

LIFEGROUPS

ELISHA & NAAMAN – 2 Kings 5:1-19

Read 2 Kings 5:1-14

1. What do you think Naaman is like? How do you see that from the passage? Think of the things Naaman says, and also the way people interact with him.
2. What would you do if you were Naaman? Why?
3. The leprosy and the road the healing wasn't what Naaman expected. How do you respond when things aren't going to plan or are going badly? e.g. stressed, agitated, focused, fearful

Read 2 Kings 5:15-19

4. Why does Elisha refuse a present from Naaman?
5. What do you think verse 18 means?
6. Have you ever been faced with a situation where you feel that your faith may be challenged or compromised? e.g. bowing to your ancestors, hiding your faith at work, etc. How do you deal with it? What experiences can you share with the group?
7. How can you demonstrate your faith in your everyday places. what is the soil (earth like Naaman) that you bring with you?

Naaman was healed from the skin disease leprosy. Christ heals the leprosy of our hearts.

LEADER'S NOTES

These notes are here as guidelines or commentary notes to help the leader.

A Little about Naaman (Smith, William, Dr. "Entry for 'Naaman'". "Smith's Bible Dictionary". 1901)

"Naaman the Syrian." (Luke 4:27) Naaman was commander-in-chief of the army of Syria, and was nearest to the person of the king, Ben-hadad II., whom he accompanied officially and supported when he went to worship in the temple of Rimmon, (2 Kings 5:18) at Damascus, the capital. (B.C. 885.) A Jewish tradition at least as old as the time of Josephus, and which may very well be a genuine one identifies him with the archer whose arrow, whether at random or not, struck Ahab with his mortal wound, and thus "gave deliverance to Syria." The expression in (2 Kings 5:1) is remarkable --"because that by him Jehovah had given deliverance to Syria." The most natural explanation perhaps is that Naaman in delivering his country, had killed one who was the enemy of Jehovah not less than he was of Syria. Whatever the particular exploit referred to was, it had given Naaman a great position at the court of Ben-hadad. His first business after his cure is to thank his benefactor and gratefully acknowledge the power of the God of Israel, and promise "henceforth to offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto other gods, but unto the Lord." How long Naaman lived to continue a worshipper of Jehovah while assisting officially at the worship of Rimmon we are not told; ("but his memory is perpetuated by a leper hospital which occupies the traditional site of his house in Damascus, on the banks of the Abana." --Schaff.)