



FROM THE BIBLE

2 Kings 5:1-3 (NLT)

Matthew 5:45 (NLT)

MESSAGE TO CONVERSATION GUIDE

You Matter | Week 1 | Your 'But' Matters To God

1. Joel opened up this message by telling a story about riding the scariest waterslide in Jolly Roger's Waterpark. When it comes to scary waterslides and big rollercoasters are you *all in* or *all NOPE*?
2. The point of the opening story was that Joel was going to go down the slide a 2nd time 'BUT' he thought the guy in front of him may have gone to be with the Lord (jokes). That word 'BUT' can also show up in our faith. For instance, we can think, *God, I guess you're supposed to be good BUT why are all these bad things happening to me?* Can you provide other phrases that the word 'BUT' interferes with our faith?
3. The title of this message was, *your 'BUT' matters to God*. Read 2 Kings 5:1. What was Naaman's 'BUT' in this passage?
4. Naaman most likely hid his leprosy under his armor since he was an Army Commander. What sort of things do we hide from others and suffer as a result?
5. Interestingly, Naaman at this point was not following God. However, God had given great victories to Aram by making Naaman a great warrior. With that in mind, read Matthew 5:45 and talk about how God gives good things to believers and unbelievers alike.
6. With your answers from Question #5 in mind, what does this say about how much people, including unbelievers, matter to God?
7. Read 2 Kings 5:2. How did what happened to this 'young girl' probably ruin the plans she had for her life? When things don't go according to our plan in life, how can that negatively effect how much we feel like we matter to God?
8. Read 2 Kings 5:3. What did this 'young girl' wish for Naaman who suffered from leprosy?
9. This 'young girl' knew that if Naaman just got to *the right place* and saw *the right person*, he would be healed. How does Jesus us *His church* to do that for us?
10. What was your 1 takeaway from this discussion and/or message?