

Talkback with Pastor Kofi

1) Review the pattern of *reversal* that we've seen in the Wonder Stories of Elisha so far. How does the Floating Ax Head story add to this theme? What's the good news about God that this tale promotes? How can we share with others our confidence about a God who rescues in times of distress?

Go Deeper

2) The holy scriptures use a lot of images of building and construction to deepen our faith in God. Review Psalm 127:1a, Proverbs 14:1 (and 24:3-4), Matthew 7:24-27, I Corinthians 3:10-17, Ephesians 2:19-22. Talk about your own congregation's involvement in *housing* ministries. How do those missions point others toward God? How do they build up faith in the workers themselves?

Great Things in the Church

3) Review Luke 15:3-10. Beyond the deeper theological theme of Sin/Repentance here, recognize the more basic experience of Joy (v.6, 9) when God intervenes in everyday life to recover something that was lost. Do you ever experience God in this way? Share a "Trouble-Rescue" episode from your own life which some people may explain as coincidence, but where YOU credit God.

Get Me a Musician

4) Read or sing through hymn #132 ("All My Hope is Firmly Grounded") in the United Methodist Hymnal. How does this hymn amplify the theme of today's lesson? Which particular lines or phrases speak to you?

"While the musician was playing, the power of the Lord came on him" (II Kings 3:15b)