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| ***GBC FLOCK GROUP QUESTIONS***  ***2 KINGS CHAPTERS 1-8***  ***Lesson 1 Week of March 26, 2023*** | C:\Users\Kal\Pictures\Church Logos\GBC\GBC1400x1400N.png |

1. *We begin the lesson by focusing on the Sunday message. After meditating on the message, share one way the sermon shaped your thinking this week.*
2. ***Review****: this week, we begin our study of* ***2 Kings****. Originally, both 1 Kings and 2 Kings were one volume. Write a brief summary of the main events of* ***1 Kings****.*
3. ***2 Kings*** *continues the narrative which left off in* ***1 Kings chapter 22****.* ***Chapters 1-17*** *(the "****Divided Kingdom****") record the story of Israel’s corruption and the relentless succession of evil kings from Ahaziah to Hoshea. This depressing period in the northern kingdom (****Israel****) is interrupted only by the ministries of the godly prophets Elijah and Elisha, the subjects of this week’s study (****2 Kings chapters 1-8****). The situation in the southern kingdom (****Judah****) during this time was somewhat better, but far from ideal.* ***Chapters 18-25*** *give the story of the "****Surviving Kingdom****" (****Judah****). From* ***1 Kings 22:51-53****, describe* ***Ahaziah****, king of Israel and son of Ahab.*
4. *Read* ***2 Kings 1:1-8*** *and write a brief summary of this passage and describe further the character of Ahaziah and the ministry of Elijah.*

* *From* ***1:9-18****, how does God deal with the utter contempt shown by the injured king Ahaziah toward Elijah, a "Man of God"?*
* *How do the disciples of Jesus misuse the application of this historical event in* ***Luke 9:51-56****?*

1. *Joram (or Jehoram), the brother of Ahaziah, succeeded him as king of Israel (****1:17****) in 852 BC. Note that the king of Judah at this time has the same name (Jehoram, son of Jehoshaphat,* ***1:17****). Joram’s evil reign over Israel is recorded in* ***2 Kings 3:1-8:15****, along with the important ministry of Elisha the prophet. Describe the "calling" of Elisha some ten years earlier in* ***1 Kings 19:19-21****.*

* *Summarize the brief biographical "sketch" of Joram in* ***2 Kings 3:1-3****.*

1. ***2 Kings chapter 2*** *records a transition in the spiritual leadership of Israel. Read* ***2:1-18*** *and list the key events that occur in this passage. Which of these did you find to be of most interest? Why does Elisha not want Elisha to leave?*

* *What occurs in* ***2:19-22*** *and* ***2:23-25****? What do these events manifest about the kind of man Elisha is?*
* *What spiritual principles are seen in* ***chapter 2****? What do we learn about the relationship between Elijah and Elisha?*

1. *After the installation of Elisha as Elijah’s successor, this godly prophet becomes a force for righteousness in a nation (Israel) that is not serving God. His ministry is characterized by miraculous provisions of sustenance and of life. Through him, God demonstrated His gracious care for the nation and its citizens. Elisha is a kind and sympathetic man who uses his abilities to work miracles to meet human needs and to honor God.* ***Chapters 4-8*** *describe various miracles performed by Elisha. Read the passages below and write a* ***creative title*** *for each section. Also, record any personal thoughts or* ***applications*** *from each passage as it might relate to your relationship with God today. For example:*

*(a)* ***4:1-7****:* ***"God multiplies the oil." (title) "God is gracious and provides in time of need." (application)***

*(b)* ***4:8-37****:*

*(c)* ***4:38-44****:*

*(d)* ***5:1-27****:*

*(e)* ***6:1-7****:*

*(f)* ***6:8-7:2****:*

*(g)* ***7:3-7:20****:*

*(h)* ***8:1-6****:*

1. *In* ***1 Kings****, Elijah works primarily with leaders, while in* ***2 Kings****, Elisha ministers to the common people. Elijah’s ministry is mainly confrontational, while Elisha’s is primarily pastoral in nature. What are some key components of pastoral (shepherding) ministry that are important for the church today?*