

Greater  
**Part 3: On the Road to Greater You Will Be Digging Ditches**



Sermon Small Group Questions  
Speaker: Pastor Raymond Beaty

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
  1. one section of questions
  2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

## INTRODUCTION

As children of God we have the privilege of partnering with God in His plan to impact the world with His greatness. The question is, What is our part? When God comes through with an answer to prayer, a provision in finance or a restoration in a relationship what were the ingredients involved to bring about Gods response. In other words what is my part when it comes to the hand of God moving in my life my family my community my world?

## MESSAGE

Three kings find themselves in a desperate set of circumstances with no water for themselves so they seek out Elisha, the prophet of God.

[2 Kings 3:14 Message]

*Elisha said, "As God-of-the-Angel-Armies lives, and before whom I stand ready to serve, if it weren't for the respect I have for Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I wouldn't give you the time of day.*

### **Rabbit Trail Alert!!!**

Elisha speaks the truth to these kings through the authority God had given him as he served God.

You and I need to walk in the authority God has given you.

Your spouse, your children, your boss, your employees want to hear you speak the truth through the authority God gave you.

[2 Kings 3:15 Message]

*But considering—bring me a minstrel." (When a minstrel played, the power of God came on Elisha.)*

### **Ok one more Rabbit trail before the message;**

We need to saturate our lives and fill the ears of our God with worship and praise to His name. Our God inhabits, or dwells, in our praise and as we spend time in worship to Him we will experience the presence of God and In His presence He will impart His power.

Don't just worship but listen for His voice. Anticipate hearing His voice bringing clarity, healing, direction.

[2 Kings 3:16-19 Message]

*He then said, "God's word: Dig ditches all over this valley. Here's what will happen—you won't hear the wind, you won't see the rain, but this valley is going to fill up with water and your army and your animals will drink their fill. This is easy for God to do; he will also hand over Moab to you. You will ravage the country: Knock out its fortifications, level the key villages, clear-cut the orchards, clog the springs, and litter the cultivated fields with stones."*

God said to dig some ditches...

[2 Kings 3:20 Message]

*In the morning—it was at the hour of morning sacrifice—the water had arrived, water pouring in from the west, from Edom, a flash flood filling the valley with water.*

You dig the ditches... God sends the rain.  
You do the work... God brings the miracle.

“Miracles are not magic tricks, they are the divine results of small steps of faith filled preparation.”

You are not the rain maker... You are the ditch digger.

### **3 Ditches We Need to Dig:**

#### **1. Dig the Ditch of Faith**

[James 2:14-17 ESV]

*What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*

God is clear about our part, we do some works, we dig some ditches and he sends the rain.

#### **2. Dig the Ditch of Finances**

Mike Rogers:

1. Love God
  2. Tithe
  3. Pay your bills
  4. Give your best and you can expect Gods best
  5. Where is your treasure
  6. Don't be a "What might have been" person
  7. Trust and obey
- (Get the DVD)

#### **3. Dig the Ditch of Family**

It is not your responsibility to fix your family that is Gods part. Your job is to worship over your children to pray over your spouse, to forgive and love your parents, you dig the ditch and God will fix your family.

And lastly:

“You don't need enough faith to finish digging the ditch, you only need enough faith to **start** digging the ditch.”

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. In what areas has God given you authority? How have you done with those areas?**
- 2. What are some ways you can increase your level of worship?**
- 3. Can you give a personal example of a time you were playing rain maker and should have been digging ditches?**
- 4. How is the ditch of Faith, Finances and Family coming along? What are you digging or what should you be digging to increase what God wants to do through your digging?**
- 5. Why do we want to be the "Rainmaker" instead of the "Ditch Digger"?**
- 6. What are some ditches you need to start digging? What might be some ditches you are digging that don't line up with Gods Rain?**
- 7. What kind of "Rain" has God brought to you through your ditch digging efforts?**