



NAAMAN IS HEALED

2 KINGS 5

GOAL

▶ To help children understand that God has the power to heal and do miracles.

CHARACTERS

▶ **Naaman:** The ruler of the Syrian army. He was struck with disease and later healed by God's power

Servant Girl: Told Naaman where he could go for healing

Elisha: Told Naaman how he could be healed

Elisha's Servant: Mediated between Elisha and Naaman. He told Naaman how to be healed. When Elisha refused Naaman's gifts, his servant lied to Naaman and took the gifts. For his sin, he and his descendants were cursed with leprosy.

MEMORY VERSE

▶ **Psalm 103:2-3:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.

OVERVIEW

▶ **Read over 2 Kings 5:** Naaman was an influential man in the military who was responsible for conquering Israel. Naaman suffered from leprosy, a disfiguring skin disease. Naaman had a Israelite servant girl in his household. The servant girl had faith in her God and in Elisha's relationship with God, so she told her master to see Elisha to be healed. Elisha told Naaman to wash himself seven times in the Jordan River, and he would be healed. Though hesitant, Naaman followed the prophet's orders and was healed.



SUGGESTIONS

▶ **The characters in this story reveal much about faith, the nature of God, and His unmeasurable love for us.**

1. Namaan: He was the leader of the Syrian army—the army that had conquered Israel. Why would God tell Elisha how to heal this man? God healed Naaman because He loves us all and does good for everyone. Despite being a Syrian who worshiped a different God, he heard about this prophet, and he believed that this man could heal him. It is through our faith that we are healed, not because of who we are or what we can offer God and His kingdom.

2. Servant Girl: The Israelite girl who was captured and made a servant may not have been particularly happy about her situation; but, because of her faith, God was able to use her to help heal a man with leprosy. The unfortunate dispersal of the Israelites after being conquered by various foreign lands helped to spread the word about the One True God.

3. Elisha: Naaman offered Elisha money and clothing in exchange for the healing he had experienced. Elisha refused the gifts because he did not serve God for financial gain. God healed Naaman not because he could pay, but because God loves everyone. Like our salvation, Naaman's healing was given by the grace of God in response to faith.

PRE-LESSON ACTIVITY

▶ **Limbo Walk | Supplies:** a jump rope and music.

Play limbo using a jump rope and some music. Choose two students to hold the rope while the other children take turns walking under the rope without letting it touch any part of their body. Lower the rope for each consecutive round. Children who touch the floor or the rope are out.

MEMORY VERSE MEANING

▶ **Psalms 103:2-3:** When we ask in faith, God will forgive all of our sins, and He can heal us of all illnesses.



POST-LESSON ACTIVITY

- ▷ **Naaman Dips | *Supplies:*** paper or Styrofoam cups, popsicle sticks, paper cutouts of a person-shaped figure, markers, crayons, and glue.

Give each child a paper or Styrofoam cup. Have them color the cup and decorate it to look like a river or water. Cut out the figures, and glue to a popsicle stick. Have children color Naaman, perhaps with spots on one side, and a clean happy face on the other side. Poke holes in the bottom of the cup, and have Naaman go up and down in the cup.

TAKE HOME

- ▷ How can we be like the characters in this story?

- 1. Naaman:** Have faith in God's power and His love for us, no matter who we are or what we've done.
- 2. Servant Girl:** No matter what situation we find ourselves in, know that God can use it for good. We should always look for ways to glorify God, even in times of trouble.
- 3. Elisha:** We can never repay God for the gift of salvation He has given us. We should live with thankful hearts for the love and incredible mercy God has shown us.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: Naaman was a commander of what army?

A1: He commanded the Syrian army.

Q1b: Name a famous person you admire.

TN: Let students answer. Ask them why they admire these people. Once they have told you all of the cool or wonderful things these people have done, ask them if they think these people live perfect lives. No one has a perfect life. We live in a fallen world in which bad things happen to good people all the time—even to people who believe in Jesus. Naaman was a mighty man of integrity, whom many people admired, but he was a leper.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: What disease did Naaman have?

A2: He had leprosy.

Q2b: Have you ever had the flu?

TN: The flu is a highly contagious disease. We know what causes the flu, how to treat people suffering from it, and how to keep it from spreading to other people. In biblical times, they didn't know what caused leprosy, how to treat it, or how to keep it from spreading, so the Lord instructed the Israelites on how to deal with people suffering from leprosy. While it may seem cruel to us to treat sick people in this way, it was the only way they knew how to make sure everyone wouldn't become infected.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: The servant girl was from what country?

A3: She was from Israel.

Q3b: What is your favorite restaurant?

TN: After students have had a chance to answer, ask them if someone was craving the type of food served at their favorite restaurant, would they recommend the person try the restaurant? Most of us would offer recommendations to people about places we know. The Israelite servant girl saw a need and she knew of someone who might be able to help, so she recommended Elisha's services.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: Who was Naaman going to ask to heal him?

A4: He was looking for a prophet in Israel.

Q4b: How would you react if someone asked you to make them an ocean?

TN: Such a request is ridiculous! Only God can create a body of water that large! So consider how the king of Israel must have felt when he received a letter from the king of Syria asking him to heal Naaman. How did the king of Syria expect the king of Israel to have such an ability? The king of Israel thought that making an impossible request of him like that must have been an attempt to start an argument.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: Who came out to greet Naaman?

A5: One of Elisha's servants greeted him.

Q5b: If the mayor of your town or city came to your house, would you meet him or her at the door?

TN: Most students would, because it is a common courtesy. Elisha didn't meet Naaman for a couple of reasons. 1) Naaman was an important man. Many people thought very highly of him—including himself. He expected people to treat him as if he were a big deal. Not meeting Naaman helped to humble him. 2) It was important that Naaman recognize that it was God, not Elisha, who healed him.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: How many times did Elisha say for Naaman to wash in the Jordan River?

A6: Naaman was to wash seven times in the river.

Q6b: If someone told you that tying your shoes with a double knot would make you the fastest runner in the world, would you be angry?

TN: How can it be true? We've all tied our shoes with a double knot many times before, and doing so never made us faster, so why would this work all of a sudden? This is how Naaman reacted to the instructions Elisha gave him to be healed of leprosy. He had washed in many rivers many times before and it never cured him. What could be so different about this day and this river? Instead of focusing on the simplicity of the solution, Naaman questioned the specifics of the cure. Naaman missed the point entirely—he could be healed because God is powerful.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 7



Q7a: What happened after the seventh time Naaman washed in the river?

A7: He was healed.

Q7b: If someone told you that making a million dollars was as easy as spinning in a circle seven times, would you try it?

TN: Of course! Who would pass up an opportunity to make so much money so easily! Much like the steps Naaman had to take to be cured of leprosy, God has offered us a simple solution to our problem with sin. We don't have to do anything to prepare ourselves for salvation, all we need to do is obey this one simple instruction: Accept Jesus as our Savior. God makes it so easy for us—it's grace on top of grace!

SLIDE 8



Q8a: What did Naaman declare after he was healed?

A8: He declared that there truly was no other God than the God of Israel.

Q8b: Why did God heal a man who wasn't an Israelite?

TN: Let students come up with answers. Hopefully, many of them will answer that God healed Naaman because He loves everyone. This is true, but there is another reason that led to Naaman's healing. He believed that the God of Israel existed and had the power to heal him. Like Naaman was healed because of his faith, we are saved by ours. Ephesians 1:8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Elisha did not accept Naaman's gifts to make sure that he understood that his healing was not something he purchased, instead it was a gift from God.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

- ▷ **Psalm 103:2-3:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.
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BIG IDEA

- ▷ The blessings of the Lord come when we obey His simple instructions.
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**CLOSING
PRAYER**

- ▷ Dear Lord, thank You for healing Naaman so long ago. Thank You for healing our broken relationship with you by sending Your Son, Jesus. Help us to have thankful hearts and to glorify You. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 1



In the land of Syria, there lived a mighty man of valor by the name of Naaman. He was a strong warrior who commanded the Syrian army. Naaman fought many battles and was a courageous man, but one thing made him vulnerable: He was a leper.

SLIDE 2



Leprosy was a terrible and painful skin disease. The disease began slowly, but it would eventually turn him into a disfigured, ugly, and infected man. In those days, lepers were outcasts, and they lived in their own colonies. No person wanted to come in contact with a leper.

SLIDE 3



In Naaman's house, there lived a little girl from Israel. The Syrians had taken her from Israel to be a household servant. One day, she spoke with Naaman's wife and told her of a prophet who lived in Israel who could heal Naaman's leprosy.

SLIDE 4



When Naaman heard this, he immediately set out to get permission from the king of Syria to embark on a long journey to the land of Israel. He wanted to find the prophet his servant spoke of and ask for healing. In the meantime, the king of Syria wrote a letter in which he asked the king of Israel to heal Naaman. When the king of Israel read the letter, he was confused and suspected foul play. When the prophet Elisha heard of the news, he corrected the king and asked that Naaman be sent to him.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 5



When Naaman arrived at Elisha's house, a servant came out to meet him. Naaman was angry because he thought Elisha would welcome him in person.

SLIDE 6



The servant told Naaman, "Elisha says, 'Go to the Jordan River and wash off seven times. Your leprosy will be healed.'" Naaman wasn't so sure about this trick. Besides, how could the Jordan River help him? Why come all the way to Israel when there were rivers in Syria? Naaman's servants rushed to his side and begged him to obey the word of the prophet. Naaman swallowed his pride and went to the Jordan River to do exactly as Elisha commanded.

SLIDE 7



There in the Jordan River, he washed seven times. After the seventh time, exactly as Elisha foretold, a miraculous wonder took place.

SLIDE 8



God's power came over Naaman, and he was healed. Because of his faith, he believed, and because he believed, he was healed. Naaman went to thank Elisha and declared that, indeed, there was no other God than the God of Israel. Naaman wanted to give gifts to Elisha, but he refused. Elisha's servant ran after Naaman and lied about being told to receive the gifts so he could take them for himself. When Elisha saw this, he cursed the servant and his descendants with leprosy, and immediately, the servant went away covered with sores.