

A. In the Beginning [Genesis 3:1-13]

- 1] What they saw
- 2] What they believed
- 3] What they did
- 4] How they responded

B. Elisha and the Widow's Oil [2 Kings 4:1-7]

- 1] Review the story
- 2] What if the widow was prideful

C. Peter's message to the church [I Peter 5:5b-11]

D. Application: Pride or Humility

- 1] Pride leads to destruction and death
- 2] Humility leads to grace and life
- 3] Pride my way,
 Humility God's way, Yahweh
- 4] Who's in charge?

Discussion Questions

- 1. When was the last time you were in a new situation and asking who's in charge?
- 2. Read Genesis 3:1-7. Is there a time that you have questioned God's word and it led to a consequence you didn't want? Or is there a time where you were unaware of what God's word said and it led to a result you did not desire?
- 3. When has your pride gotten the best of you and it led to embarrassment? How has pride effected your relationships? Have you played the blame game, like Genesis 3:11-13, in order to protect your reputation?
- 4. Read 1 Peter 5:5b-11, is there one part of this passage that you need to remind yourself of this week so you can grow closer to God? Memorize that part, let it move from understanding in your head to belief in your heart.
- 5. Pray for God to take control, to be in charge. To demonstrate His love for you and through you. Ask Him to help you surrender to His plan. Declare that He is Lord of your life. Ask Him to help you do His will.

■ Genesis 3:1-13 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you? 10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." 11 He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12 The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

■ 2 Kings 4:1-7 Now the wife of one of the sons of the prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord, but the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." ² And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." ³ Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few. ⁴ Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." ⁵ So she went from him and shut the door behind herself and her sons. And as she poured they brought the vessels to her. ⁶ When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing. ⁷ She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on the

1 Peter 5:5b-11 Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward
 one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the
 humble."

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that
 at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on
 him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful.
 Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking
 someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the
 same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood
 throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the
 God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will
 himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be
 the dominion forever and ever. Amen.