

## Devotion 2 Wash and Be Cured

Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-14

For today's devotion, you will need some washable magic markers and adhesive bandages (normal, rectangle bandages, 3 or 4). Your family can choose if they want to draw on a piece of paper or if someone wants to volunteer their arm to be drawn on. If you would rather use a piece of paper, draw an outline of a forearm on the paper. On the arm or drawing, take red and yellow markers and draw circles that are about 1 inch in diameter. After the drawings are done, let the kids take a bandage and put it on top of 3 or 4 of the circles (make sure it doesn't totally cover the circles).

Say: The bandages did not cover the sores all the way! If the sores were real, there's no way they would be healed because the sores go under the skin too. We're going to talk about how a man was healed of sores that are kind of like these.

Say: In today's reading, we are going to hear about a man named Naaman, a man named Elisha, and how God healed Naaman. Naaman had a skin disease called leprosy. If a person had leprosy today, they would likely be healed by taking medicine. But, back in Naaman's day, there was not a way to heal it. Leprosy made people have sores on their skin, like the ones we drew earlier. Just like the bandages couldn't make the sores go away, Naaman couldn't be healed with bandages.

Read 2 Kings 5:1-14 together.

Say: Today's Bible verses told us about how God used Elisha and water to heal Naaman. Normally, water and words spoken don't heal people of leprosy but God used both of these things to make Naaman better! God healed Naaman in a way that he did not think was possible. Does God do anything like this for us? (discuss this together)

Say: Let's think about our baptisms for a second. What do we use in baptism? (take responses)

Say: We use water in baptism and the pastor says, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit." This kind of sounds like how Naaman was healed from his leprosy! In both Naaman's healing and our baptisms, God uses simple things that we use every day to create a miracle! Naaman was healed of skin sores but we are healed of something much greater, our sin. Our baptisms help us to remember that because of Jesus' death and resurrection, our sins are washed away forever. We get to have hope in what Elisha told Naaman, "Wash and be cured!"

## Discussion Questions

After you've finished the discussion questions, take time to pray together as a family.