

Small Miracles

2 Kings 6:1-7

“Now the sons of the prophets said to Elisha, ‘Behold now, the place before you where we are living is too limited for us. Please let us go to the Jordan, and each of us take from there a beam, and let us make a place there for ourselves where we may live.’ So he said, ‘Go.’ Then one said, ‘Please be willing to go with your servants.’ And he answered, ‘I shall go.’ So he went with them; and when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees. But as one was felling a beam, the axe head fell into the water; and he cried out and said, ‘Alas, my master! For it was borrowed.’ Then the man of God said, ‘Where did it fall?’ And when he showed him the place, he cut off a stick, and threw *it* in there, and made the iron float. And he said, ‘Take it up for yourself.’ So he put out his hand and took it.” (NASB)

To perform a simple internet search on the above passage is to come across a varied list of sermon titles and interpretations.

- “How to Recover the Cutting Edge”
- “Do not be anxious about anything”
- “Hope Floats”
- “The Little Things Too”
- “Where Did It Fall”
- and my favorite...“Have you lost your edge lately?”

This brief story comes in the midst of an epic conflict between the prophet Elisha and various evil kings of Israel, a nation that had fallen away from its moral center. But this story is in truth not epic. It is not inspiring. In fact it is barely logical.

To read this story is to wonder why it was included in the Old Testament, let alone in this devotional piece. And perhaps that is exactly the point. So many of the stories in the Old and New Testaments of Bible are truly wondrous: the near sacrifice of a beloved son, the parting of the Red Sea, the battle victories of small Israel, the resurrection of Jesus, the missionary journeys of Paul. These stories, as impressive as they are, are in many ways so much bigger than what I need to make it through a Monday morning. Instead, I need the miracle of the found keys, the journey of a dozen green lights, and the conquering of the alarm clock.

The floating axe head was a simple miracle that served the need of the moment at that moment. I may never witness a burning bush or a loaf of bread feeding my entire office building, but I can not only experience small miracles, but each day I have the opportunity to agree to go along with a friend or co-worker, as Elisha did with his servants, and perhaps be the very means of a miracle.

MLD

Point for Prayer:

What are some of the small miracles you have experienced this week?