

The Call to Take the First Step
(August 25, 2019)

Scene One – 2 Kings 6:24-25

- Besieging a city in 850 B.C.
 - ✓ Cut off supply lines.
 - ✓ Wait for the people to become desperate enough to surrender.
- The king and the prophet seemed to have no answers or solutions.
 - ✓ The king sought to blame Elisha for the problem.
 - ✓ Just as the king's executioner arrived, Elisha said: 7:1b.

Scene Two – 2 Kings 7:3-4

- These lepers were driven by desperation.
 - ✓ Their motivation did not seem spiritual, but God was in it.

There is always a risk in following our heart.

- Joshua at the Jordan River (Joshua 3:15-17).
 - ✓ The priests had to step into the waters of a flood-stage river.
 - ✓ Leadership in any area involves putting our life on the line (Matthew 10:39).
 - ➔ We learn what is truly important to us.
- The lepers had no angelic appearance, no word from a prophet and no signs from God.
 - ✓ They moved forward simply because there was no other option.
 - ✓ God's Rule of Desperation: When there is no other door open, take a deep breath and step across the threshold.
 - ✓ The people were looking to the king, the prophet or the military leaders.
 - ➔ But God's attention was on four lepers stumbling, crawling, clawing their way toward the Syrian encampment.

(continued on next page)

Scene Three – 2 Kings 7:5-9

- God was watching for someone to take the first step.
 - ✓ Excerpt: *Through the Eyes of a Lion* by Levi Lusko
- Remember Naaman, the Syrian captain who had leprosy (2 Kings 5)?
 - ✓ He did not want to do the simple thing which Elisha required.
 - ✓ The world always adds complexity to God's simplicity.
 - ✓ Naaman's servant appealed to his master (2 Kings 5:13b)!
- It is not talent, gifts, position or title for which God is looking.
 - ✓ It is the courage to put our feet in the water when no one sees and no one knows.
 - ✓ 2 Chronicles 16:9a
 - ➔ Amplified: "...whose heart is completely His."