

Upper Elementary

Elisha and Naaman

All scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible, 2020.

Checklist

☐tape

☐long rope

☐shredded paper

☐blindfold

Topic:	Elisha and Naaman
Intro:	Have one child wear a blindfold and give a long rope to the rest. Write a V, W or Z on the board, and have the rope holders make that shape. Ask the blindfolded child to tell you the letter. Why can't they do it? Now, let the blindfolded child follow the rope to guess what the letter is.
	Just like hanging onto the rope helped the blindfolded child know what was going on, holding onto God helps us to know where we're going. We like to think we know how to do things on our own, but we just don't realize how blind we are without God's guidance.
2 Kings 5:1	Now Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him Yahweh had given victory to Syria; he was also a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper.
	What was good in Naaman's life? (he was important and respected) What was bad? (he had a terrible skin disease)



Elisha and Naaman



2 Kings 5:1

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Naaman's Life



2 Kings 5:2-3	The Syrians had gone out in bands, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little girl, and she waited on Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "I wish that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! Then he would heal him of his leprosy."
	Did the Israelite girl have any reasons to dislike Naaman? (his people had captured her and taken her away from her home, she had to work for Naaman's wife) What could she have done instead? (not said anything and let him suffer) Why do you think she chose to suggest a cure for Naaman?
	What was the little girl's heart like?



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Naaman was a commander in the Aramean army. Today, the land of the Arameans is mostly Syria. Their language became so popular, that almost everyone around them spoke it. Some parts of the Old Testament are written in Aramaic instead of Hebrew.



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The Israelite girl's heart was

Hard

Soft

2 Kings 5:4-7	Someone went in and told his lord, saying, "The girl who is from the land of Israel said this." The king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." He departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothing. He brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, "Now when this letter has come to you, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may heal him of his leprosy." When the king of Israel had read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends to me to heal a man of his leprosy? But please consider and see how he seeks a quarrel against me."
	What did the Israelite king think about Naaman coming? (it was a trick for the Syrian king to pick a fight with him) Does it sound like the king knew much about Elisha? (no)
	What was the Israelite king's heart like?



2 Kings 5:4-7

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Why was the Israelite king worried?

The Israelite king's heart was

Hard

Soft

2 Kings
5:8-13

It was so, when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, “Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.” So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariots, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha. Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall come again to you, and you shall be clean.” But Naaman was angry, and went away and said, “Behold, I thought, ‘He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of Yahweh his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leper.’ Aren’t Abanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn’t I wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. His servants came near and spoke to him, and said, “My father, if the prophet had asked you do some great thing, wouldn’t you have done it? How much rather then, when he says to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?”

- Have children play a game of Boot Camp. Tell them to respond to you with sir yes sir (or maam).
- When I say jump, you say: How high?
- When I say run, you say: How fast?
- When I say squat, you say: How low?
- When I say do sit ups, you say: How many?
- Naaman was an important general. He was used to giving orders and having his soldiers obey them right away. Did he obey right away the way his soldiers did? (no) Why not? (he thought Elisha should have come out to meet him, he didn't think the instructions were hard enough, or made sense) Will God's instructions always make sense to us? Do we have to do hard things to come to God? (no, we can just come to Him)
- What was Naaman's heart like?

2 Kings 5:8-13

4

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Naaman's heart was

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2 Kings 5:14-17	Then went he down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. He returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and came, and stood before him; and he said, "See now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel. Now therefore, please take a gift from your servant." But he said, "As Yahweh lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none." He urged him to take it; but he refused. Naaman said, "If not, then, please let two mules' load of earth be given to your servant; for your servant will from now on offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice to other gods, but to Yahweh.
	How did Naaman's skin change? (it became smooth) How did Naaman's heart change? (he only wanted to worship God) Did Elisha accept gifts from Naaman? Why do you think he didn't? (God was the one who healed Naaman, not Elisha, he wanted Naaman to know that God's gifts are free)
	What was Naaman's heart like now?
Closing:	Have children wrap tape around their waists, sticky side out. Spread shredded paper on the floor and have them belly crawl from one side of the room to the other. Have them stand up and see how they look. Have them remove the tape. When they take it off, they look the same as before. Just like Naaman's skin, our hearts are covered with junk. We need to ask God to remove it and give us gentle, humble hearts so that we can truly worship Him.

The Hebrew word used for leprosy is tsara'ath, which refers to various skin diseases. The modern word leprosy refers to Hansen's disease. We don't know exactly what type of disease Naaman had, only that it was a great problem for him.



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Elisha and Naaman



2 Kings 5:1

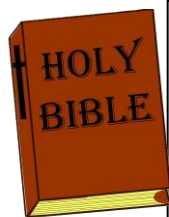
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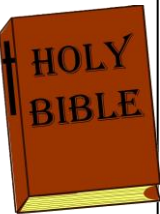
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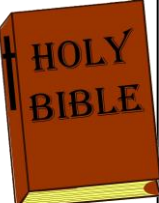
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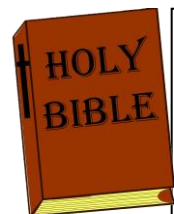
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Naaman



Name: _____

Word Search

N	A	A	M	A	N	Q	R	Y	J
E	C	B	P	Q	X	T	I	N	K
R	E	L	I	S	H	A	V	L	M
O	U	Y	N	B	V	C	E	E	P
I	K	T	E	H	P	O	R	P	L
P	L	M	H	K	T	H	S	R	V
S	Y	R	A	I	G	E	E	O	S
X	R	E	U	N	V	A	D	S	W
D	V	B	N	G	I	R	L	Y	Z
E	F	J	I	Y	G	T	S	A	Q

ELISHA
NAAMAN
GIRL
KING
RIVER

LEPROSY
HEART
PROPHET
SYRIA