When All Isn't Well

Scripture: 2 Kings 4:29-37

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Overview

In this passage, we see the faith of the Shunammite woman, Gehazi, and Elisha. In the example of the Shunammite woman, we see that God's promises never fail, even when we don't understand what God is doing. In Gehazi, we see we are just as powerless and quick to lack faith. In Elisha, we see a model of what it means to be totally dependent on God's power. All of this is to show that we need to pray if we want to grow spiritually and want our ministry to bear fruit. As John Bunyan states, "the reason we pray is for God to change our hearts." **Prayer makes it possible to say "all is well."**

Corroborating Texts

1 Kings 18:20-40

Discussion Questions

- 1. How would you describe 2018 for you? What were some of the highlights you saw and challenges you faced?
- 2. How should we respond in situations where we don't understand God's providence? Can you describe a situation in your life where you had a hard time seeing God's purpose? How did you respond?
- 3. How does trusting in God's promises help us get to a point where we can say "all is well," even when we can't see God's purpose behind it?
- 4. Why is struggling with prayer so common? What false beliefs are at the base of our lack of prayer?
- 5. What is the purpose of prayer? How have you seen this evidenced in your life?
- 6. What effect would a robust, vibrant prayer life have on our walk with God? How does prayer lead to spiritual growth in our lives?
- 7. How does the reality of the gospel change our view on prayer? How does knowing that Jesus is continually interceding for us at the right hand of the Father actually help us pray?

