



Dayo Idowu | 2 Kings 25:27-30 | February 13-14, 2016

1. Read 2 Kings 25:27-30 together. What is the backdrop to this story (see 2 Kings 24:8ff)?
2. *Life's challenges and troubles are inescapable.* How does Jesus reinforce this principle in John 16:33? How does this play out for Jehoiachin? How have you experienced this reality in your own life? What are one or two difficulties that you have faced or are facing now?
3. How does God want to use our challenges and troubles in our own lives (see James 1:2-4)? How does God want to use our difficulties to be a blessing to others (see 2 Corinthians 1:3-7)? How has this been true for you?
4. *Never give up.* When have you felt like giving up? Dayo said, "As long as you wake up in the morning, God is still alive." How should this simple truth make a big difference when we feel like giving up? Is there a truly hopeless situation in God's eyes? Why or why not?
5. How can our patterns of thinking and speaking about our circumstances lead us and others toward a place of victory or defeat? Look at the following texts for more on that: Philippians 4:8; 2 Corinthians 10:5; Proverbs 18:21; Ephesians 4:29.
6. *Change will come.* Gold must go through a refining process in order to become a beautiful object. How does Scripture use this same analogy for the process of change in our lives? Check out these passages: Job 23:10; Proverbs 17:3; Isaiah 48:10; 1 Peter 1:6-7. Why is God's change more about what happens inside us than what happens around us?
7. *Expect divine intervention.* God has promised our deliverance (see Psalm 34:19 and 50:14-15). What does this mean? What does this not mean? How is our view of time different than God's when it comes to waiting for him to act? What does 2 Peter 3:8 say about this? In what circumstances are you waiting for God to intervene? Are you expectant?