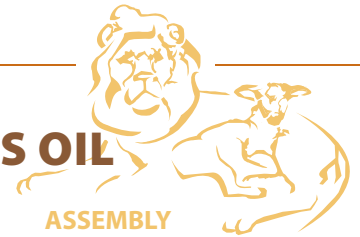


ELISHA AND NAAMAN IS CURED WIDOW'S OIL

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II KINGS 5:1-16



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS**MUDDY WATER****Supplies:**

- plastic jar full of muddy water (use a lot of clay soil so the water is really muddy)
- two pieces of bright white cloth

Tell the story again to the children and explain that Naaman was the commander of the King of Aram's army and that his clothing would be very nice. The Jordan River would be muddy and dirty. Ask them why they think he didn't want to go into the water. To demonstrate what the muddy water would do to Naaman, dip the white cloth into the muddy water. Ring it out and compare it to the clean cloth.

After the class reacts, explain that God wanted to be sure Naaman would know it was the power of God, not the river that made him clean.

CONVINCING NAAMAN

Act out the portion of the story where Naaman is convinced by his servants to listen and obey the words of the prophet. Have the class play the role of the servants. Have one of the teachers act as Naaman.

Naaman should voice his opposition to dipping in the dirty water using the arguments from 2 Kings 5:11-12. Have the class encourage him by calling out reasons why he should do what the prophet tells him.

NAAMAN IS CURED

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II KINGS 5:1-16

GOD'S GIFTS NEED NO PAY

Supplies:

- three pennies for each child
- a bag of pretzels

Note: Quantity of consumable supplies should be adjusted for the number of sessions you will be teaching.

Pass out three pennies to each of the children. Tell them you are going to come around the class with a bag of pretzels and you will allow them to buy the pretzels with the pennies.

Go around and ask each child how many pretzels they want, one, two, or three. No matter how many they ask for, tell them it will cost them three cents.

At the last person, ask him the same question but then tell him he can keep his money and does not have to pay. For him, the pretzels are free.

Then go on to explain that God's gift to Naaman was free also but Naaman tried to pay.

Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Just as God healed Naaman, so we look to God for our healing. Peter tells us that we can be healed because of the finished work of Christ.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24)

Healing is possible for us because of what Jesus did on the cross. We look to God for our healing from the spiritual sickness of sin, as well as physical sickness.

Elisha's cleansing of Naaman's leprosy points forward to Jesus and the healing of the lepers in His ministry.

In Luke 4:27 Jesus refers back to Naaman telling us that the lepers of Israel were not cleansed but Naaman the Syrian was. Naaman foreshadowed the plan of God to reach the Gentiles with the grace of the Gospel.