



SERMON NOTES

March 29, 2020 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

“A Story of Hope (with God as the main character)”

2 Kings 6:24-7:20

1. A horrible “new normal” had descended upon Samaria.
(2 Kings 6:24-25)

2. Desperation brings out ugliness. (2 Kings 6:26-7:2)

3. What looks like a side story becomes the main story. (2 Kings 7:3-16)

4. What happens if you don't believe in a God of hope? (2 Kings 7:17-20)

Table Talk

- 1) How is our present "stay-at-home" similar to what the citizens of Samaria faced? How is it different?
- 2) In what ways has the desperation of our current moment brought out the best in people and also brought out the worst? In what ways is our toilet paper crisis similar to what Samaria faced? How is it different? Does it surprise you that God's people have endured far, far worse circumstances than what we are now?
- 3) How does Israel's king express his sarcasm, cynicism, and powerlessness in this circumstance? How might our current leaders feel the same?
- 4) How might blaming God become easy to do for some in our culture? What can we do to represent Jesus Christ well in the present moment?
- 5) How does what looks like a side story become the main story? Can you think of other examples in history of such things? What hope is found in the knowledge that in history, there are always surprising good results that come from horrible circumstances? More importantly, how does this story reveal a God of hope Who surprises?
- 6) What happens if you do not believe in a God of hope?