



It's important that God's Word continues after the message. At Celebrate, we find that you will quite often talk over this week's message long after our experience is over. That's because God has impact. The Sermon Discussion Guide is designed to help you continue the conversation all week.

## HOW ARE YOU? **fine** or **FINE**

2 Kings 4:8-37

In a few days we will say "Happy New Year", but will it really be that? Most people won't have a New Year, they will have a Repeat Year. They do the same thing as last year and so the next year is the same. If next year is to be a better year, we need to change how we think, how we use certain words, and how we view God's presence in our life. To elaborate on this, Pastor Reed used the example of how people use the word "fine" in response to life's challenges, rather than what the real definition of the word means. Let's look at these two very different meanings:

### 1. **fine = future is now ending**

In this instance, the letters may represent someone who is: *Frustrated or Forgotten, Isolated, Neglected, Empty or Exposed*. Here the word "fine" is used as a filler when we don't want to talk about how poor the day was or how we feel. The focus is on what is temporary. Has this been you this past year? Have you shared your situation with a trusted friend or with your life group? Have you thought about joining one of the many groups offered at Celebrate (Griefshare, Celebrate Recovery, DivorceCare) so you do not have to walk through a difficult time alone? Do you know of someone, who cannot see any hope of change, that you can come along side and be the hands and feet of Jesus to?

*Psalm 31:9-13; James 5:13; Psalm 119:153; Psalm 25:16; Psalm 40:1-2*

### 2. **FINE = Future Is Now Eternal**

In this instance, the letters refer to someone who sees their life as: *Friend of God or Forgiven, Image of God or Important, Never alone or Needed, Eternal or Esteemed*. Here the word "FINE" is used to say God loves you and sees what lies ahead for you. The focus is on what is eternal. Has this been you this past year? How has your relationship with God helped you to stay strong during physical or emotional hardships? Are you able to praise God, with open hands and outstretched arms, during both trials and triumphs? Have you helped anyone else learn about this eternal perspective by sharing your faith or bringing them to church with you?

*1 John 1:9; Genesis 1:27; Hebrews 13:5; John 3:16; Psalm 31:14-15; 2 Corinthians 3:18*

### What's Next

- Contact the church office or go on the website to see the various Care Ministries available to you and sign up to attend the next session.
- Join a Life Group or invite someone to your existing group.
- Pray for God to help you have an eternal perspective.