

Small Group Study Questions

2 Kings 5:15-27 (NASB 1995)

Week 4

15 When he returned to the man of God with all his company, and came and stood before him, he said, "Behold now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel; so please take a present from your servant now." **16** But he said, "As the Lord lives, before whom I stand, I will take nothing." And he urged him to take *it*, but he refused. **17** Naaman said, "If not, please let your servant at least be given two mules' load of earth; for your servant will no longer offer burnt offering nor will he sacrifice to other gods, but to the Lord. **18** In this matter may the Lord pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, and he leans on my hand and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the Lord pardon your servant in this matter." **19** He said to him, "Go in peace." So he departed from him some distance.

20 But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, thought, "Behold, my master has spared this Naaman the Aramean, by not receiving from his hands what he brought. As the Lord lives, I will run after him and take something from him." **21** So Gehazi pursued Naaman. When Naaman saw one running after him, he came down from the chariot to meet him and said, "Is all well?" **22** He said, "All is well. My master has sent me, saying, 'Behold, just now two young men of the sons of the prophets have come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothes." **23** Naaman said, "Be pleased to take two talents." And he urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags with two changes of clothes and gave them to two of his servants; and they carried *them* before him. **24** When he came to the hill, he took them from their hand and deposited them in the house, and he sent the men away, and they departed. **25** But he went in and stood before his master. And Elisha said to him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant went nowhere."

26 Then he said to him, "Did not my heart go *with you*, when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Is it a time to receive money and to receive clothes and olive groves and vineyards and sheep and oxen and male and female servants? **27** Therefore, the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants forever." So he went out from his presence a leper *as white* as snow.

What's your response when a leader you follow does something the wrong way? Do you speak up about it? Do you do something behind their back to make it right?

What do you consider a white lie? Is it still wrong like a lie is?

Read 2 Kings 5:15-19 What does this interaction between Naaman and Elisha tell us?

What would the harm be for Elisha to accept the gift?

What would the harm be for Naaman to give the gifts?

Read Genesis 14:21-24 Abraham had a similar situation. Why didn't he take any gifts?

Read 2 Kings 5:20-24 What is Gehazi saying that Naaman missed out on?

DIGGING DEEPER

Is this situation Gehazi describing something that could have happened at one time or another? Could it happen in the future? Is it wrong to lie in this way?

Read 2 Kings 5:25-27

After all Gehazi has seen, is it surprising that he lied to Elisha? Why or why not?

What was Naaman's salvation based on? What was it not based on? (Hint - Ephesians 2:8-9)

What is your salvation based on?

PRAYER REQUEST