



TAKING OUR PLACE

Sermon Notes

Text: 2 Kings 4

Intro: Leading Influence Ministries

- a) Providing chaplaincy ministry to politicians across Canada
- b) Championing prayer networks for elected leaders
- c) Lead election prayer campaigns

Core Prayer: "God give us men and women through whom you will work to accomplish your plans and purposes for our province."

Taking Our Place

Our challenge as a church is to take our place - our unique role in influencing the nation

3 Miracles take place in 2 Kings 4:

- i. The Widows Pot of Oil (God's Provision)
- ii. The Killer Cook (God's Redemption)
- iii. The Woman from Shunam (God's Restoration)

4 Characters in the story of the Woman from Shunam: Woman, Son, Gehazai & Elisha

3 Responses to the death of the son:

1. Level 1: Go through the motions (Gehazai)
2. Level 2: Settle for a Coma (mere signs of life...but God has a better plan!)
3. Level 3: Persevere until we see the fulfillment of what God has put in our hearts.

Our Unique Role:

1. We have an **Anointing** (Acts 1:8)
2. We have **Authority** (Luke 9:1)
3. We have **Access** (Hebrews 4:16)

When we do what only we can do...

- ...the heavens open
- ...the kingdom comes
- ...the earth changes

Conclusion:

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Have you ever been on a “missions trip”? Where did you go, and what was it like? If you haven’t, would you? Where would you want to go?
 - Other than actually travelling somewhere, how can you practically be involved in missions work from home?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday’s sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4. This passage teaches us the importance of praying for our political leaders (whether we like them or not!). Do you make this a practice in your own prayer life? What is an example of a good prayer for a local, provincial or federal politician? Take few moments as a group to draft a thoughtful prayer (perhaps choose a specific politician to write the prayer for).
2. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. Lobby groups try to get a “man in Ottawa” to represent them in the place of power. They want their needs heard and understood, and they want the government to act in ways that support and benefit them. Christians have a “man in heaven” - Jesus Christ! He is hearing our needs and interceding for us to God. This speaks of the access to power we have that non-Christians do not have. Considering this truth, what is the best way to engage with political issues as a Christian? What should be avoided?
3. Tim Schindel talked about 3 levels of response to the death of the Shunamite’s son (see notes). He said that we fall in to the same categories when we are awaiting the fulfillment of God’s purposes in

our lives. Do you ever feel like you’re just “going through the motions?” How do you get unstuck from that? Of the 3 levels of response, how would you categorize the church in Canada today?

Application:

1. Commit to praying this week for our nation and for Tim Schindel’s work with Leading Influence Ministries.

Prayer:

- Pray for our nation and for Tim Schindel’s work with Leading Influence Ministries.

Other Requests

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