

## NAAMAN IS CURED

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: II KINGS 5:1-16



### The STORY

Read the story of Naaman being cured of leprosy from the NIV Bible in 2 Kings 5:1-16. For an illustration, use the picture of Naaman washing on page 204 and 205 in The Children's Bible in 365 Stories.

***Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What is this story about? (Naaman travels to Israel to see if the king could heal him. Elisha the prophet heard of Naaman's request and met him when he arrived. Elisha told Naaman to wash in the Jordan and he would be healed. Naaman washed and was healed.)
- What do we learn about God from this story? (God uses men to speak his word and perform mighty deeds. God is all-powerful.)
- What did Naaman say after he was healed? ("Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel." 2 Kings 5:15)

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### CRAFT QUESTIONS

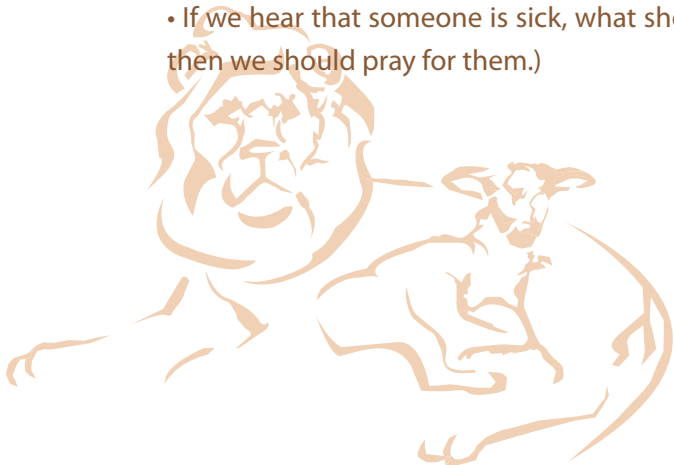
**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Naaman washing in the dirty Jordan River. Engage the children by asking:**

- Why was Naaman angry at first about washing in the river? (The river is muddy and he expected the prophet would just wave his hand or something simple to heal him.)
- Why did Elisha ask Naaman to wash seven times? (Seven was understood to be the number of completeness. Elisha wanted Naaman to understand that it was God who healed him, not the river and not Elisha.)
- Can you think of another time in the Bible someone was healed in an unusual way? (Jesus spit in the dirt and put the mud on a blind man's eyes and the man was healed.)

### SNACK QUESTIONS

**While the children are eating the snack engage the children by asking:**

- What do we do if we are sick? (We take medicine and we pray to get better.)
- Why don't we wash in the river to be made well? (God uses a lot of different ways to test men's faith. But that does not mean everyone should do what Naaman did. The Bible tells us we are to pray when we want to be healed.)
- What important role did a young girl play? (She believed in God and was the one who encouraged Naaman to go to Israel to be healed! God loves to use young people.)
- If we hear that someone is sick, what should we tell them? (We should tell them that God heals and then we should pray for them.)



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### 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.

### SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

#### BE A DOER OF THE WORD

*Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*

