

NAAMAN

• All In Group Discussion Guide •
Week of Nov 6

SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 5:1-15

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. 2 Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." 4 So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. 5 And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. 6 He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease."

7 When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me." 8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." 9 So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean."

11 But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. 13 But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" 14 So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

15 Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant."

Thank you for your servant leadership!!

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introductions:

- Who in your life do you remember on All Saints Day?

Scripture Reflection:

- How does this week's passage connect to previous weeks?
- What does it tell us about God?

Sermon Reflection:

- Scripture often tells stories where salvation comes from the weak rather than the powerless by the world's standards. Where do we see that principal at work in our lives?
- Dr. Kirby talked about "negative sentiment override" expecting the worst where there is a history of negativity. How do we ever overcome "Negative Sentiment Override"?
- Naaman becomes angry at the instruction to wash in the Jordan. How do our preconceived ideas about the world get in the way of seeing God's grace in our lives?
- Randy suggested that this is a story of crossing thresholds. Who crossed a threshold to bring you the grace of God? What threshold might God be calling you to cross for the sake of another?

Closing Question & Application:

- What did God say to you during the conversation today?
- How might you live out that learning this week?

Prayer: *(save a little extra time for this)*

- Have someone open in prayer (dial) then leave space for everyone in the room to speak up and pray. Encourage everyone to try it, even if they say very little. Have someone else close in prayer (hang up).

Let your group know that it's not too late to pledge AND we would love to have them soon!