

Lesson 10

The Little Captive Maid Who Cared for Her Master

Lesson Text: 2 Kings 5



Our lesson today includes a captive maid, kings, army captains, the great prophet, Elisha and many others.

We are introduced to Naaman in 2 Kings 5:1. Now Naaman was a great and honorable man. He was the captain of the host of the king of Syria and the king greatly favored him. The Lord had given great deliverance from their enemies unto Syria because of Naaman and we are told he was also a mighty man in valor. This means he was a very courageous valiant man.



But he was a leper. Those who had leprosy were considered unclean. Leprosy was a devastating disease to the person who had it, and to their loved ones. Those who contracted leprosy would end up losing their strength, their looks, their spirit. It caused pain and humiliation. It was one of the worst things that could happen to someone back then.



We are introduced to a little captive maid in verse 2. She would have been taken from her home in Israel by troops from Syria. This captive maid waited on Naaman's wife.

I find it fascinating to read on to verse 3 and see that this little captive maid is wishing that Naaman was with the prophet in Samaria so he could heal Naaman from his leprosy. She is wanting and wishing for Naaman to be healed. She has been captured and taken from her home to serve another, yet she wishes for his health. What an unselfish little captive maid!



Naaman hears of what the little captive maid said, and it gets back to the king of Syria. This king ends up sending a letter with gold, silver and clothing to the king of Israel asking for him to heal Naaman.



The king of Israel was so upset, that he rent (tore) his clothes because he believed the king of Syria was trying to seek a fight with him.

Elisha heard and sent a letter to the king of Israel asking him why he tore his clothes. He told him to send Naaman to see him and that he would know there was a prophet in Israel.



So Naaman showed up at Elisha's with his horses and chariot and was at the door. Elisha sends a messenger out to Naaman and tells him to go and wash in the Jordan River seven times and his leprosy would be cured.



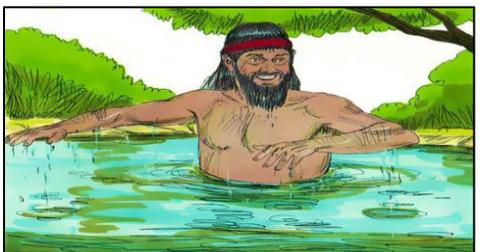
Oh, how mad and upset Naaman was! He left Elisha's and was complaining about how he thought Elisha would come out of his house and call on the name of the Lord his God and strike his hand over the place so that he would be healed.



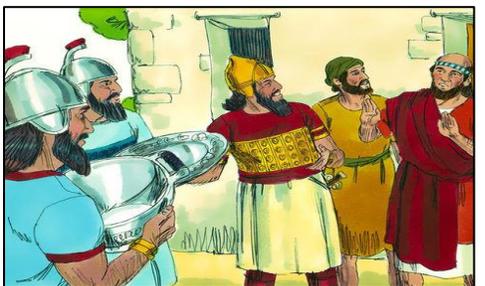
He even said that the Abana and Pharpar rivers of Damascus were better than all the waters of Israel and he wanted to know if he could just go wash in them and be cured from his leprosy. He leaves in a rage!



This is when his servants approached him about what Elisha had told him to do. They showed great respect to Naaman and they questioned him about what Elisha had asked him to do. They asked him if the prophet had told him to do some great thing would he not have done it? They continued by asking him wouldn't he rather just simply go wash in the river and be cleaned.



It was like a lightbulb went off in Naaman's head. He understands that he was making a big deal about how he was to be healed instead of focusing on the end result.



Verse 14 tells us that Naaman went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God. His flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child!

Naaman returns to Elisha and declares that there is no God in all the earth, but the God of Israel. He declares that going forward, he will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any other god, but unto the Lord. He offered Elisha treasures, but Elisha refused.

The actions of this one little servant girl impacted so many. She must have had a good reputation since not only Naaman acted on her advice, the king of Syria also did. He sent all that treasure to the king of Israel based on her word! Her caring for others caused Naaman to understand that there is one God. Think about the people he met day after day. Her influence on him continued to make an impact to the Lord by his influence on others.

What a great example for us today. When we see others suffering, know that we can show care for them and quite possibly bring honor and glory to God by our actions!

Thought Questions

This little captive maid could have been bitter. She could have ignored the fact that Naaman was suffering with leprosy. She could have done a lot of things differently. But she didn't. She showed love and compassion and helped Naaman and his family. Because of her caring, Naaman understood there is one God and not many gods.

1. Look up the word "empathy" in a dictionary. What does it mean?
2. Look up the word "compassion" in a dictionary. What does it mean?
3. Have you ever needed someone to show empathy or compassion to you? Maybe you fell and hurt yourself or got your feelings hurt?
4. If you answered yes to the last question, how did that make you feel?
5. If you answered no to the last question, think about how you would want someone to treat you if you hurt yourself or got your feelings hurt. Would you want them to show compassion or empathy?
6. Name at least 1 way you can help someone who may be suffering.

Fill in the Blanks

1. Naaman had a disease called _____ .
2. Those who contracted leprosy would end up losing their _____, their _____, and their _____.
3. The king of _____ sent a letter and much treasure to the king of _____.
4. Naaman returns to _____ and declares that there is no God in all the earth, but the God of _____.

True/False

1. Naaman was known to be a mean person who was lazy. _____
2. Those who contracted leprosy were considered unclean. _____
3. The little captive maid wished harm upon Naaman and his wife. _____
4. Naaman went immediately to the Jordan River and washed after he was told this would cure his leprosy. _____
5. Naaman got mad when he was told to wash in the Jordan River but finally listened and was cleansed of his leprosy. _____

Cryptogram: 1 Timothy 6:18

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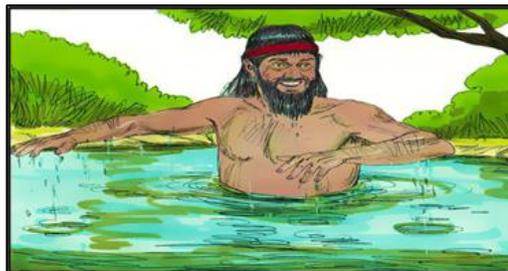
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The Little Captive Maid

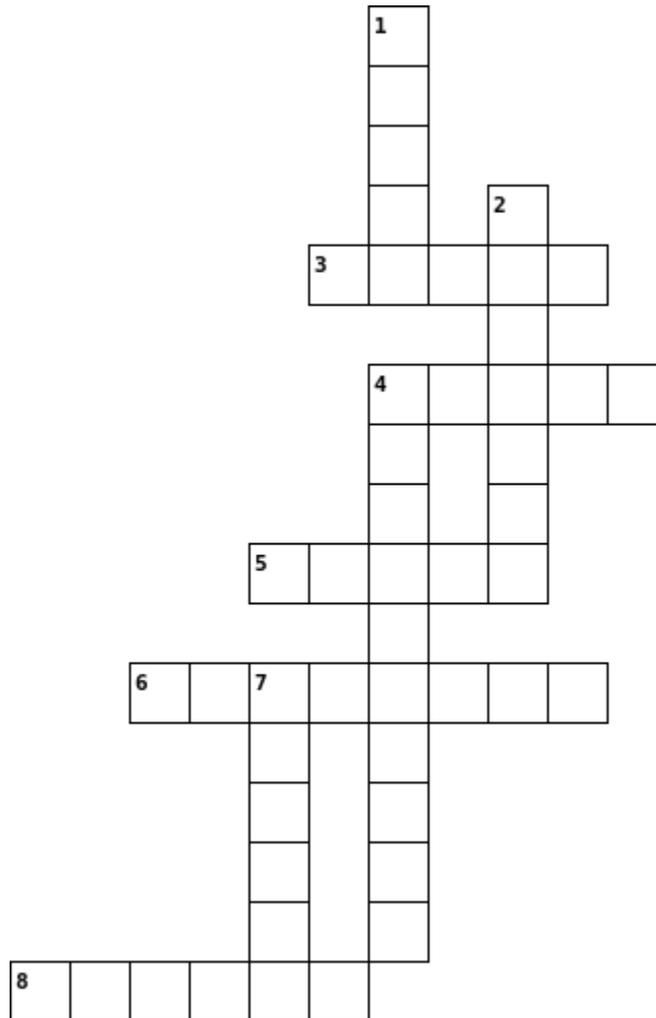
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R	R	S	A	I	R	Y	S	D	E	R	U	C	O
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WASH
 ANGER
 LEPROSY
 CURED
 DAMASCUS
 OBEDIENCE
 PHARPAR
 JORDAN
 DIPPED
 COMPASSION
 CLEAN
 PROPHET
 MAID
 CAPTAIN
 LOVE
 SEVEN
 SYRIA
 CAPTIVE
 ELISHA
 ABANA

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1386037/>



The Little Captive Maid



Across

3. What Naaman Felt at First
4. What Naaman Was After Dipping Seven Times
5. How Naaman Felt After Being Cured
6. What the King of Syria Sent to Israel
8. The River Naaman Was Told to Dip In

Down

1. How Many Times He Was Told to Dip
2. Terrible Disease Naaman Had
4. What the Little Maid Felt for Naaman
7. The Prophet of God Naaman Went to See For A Cure