

Connect Group notes August 18 2025

Chris completed the series on Sunday titled “*Don’t hold back*” – A Study in the book of Elisha.

Read 2 Kings 13:14-16

This passage talks about the end of Elisha’s life, in particular his final instructions to King Jehoash. Jehoash didn’t complete the task Elisha asked him to (Elisha asked him to strike his arrows on the ground, but he stopped this earlier than Elisha wanted him to). Elisha was angered by this and responded by saying that Jehoash wouldn’t see a full victory against Aram.

At some points in our lives we will hit a ‘wall’. Our minds will tell us we won’t make it to the finish line, when our bodies are more than capable. Or we may get frustrated and give up on something prematurely.

Will we make it the end and experience the fullness of all God has for us, or will we quit when the going gets tough?

Discussion Points

1. There are things in life that if we don’t see them to the end, we will miss out on God’s victories and fullness of life for us.
 - How does this help us have tenacity to stick with something we know God has called us to do?
 - How do we discern what needs to be persevered with or left alone?
2. As humans we like to have control.
 - How do we trust God in situations that are out of our control? (Does anyone want to share a personal experience of this?)
 - Why is it hard for us to relinquish control and trust God at times?

- How might we potentially interfere with God's plan if we can't relinquish control?

3. Chris talked about the importance of knowing what's within our ability or control and when to allow God to do his part. In discerning this it's helpful to look at what he has already placed in our hands (our arrows). Chris suggested we can look at our unique shape as individuals to help guide us...

- Our spiritual gifts
- Our heart
- Our abilities
- Our personality
- Our experiences

Pick one of the above (or have everyone pick a different one), and discuss examples personal or otherwise, and how these aspects of us can be used by God.

- If God has uniquely gifted each of us in his body, why is it important that we step into his plans for us?

PRAY and Apply

- Ask God for discernment as to what's in our hands and what's out of our control, and how we respond to him in this.
- Are we the kind of people who strike our arrows three times and give up, or do we keep going until we see God's plans fulfilled?
- What might stop us from using the arrows in our quiver that God has given us (fear, perfectionism, selfishness, low self-esteem etc?). Ask God to reveal these things to us and allow him to redeem them.

