



# FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

## Week of November 6, 2022: 2 Kings 5:1-15a

### Memory Verse

**2 Kings 5:13:** *"If the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it?"*

**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for loving me just for me. Please heal those who are sick. Amen.

### Activities:

#### First Aid Kits (all age)

You will need: exam gloves, band-aides, scissors, tweezers, gauze pads, gauze rolls/kling rolls, alcohol pads, antiseptic towelettes or search online for other ideas; a box, drawstring bag, or plastic container with lid

Talk with the children about what they think they might need to put in their bag to make it a good First Aid Kit. Discuss when you might need a First Aid kit. Discuss Naaman and the fact that he was simply asked to go and wash himself seven times in the river...

### The Story: Naaman's Helpers

(Naaman is pronounced "nah-ah-MAHN")

As each person (underlined) who did something to help Naaman get well is mentioned, have someone stand with a card of that person's name written on it. You can encourage participants to act out the part as you retell the story if you wish. If you do so, then also have a child play the part of Naaman.

A long time ago a man called Naaman was sick. He had leprosy. The leprosy meant his skin got covered in sores and then it made his fingers and toes go numb. Poor Naaman.

This is the story about how he got well again. He didn't just get well all by himself. It took help from lots of people to make him well.

Let's begin at the end of the story and see how many people helped so that in the end Naaman got well.



The one thing that eventually made Naaman's skin recover was when he went into a river for a bath. But who told him to go into the river? A servant brought him the message.

But who sent the servant? Elisha the prophet did.

And who really encouraged Naaman to have a go at washing in the river, just like Elisha advised him? All of Naaman's servants did.

...Talk with them about how he might have felt being asked to do something so simple and then be healed.

### **What Would It Be Like? (age 6-12)**

*You will need: thick gloves, bandages (or something you can wrap around joints to restrict movement), an activity requiring delicate action (for instance, threading a needle, unwrapping a sandwich, creating a Lego figure)*

People who are afflicted with leprosy lose the feeling in their hands. (for more information re leprosy go to [www.leprosymission.org](http://www.leprosymission.org)). What would this be like? Have the children get a sense of how hard life is with leprosy by removing their sense of touch and restricting their movement through the use of heavy, thick gloves, and bandages around their wrists and elbows. Then give them an activity to do which will be difficult to complete successfully without a good sense of touch and fine control.

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But how did Elisha get to know that Naaman needed help? He heard it from the King of Israel.

And how did the King of Israel know that Naaman needed help? He heard it from the King of Syria.

And why did Naaman go to the King of Syria? Because his wife said that the King of Syria would ask the King of Israel and the King of Israel would ask Elisha the prophet to cure Naaman.

But how did his wife know about Elisha the prophet? She heard it from a little girl who came from Israel and had been captured in a war and brought to Naaman's house to be a servant.

The little girl told Naaman's wife, and Naaman's wife told Naaman, and Naaman asked the King of Israel, and the King of Israel asked the King of Syria, and Elisha heard from the King of Syria, and Elisha sent a servant, and Elisha's servant said, "Go and wash in the river!" and all Naaman's servants cheered him on, "Yes, sir, go and wash in the river!" and when Naaman went and washed in the river... he got better.

Family Discussion: God loves us just because we are children of God. We do not need to make it hard to earn God's love. Think about a time that you may have done something that you thought would be hard but it turned out to be easy. Have you ever done something in a hard way and found out later that there was an easy way to do it?

### **Craft: Paper Plate Faces (all age)**

*You will need: paper plates and markers*

On one side of the plate, draw, or have the children draw, a face of someone who is sick and sad, on the other side draw a face of someone who is healed and happy. Another option would be to use pictures of emojis that depict these same faces. Discuss how Naaman would have felt when he had leprosy and then how he must have felt once he was cured.