

# STRANGE BUT TRUE

## Episode 5: UFOs, Bears, & Baldness

### INTRODUCTION – “The Power Of Filtering Beliefs

#### **REFLECTION QUESTION:**

*What filter do you sift these stories through?*

### THE STORY–Alien Abductions & Bears Gone Wild!

2 Kings 2

### PROBING THE PROBLEMS

The Bible often records supernatural events from the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the people who were witnesses.

Note: God did not just write a book about how he works in history. God works in history, and also moved people to write a book about it. There is a difference.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

*Three things to remember about the Bethel Bear incident...*

#1. These are “\_\_\_\_\_” not “children”.  
Ruth 4:16 vs. Genesis 37:2; 1 Kings 11:28; 12:8, 14; 20:14-15

#2. Their insult is against \_\_\_\_\_, not Elisha.  
(Compare v. 11 & v. 23.)

#3. It was a time of \_\_\_\_\_ Israel from Baal worship.  
Leviticus 26:21-22; 2 Chronicles 36:15-21  
Romans 3:21-26

### LOOKING DEEPER – Reading Below The Lines

#### LIFE LESSON #1:

We are called to be \_\_\_\_\_ pursuers, not \_\_\_\_\_ receivers, in our own spiritual growth. God is looking for people who will reach out to him, press in to him, and hold on to him. This really is a \_\_\_\_\_! (vv. 2, 4, 6, & 9)

Matthew 9:36-38; 15:21-28; Mark 4:26-29;  
Luke 9:57-62; 24:28-29; John 5:19; 21:15-17

#### LIFE LESSON #2:

At a time when most gods were identified by the \_\_\_\_\_ they had authority over, Yahweh is most often identified as the God of \_\_\_\_\_. Why? Because, *this really is a partnership!* (v. 14)

John 5:19

#### LIFE LESSON #3:

Some people have to learn the \_\_\_\_\_ way. (vv. 16-18)  
Luke 15:11-23

### CONCLUSION – A New Way

1 Peter 2:21-23

#### HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

##### WARMING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one new thing you learned or one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.

##### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

2. Take time to look up and review all of the Scripture texts listed as part of “Life Lesson #1” (Matthew 9:36-38; 15:21-28; Mark 4:26-29; Luke 9:57-62; 24:28-29; John 21:15-17). For the sake of time, different references can be investigated by different break-out groups. a) For each text, discuss the way that Life Lesson #1 is demonstrated and any related lessons that become evident. b) What Old Testament stories can you think of that help illustrate this truth? c) To what extent or in what ways are you someone who *presses forward* in Spiritual life or someone who *passively waits* upon God to do what needs to be done? d) What specific things could you do this week to grow in this area?

##### SO WHAT?...

3. Take a few moments (3-4 minutes) to meditate on 2 Kings 2:2 and/or 2:14. (If you like, after meditating share any new insights or old reminders that have come to mind.)

4. Pray for each other in light of #2 c & d above.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, August 8 / 15, 2004