

LESSON PLAN

NAAMAN HEALED OF LEPROSY

2 Kings 5

Lesson Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore **if any man** (boy or girl) **be in Christ**, *he is* a new creature: **old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**” (Grades 1 & 2 memorize the portion in **bold print**.)

Lesson Aim: We should trust the Lord to cure us of our sin just as He cured Naaman of his leprosy.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): Have you ever been to a hospital? (Let the children share their experiences briefly.) Why do people go to a hospital? (Because they are sick and need to get well.) Doctors and nurses can help us get well when our bodies are sick, but they are not able to heal our souls, which are sick with sin. Only Jesus can heal our souls. He has to remove the old life that is sinful and replace it with a new life that is holy. This is an operation that everyone needs, but only those that trust in Jesus as the great Surgeon and will ask Him to perform this surgery will be able to get it done to their souls. Only those who have this surgery done to their souls will be able to go to Heaven.

HE (for Authority): Our memory verse tells us how our souls, which are sick with sin, are made well. We must be “in Christ,” so He can make our souls well. We are “in Christ” when we ask Him to be our Savior. He makes a new creation of us by taking out the old sinful things in our soul and making all things new. He can do that because He died for our sins and buried them in His grave. Then He arose from the grave with new life. It is that new life that He shares with us.

Words and phrases from the verse explained:

“**Any man**” – any person, whether a man or woman, boy or girl

“**Be in Christ**” – a person is in Christ when he or she receives Him as Savior.

“**New creature**” – new creation

“**Old things are passed away**” – the old sins are removed from our souls by Christ

“**All things are become new**” – our souls are made new and holy by Christ; we are born again

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. Our story today tells us how Naaman was healed of leprosy, which is like sin in our souls.

I. The Condition of Naaman (2 Kings 5:1)

Naaman was a very successful man. He had won many honors and was the leader of the Syrian army. But Naaman had a serious problem that threatened his life; he had a terrible disease called leprosy. Leprosy causes the skin to swell and become lumpy and discolored. It causes a loss of feeling in the face, arms and legs which may allow a person to burn himself without knowing it. Naaman was a powerful man, but he did not have the power to cure his leprosy.

WE: Would we like to be highly favored by the ruler of our country and have great honors like Naaman? I am sure that we would like that, but would we want his leprosy? (No way) Even though we may never have leprosy, yet we are born with something much worse than leprosy. It is something that we cannot get rid of by our own strength. Doctors do not have medicine or ability to cure us. The problem that we have that is worse than leprosy is sin. We are born with sin and it causes us to practice sin. That is why God calls us sinners. Every time we do wrong, we have added more sin to our record. Our soul is sick with sin. What are some of the sins that you and your friends might do? The penalty for sin is separation from God forever in Hell. We are in more trouble than Naaman.

II. The Captive of Naaman (2 Kings 5:2-8)

After one of their wars with Israel, the Syrian army brought back some slaves that they had captured. One of these slaves was a young girl who was made to work for Naaman’s wife. When the girl heard about Naaman’s disease, she told Naaman’s wife that she wished Naaman could see the prophet in Samaria because she knew he could cure him of his leprosy. When Naaman heard about this, he told the king of Syria and the king wrote a letter to the king of Israel to let Naaman see the prophet and be healed of his leprosy. Naaman also brought 750 pounds of silver, 150 pounds of gold and ten changes of clothes

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to pay for his healing. Naaman did not know the prophet's name, but he was sure that one who could heal leprosy would be well-known to the king of Israel. But the king of Israel was an unbeliever and did not know that Elisha had the power to heal leprosy. Elisha received this power and other miraculous powers from God. She knew more about Elisha than the king of Israel. Since the king of Israel did not know about the powers that God had given to Elisha, he was very upset by this letter. He thought the king of Syria was trying to start a war by asking him to let his commander come and be healed of leprosy. If he would not let his commander come and be healed, the king of Syria would be angry and start a war with Israel. When Elisha heard about the letter that the king of Israel received, he told the king to send Naaman to him when he came for his visit.

WE: Do we tell children about Jesus' power to heal them of sin like the slave-girl who told Naaman's wife about the prophet in Israel that could heal Naaman of his leprosy? Naaman did not know God or His prophet, so he thought the king of Israel would know this prophet, but he did not know God or the power of His prophet either. There are many children around us that do not know Jesus and His power to remove their sins, so they trust other people to help them, but they do not know the power of Jesus either. We need to tell them about Jesus' power to take away their sins. Only Jesus can save us from our sins; He will forgive us of all of the sins and make us holy so we can live with God.

III. The Cure of Naaman (2 Kings 5:9-16)

When Naaman stopped at the door of Elisha's house, Elisha did not come out to meet him. Instead he sent his servant out to him to tell him what to do. Elisha did not want Naaman to trust in him, but to put his trust in God and to obey His word that He gave to Elisha. Elisha's servant told Naaman to go to the Jordan River and wash seven times and then he would be healed of his leprosy. This made Naaman very angry because he had expected Elisha to come out to him and pray to God and put his hand on the leprosy and be healed in a great show of power. When that did not happen, Naaman was disgusted and disappointed and decided to go back to Syria, but his servants stopped him and told him that he should do as Elisha's servant had told him. So Naaman went to the Jordan River to dip seven times in its waters. Nothing happened after he dipped once. Still nothing happened after he dipped twice. His leprosy did not even begin to disappear after the third, fourth, fifth and sixth times that he dipped in the muddy Jordan River. But when he dipped the seventh time, he looked at his leprosy and it was gone. He was healed of his leprosy. It wasn't the water of the Jordan River that healed Naaman; it was God that healed him. But Naaman had to obey the word of God to be cured of his leprosy. When he was healed, he wanted to give Elisha some expensive gifts, but Elisha would not take any gifts. He wanted Naaman to know that God healed him and no amount of money could pay for healing him of leprosy. It was a free gift from God.

WE: We may be sick with some disease in our bodies, but we have a greater disease in our souls; we need to be cured of our sin-disease. Only Jesus can remove our sin-disease, make us holy and permit us to live with God. God tells us that all have sinned; all have the sin-disease (Romans 3:23). If we are not cured of this sin-disease, we will have to go to Hell. God does not want that to happen to us, so He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. Then He raised Jesus from the dead so He could share His life with us. If we believe that Jesus did this for us, we can ask Him to cure our sin-disease. He will do it so we can have an eternal life with God (Jn 3:16). We cannot pay God for this gift; it is free to those who believe it and ask for it (Eph 2:2-9; Tit 3:5).

BE (for Action): What two diseases did Naaman have? (Leprosy in his body and sin in his soul) How did Naaman find out about the prophet of God? (A slave-girl told his wife) Did he understand who could heal him? (No, he thought that it was the king of Israel or some person that the king knew.) How did Naaman react when he learned how to be healed of his leprosy? (He was angry; he thought it was a foolish way to be healed.) Who convinced him to obey the message that God gave to Elisha? (His servants) How many times did he dip in the Jordan River to be healed? (Seven times) What did he do after he was healed? (He was so thankful that he wanted to give Elisha some rich gifts.) Did Elisha receive these gifts? (No. He wanted Naaman to know that God freely healed him.) Naaman obeyed God and was healed. Will you obey God like Naaman so your soul can be healed of its sin? You can ask Jesus to save you after our class. I will be glad to help you. Remain in your chair and I will know that you want me to help you to be saved.