

1st week of July
The Army of Heaven Through the Eyes of Faith

- **Text:** 2 Kings 6:13~17 (July 1~2)
- **Bottom line:** **God is the one who** protects his people with great power. What we need is a believing eye to see that God.

≡ **1. Praise**

Hymn 585

≡ **2. Prayer**

Thank You God, our King, for always being with us and protecting us. Let us let go of everything that precedes You in our lives and worship only You, our King.

≡ **3. The Word**

Read 2 Kings 6:13~17 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<ESV>

13 And he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him." It was told him, "Behold, he is in Dothan." 14 So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see." So the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

<NASB>

13 So he said, "Go and see where he is, so that I may send men and take him." And it was told to him, saying, "Behold, he is in Dothan." 14 So he sent horses and chariots and a substantial army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "This is hopeless, my master! What are we to do?" 16 And he said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are greater than those who are with them." 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "Lord, please, open his eyes so that he may see." And the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Understanding Text

The king of Syria planned a well-thought-out attack on Israel, but he failed every time. It was because God prevented it through Elisha. The king of Syria sent a large army surrounded the city of Dothan, where Elisha was. However, God protected Elisha with many fiery horses and chariots of fire, which ordinary people could not see.

Understanding the text for leaders

God is the King of the whole earth. The text shows God's power and power beyond the schemes of the Gentile kings. Syria invaded and plundered from time to time in order to conquer northern Israel. So for the king of northern Israel, Syria was very feared. The king of Syria tried to attack Israel in a covert ambush, but he was unsuccessful. This is because Elisha, the prophet of God, knew about the work of Syria in advance and told it to the king of northern Israel. The king of Syria thought that there were spies inside when the northern Israelites defended the place where they were going to operate. But the servants of Syria told the king that it was because of the prophet Elisha. Elisha knows everything about the king's private conversations in his bedroom. The king of Syria sent a large army, horses, and chariots to the city of Dothan, where he was staying, to capture one of the prophets Elisha. When Elisha's servant saw the army of Syria, he was afraid. But Elisha wasn't afraid because he knew God was with him. When God opened the servants' eyes, they saw the heavenly army of fire horses and chariots of fire surrounding them. God is the one who protects and protects His people. A person of true faith lives by faith, not by seeing (2 Corinthians 5:7).

4. Sharing

1) What was Elisha's servant afraid of? What did God open his eyes to see? (verses 15~17)

Upper Grades

When Elisha's servant was afraid, what did God open his eyes to see? (verse 17).

Lower Grades

What did God show the frightened servant of Elisha? (verse 17).

Question Guide

Share what Elisha's servant feared. Then describe the specific scene in which God opened his eyes and share how the servant's heart might have changed.

Comments for Leaders

Elisha's servant was frightened by the Aramaic army he could see, but the prophet Elisha was not afraid because he knew God was with him. The prophet Elisha had eyes of faith to see the armies of heaven. Not everything is as it seems. We must remember that the wisdom and power of the invisible God is great, and we must act in faith. This belief is not a talent that can be developed by my efforts. It's a gift from God. When we focus on our relationship with God and draw close to Him through His Word and prayer, we develop the power of faith.

2) Do I have the "eyes of faith" to look at God and not just to see the fearful situation? How can we have the "eyes of faith"?

Upper Grades

How can we see the world through the eyes of faith?

Lower Grades

Look in the mirror and think, "God loves me and is always with me!" Say, "Hey, I'm going to do it."

□ Question Guide

Those who believe in God must look at every situation with the eyes of faith. To see through the eyes of faith means to see from God's point of view. God who is with me is always with me and helps me everywhere. Remembering this can help you be bold and not afraid in any situation. The key to not losing faith that God is with you is to have a deep communion with God through His words, prayers, and praises every day.

□ Comments for Leaders

What we see can bring great satisfaction to our hearts, and sometimes it can bring great frustration. If we think that everything is what we can see, and we live our lives chasing after it, we will always be anxious and afraid. But those who look at God with the eyes of faith can live differently. Those who know and confess that the great and great God loves them and is with them can overcome fear and live a peaceful life, no matter what the situation.

≡ 5. Be grateful

Be grateful that the invisible God is watching over us and our family with great power.

≡ 6. Prayer

God, let us remember that the things we see are frightening and difficult for us, but you are always there and helping us. Help us draw close to You through Your word and prayer, and train our eyes of faith, so that we can continue to win victories with bold faith.

- End the family worship service with the "Lord's Prayer"
