do? (They began to eat their children.) That was sinful (instead of trusting God, they tried to solve their problems without trusting God to help them.) Without God’s help, they sinned and got into more trouble. However, Elisha had good news from the Lord for them. He told the leaders of the city that by the next day there would be so much food that it would cost very, very little money to buy it. One of the king’s officers said that Elisha’s news was not the truth. He said that it would not happen, even if God dropped food out of heaven. Elisha then told this officer that his unbelief would allow him only to see the food, but he would not be able to eat any of it. Unbelief always displeases God and robs us of His blessings (Heb 11:6).

WE: We must not be like that officer and refuse to believe the good news that God gives to us. We can never please God that way. The good news that God has for us is today is salvation from Hell by receiving Jesus Christ as our Savior. Do you believe that this is good news? Have you received Jesus Christ as your Savior?

If you have received Jesus Christ as your Savior, then you need to be like Elisha and tell the good news that the Lord had given to you. Yes, tell others about Jesus’ power to cleanse them from all their sins so they can go to Heaven and not go to Hell. Tell them, even though some of them may be like the officer in

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our Bible story and not believe. Will you tell others the good news that Jesus Christ saved you from Hell so you can go to Heaven?

II. The Good News of the Lepers (2 Kings 7:3-14)

Four lepers who lived by Samaria had become so hungry that they decided to go to the Syrian army camp and ask for some food. They realized that they might be killed, but they were so hungry that they did not care. When they got to the Syrian camp, they found that it was empty. Not one soldier was there, but all of their food and other things were still in the camp. What a surprise that was to them! After they had eaten all that they wanted, they decided that they had better tell the king in Samaria about this good news. And that is what they did.

WE: We must be like the lepers and tell about the good news that we have found. We need to tell others about Jesus Christ and how He can save them from suffering in Hell and give to them a life of pleasure in Heaven.

III. The Good News of the King (2 Kings 7:15-20)

The king sent a couple of chariot horses and some servants to see what had really happened to the Syrian army. When they checked it out, they found that the Syrians had left in such a hurry that they threw away everything that would keep them from running quickly. They even threw away a lot of their clothes. These things were found on the ground for miles and miles as they ran away from the city of Samaria. The Lord had made them hear the noise of a great army. They thought that this army was coming to help Samaria and so they ran for their lives and left everything behind, even their food. When the king's servants returned, they said the good news of the lepers was true.

Now it was the king's turn to tell the good news to his people. He told them that there was plenty of good food to eat at a very low price. When the people heard this good news, they believed it and rushed out of the gate of the city to get their share of the good food.

WE: We need to be like the king who shared his good news with the people that there was much food for them in the deserted Syrian camp. Our good news is even better than the king's good news. We can tell people about God's love for them and that He has prepared a way for them to go to Heaven. Will you tell your friends about Jesus and how He can save them from Hell so they can go to Heaven? If you have not yet received Jesus Christ as your Savior, be like the king and check out the story about Jesus' power to save you and give you eternal life. You will not be sorry that you did. If you have not yet received Jesus Christ as your Savior, be like the king and check out the story about His power to save you and give you eternal life. You will not be sorry that you did.

What happened to the king's officer that did not believe the good news that Elisha gave the leaders of the city? Elisha had said he would only see the food, but he would not eat any of it since he would not believe the good news that God had promised to give to the city. This is what happened to him. He had to take care of the city gate when it would be opened for the people to get their food. When he opened up the gate, the people were in such a hurry to get their food that they knocked him down and trampled him to death. It may have looked like an accident, but God punished him for his unbelief.

WE: If we do not believe the good news that Jesus Christ will cleanse us from all of our sins and save us from Hell, we will be like the king's officer. We will die in our sin of unbelief and go to Hell. Do not let this happen to you. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved.

BE (for Action): If you are on your way to Heaven because you have trusted Jesus to save you from Hell, what will you do with this good news? Jesus has commanded you to tell it to your unsaved friends, Will you tell them because you and want to please Him? Will you tell them because you want your friends to be saved like He saved you?

If you are not on your way to Heaven, will you receive Jesus as your Savior today? There is no benefit in waiting and there will be a great loss, if you fail to receive Jesus as your Savior, I will help you receive Jesus after class, if you want to make Jesus your Savior.