

THE STORY OF NAAMAN

It's time to speak up

Let's Get Started

Episode Theme: Serving Others - God Calls His People (Genesis to Ruth)

1. Is it easy or hard to do the right thing?

2. Even though this Bible story is the story of Naaman, this devotion is about the young girl who was the servant of Naaman's wife. As you listen to this episode, think about how brave she was to show God's love to an enemy.

Memory Verse

When all your people met, I did not keep silent. I said, "Our Lord is kind. He is faithful and caring, and he saves us."

Psalm 40:10 CEV

After You Listen

A servant girl. She's the one who made it all happen. We don't know the girl's name. <u>2 Kings 5:1-16</u> says that the Syrian troops raided Israel and captured her. These troops weren't invading or trying to conquer Israel; they were soldiers and slavers, so they took valuables and stole people away from their homes. I wonder how difficult that was for the young girl. Now, she was far from her family and lived in a foreign land. She became a servant to the general's wife, whose army took her.

Naaman was a powerful commander. The Bible says that the Lord had helped him and that he was a brave soldier, but he had leprosy. It's a rare disease today, but it still exists.

These two people should be enemies. He was a mighty soldier. She was an enslaved person who could never return home. But she knew about his disease and did the right thing. She spoke up and told Naaman and his wife about a prophet back home who would cure Naaman of his leprosy. She showed God's love.

Read the story and see how God changed Naaman's body and heart. Want to dig deeper and learn more about doing what's right? Check out these Bible verses: <u>Proverbs 29:7</u>; <u>Psalm 82:3</u>; <u>Isaiah 1:17</u>; <u>Isaiah 28:17</u>; James 1:27

Challenge

Memorize these verses about doing what's right:

Psalm 106:3: "You bless those people who are honest and fair in everything they do."

Psalm 9:16: "You showed what you are like, and you made certain that justice is done, but evil people are trapped by their evil deeds."

Isaiah 61: 1,8: "The Spirit of the Lord God has taken control of me! The Lord has chosen and sent me to tell the oppressed the good news, to heal the brokenhearted, and to announce freedom for prisoners and captives . . . I, the Lord, love justice!"

Micah 6:8: "The Lord God has told us what is right and what he demands: "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God."

Take the Episode Quiz

Question 1: Name the country where Naaman lived.

Answer: He lived in Syria.

Question 2: Why was the king of Israel afraid when Naaman came?

Answer: He thought the Syrian king was trying to pick a fight with him.

Question 3: In what river did Naaman wash himself?

Answer: The Jordan River.

Question 4: How many times did Naaman have to wash himself?

Answer: Seven times.

Question 5: In what ways did Naaman show Elijah that he now believed in God?

Answer: He tells Elijah that he knows there is no God anywhere in the world except in Israel. He asks for some soil from Israel to worship God on his soil. He promises never to bring burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god again. He requests the Lord forgive him for bowing to Rimmon when his king did.

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