



“Surrounded and Surrendered”

Underdog Series

Pastor Russ

5.31.20

2 Kings 6:8-15

“Now the king of Aram was at war with Israel. After conferring with his officers, he said, “I will set up my camp in such and such a place.” The man of God sent word to the king of Israel: “Beware of passing that place, because the Arameans are going down there.” So the king of Israel checked on the place indicated by the man of God. Time and again Elisha warned the king, so that he was on his guard in such places. This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, “Tell me! Which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?” “None of us, my lord the king,” said one of his officers, “but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.” “Go, find out where he is,” the king ordered, “so I can send men and capture him.” The report came back: “He is in Dothan.” Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked.”

“Oh No” is **OKAY**.

It's okay to **NOT BE OKAY**, but it's not okay to **STAY THAT WAY**.

2 Kings 6:16

“Don't be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”

2 Kings 6:17

“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.”

Fear's **GREATEST** fear is **FEAR**.

Prayer is the first **RESPONSE**, not the last **RESORT**.

2 Kings 6:18-23

“As the Aramean army advanced toward him, Elisha prayed, “O Lord, please make them blind.” So the Lord struck them with blindness as Elisha had asked. Elisha went out and told them, “You have come the wrong way! This isn't the right city! Follow me, and I will take you to the man you are looking for.” And he led them to the city of Samaria. As soon as they had entered Samaria, Elisha prayed, “O Lord, now open their eyes and let them see.” So the Lord opened their eyes, and they discovered that they were in the middle of Samaria. When the king of Israel saw them, he shouted to Elisha, “My father, should I kill them? Should I kill them?” “Of course not!” Elisha replied. “Do we kill prisoners of war? Give them food and drink and send them home again to their master.” So the king made a great feast for them and then sent them home to their master. After that, the Aramean raiders stayed away from the land of Israel.”

God is often doing **THE MOST** when you understand it **THE LEAST**.

C3 Group Questions

Last Week's Next Steps: Did you gather online at C3's online stream on Sunday to express your faith? Did you build your faith this week through consistent time in prayer & God's Word? If so share what stood out to you in your time with God?

Ice Breaker: What do you think of when you hear the word "surrounded?"

Review: What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

Group Discussion:

Read 2 Kings 6:15 and put yourself in the shoes of the servant who is saying "Oh no!" Have you ever found yourself at a point like that? What was the circumstance and what did that feel like?

Have you ever had a moment where you had to hold onto faith in the midst of fear, like Elisha did in this story?

Do you have someone in your life like Elisha in 2 Kings 6:16-17, who was willing to stop everything in the middle of panic, and encourage his servant "don't be afraid" and pray for him?

Who is that person or group of people for you? Russ shared that "God is often doing the most when you understand it the least." Where do you feel that in your life right now?

This week's next steps: If you find yourself in the middle of an "oh no" season: connect deeper with your small group and ask them to rally around you in encouragement & prayer!

If you find yourself out of an "oh no" season: share your story with your group & others in your life to show them that God can and will help them through their situation!