

Adventures with GOD!

NAAMAN'S SERVANT (A.2.FALL.6)

Biblical Reference	2 Kings 5:1-27
Key Verse	2 Kings 5:16a
Key Concept	My faith does not depend on my maturity, but my willingness to believe God.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: 1. Distinguish Naaman before and after the miracle. 2. Explain what Naaman had to do. 3. Tell who was the most important person in the story of Naaman (God).

LIFE APPLICATION

Naaman's story teaches us many truths. God often works through children, so adults can realize their mistakes and the need to make changes in their lives. Sometimes adults have less faith than children. If not for the servant girl, Naaman would never have known of God. Even young children can witness the power of God. This week help children think of moments they have experienced the power of God working in their lives or in the lives of others.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Activity	Crayons, Illustration	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Illustrations, Bible	10 minutes
Activity	Water, bowls, dirt, towels, soap	10 minutes
Craft	Sheets, crayons	10 minutes
Activity	Costumes	10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

Adventures with GOD!

INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Activity: When children come into the classroom, they can add another piece to their booklet of Bible stories. Today have them color and paste the symbol of the river.

Bible Exploration: Have an illustration of the story ready. (You can use the book "Friends of God, Point With Your Finger" is an excellent design for older children. Younger children can take only a few details of the drawing. Also use board figures, puppets of popsicle sticks (see instructions) or finger puppets (see instructions) Tell the story in an easy to understand format (see attached example) and then ask what happened in history. It would be interesting to distinguish between Naaman before and after the miracle God gave him. We must emphasize the fact that God used a little girl to lead Naaman to God and be healed. You should not use much time to tell the story, because young children cannot concentrate more than three to five minutes without change of activity.

Activity: Fill a large bowl with warm water. Also, have a small bowl with dirt. Have the children dirty their hands. Then help them remove the dirt in the clean water to see what God did with Naaman. Then talk about Naaman's disease that left marks on her skin, explain that either soap or water could remove scars. Only a miracle from God took away the stains from his skin!

Craft: Let children make a play with characters from Samuel, Naaman's servant girl, and Naaman's wife. You can act out the story first and then encourage them to do the same. If you use puppets to tell the story, children can handle the dolls as you told the story again.

Note: Young children do not know yet but the play can help them identify the different characters and repeat one or two sentences of the story.

Activity: Begin with a brief review of prior learning. It is always good to review the facts. With children this age it is even more necessary. Use the visuals of the past weeks and ask them things about the life of David. (Example: "Who is this child? What is he doing?"). Attached is a sheet of the faces of David and Goliath. Have the children color and draw them.

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for making us, Thank you God for making the world. Amen

Adventures with GOD!

BIBLE EXPLORATION

THE MAN WHO BATHED SEVEN TIMES

Captain Naaman had been in the war and returned home. He brought back hundreds of prisoners who had bags full of gold and silver. "Bravo, Bravo" shouted the people. "Here comes the hero. Naaman is the strongest and the bravest of all. So strong, so handsome!" everyone said.

The king came to meet his army and welcome them. "Captain Naaman, we are very proud of you!" cried the king. "Your victory has brought much glory to our country. A large reward will be given to you. Twelve bags of gold and twelve slaves will be all for you."

The King was still speaking when suddenly people started to see that the skin of Naaman had leprosy!

"Out! Out!" they shouted. "We will all get sick if you come closer!"

Everything changed in that moment. Naaman the handsome, strong, rich, and with all his gold had to go home ... it was very sad. Even his wealth could not make him happy.

Doctors and scientists came. But no one could help him. They said, "Naaman, Naaman ... we cannot help you. It is most likely you're going to die."

A girl who served Naaman's wife told her that God could save the life of her husband. "A man of God who lives in my town can pray for her husband and God will heal him immediately."

Naaman took everything they had to find the man of God.

Naaman thought "How does the man of God pray? Standing? Kneeling in silence?"

At last he found the house of Elisha, the man of God. He was afraid when he reached the front of his house, but finally said, "Man of God, I ask you to come out and pray that God will heal me." But Elisha did not leave his home instead he sent his servant out who told him: "Go to the Jordan River and God will heal you but you need to bathe seven times."

Naaman's servant looked with much astonishment, who was so surprised and could not believe what she saw or heard.

Furiously Naaman started screaming at the servant. "How is it possible that your friend does not come out talk to me? How is it possible to send his servant to speak with a captain as important as me?"

"The Jordan River is so dirty, you cannot compare with the rivers of my country," said Naaman. I will not go there. I did not come so far to bathe in a dirty river. "

He was so angry, he was about to leave when his servant said, "No, no, no, wait! You must try!" Naaman stopped but did not know what to do. Should I bathe or not? At last he decided, "Well, they're right. Wait for me here."

Captain Naaman went down to the water and bathed only for a moment. Then he left. But he still had wounds all over his illness.

"I'll do it again," said Naaman.

Adventures with GOD!

What man so determined! Naaman bathed again. Twice, three times ... four, five and six times. Is it already is healthy and clean?, he asked.

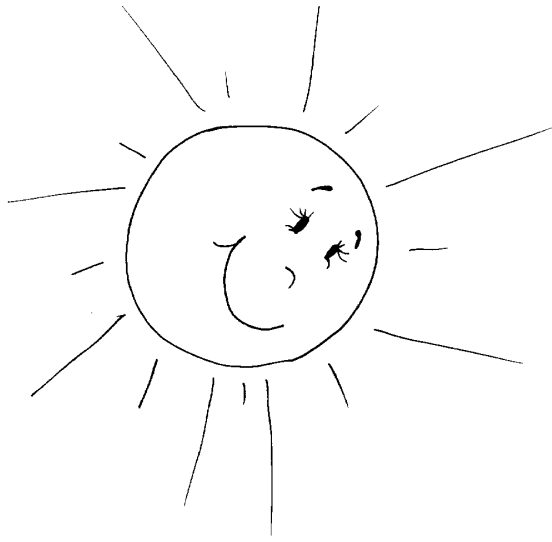
The seventh time that water entered and exited and his leprosy was gone! His pale skin was clean and healthy again!

Naaman returned to Elisha's house and called the prophet. "O' man of God, come see what he what God has done. Your God has healed me of leprosy. There is no God like him, now I have learned from God and there is no one like Him. Please receive a gift from me. "

Elisha came out and said, "It is God who gave you health, not me. I want nothing from you."

Naaman the handsome, strong went home praising God, the God who had healed him through seven baths.

Adventures with GOD!



Adventures with GOD!

PUPPET STICKS

Materials: pipe cleaners, markers, yarn, paper, ice cream sticks

Preparation:

1. Make a copy of this artwork for each child.
2. Have children color and then help them trim.
3. Then they should stick onto sticks.
4. Help them form the puppet's arms by the sticking pipe cleaners.



Adventures with GOD!

PUPPET THIMBLES

Materials: peanut hulls (peanut) *please be cautious of any child with peanut allergies, markers

Preparation:

1. Break peanut shell half. If you cannot get peanut shell, help them draw faces on fingertips (could use plastic gloves).
2. Make a "thimble" on each finger with half a shell. Draw a face on each "thimble".

