

Think ONE
Living with Spiritual Influence
2 Kings 5:1-19



ONE is an acrostic that stands for ...

Our Next Encounter...

Think ONE is about INTENTIONAL living!

Intentional living is simply coming to an awareness that we are part of God's advancing Kingdom and He INVITES us to join Him in His ADVANCEMENT

We are living in CRAZY times...

It seems difficult to know what to do...

But I want to bring us back to some BASICS...

ONE THING

Spiritual Influence is the CAPACITY to have an EFFECT on the DIRECTION of someone's FUTURE

... their actions, behavior, opinions, etc....

2 Kings 5:1–5 (ESV) — 1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. 2 Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." 4 So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." 5 And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing.

We see in this story FIVE Ingredients necessary for living with Spiritual Influence...

1. Personal HUMILITY.

2 Kings 5:2 (ESV) — Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife.

She was a servant girl

What is humility?

Humility – A meekness that is respectfully considerate of others

Mark 10:42–45 (ESV) — And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Philippians 2:3 (ESV) — Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

➤ **VALUE OTHER PEOPLE**

Spiritual Influence is the capacity to have an effect on the direction of someone’s future

1. Personal HUMILITY.

2. Genuine EMPATHY.

2 Kings 5:3 (ESV) — She said to her mistress, “Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”

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The key word to understand the young girls feelings about Naaman, her master, having leprosy is in the first word, “WOULD”...

The word used here means the following...

“A longing for a thing to be done which will probably not happen.”

She is longing for Naaman to be healed!

She is hurting with Naaman and his wife!

Empathy – Identification with and understanding of the thoughts or feelings of another

Empathy is not simply feeling sorry for someone, but actually feeling their pain!

➤ **FEEL THE PAIN OF OTHERS**

Romans 12:14–15 (ESV) — Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Spiritual Influence is the capacity to have an effect on the direction of someone’s future

1. Personal HUMILITY.

2. Genuine EMPATHY.

3. Spiritual INTEGRITY.

2 Kings 5:3 (ESV) — She said to her mistress, “Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”

Do not forget the young girl’s situation...

2 Kings 5:2 (ESV) — Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman’s wife.

This girl’s home had been raided by the Syrians...

More than likely, either Naaman took part in the raid, or he gave the orders for the raid...

She was either taken from her family, or her family was killed in the raid...

Either way, she had lost everything...

- Her home,
- Her family,
- Her future prospects...
- Her rights...

She had lost everything... but NOT HER FAITH!

She was a servant in a foreign land that worshipped foreign gods...

The Syrians believed that by raiding and taking people from Israel that their gods were defeating the God of Israel...

But this little girl didn’t lose her faith!

What is spiritual integrity?

Spiritual Integrity – Adhering to a spiritual standard of values and conduct despite circumstances

She still believed that the Lord was the greatest of all!

Did her spiritual integrity pay off?

You bet it did!

Naaman went to the prophet, Elisha, and was healed!

But there is more about her faith we don’t want to miss...

2 Kings 5:3 (ESV) — She said to her mistress, “Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”

Had she seen Elisha heal anyone of leprosy?

Had she experienced a person healed of leprosy first hand?

No she had not!

How do I know? Because Jesus said so!!!

Luke 4:27 (ESV) — And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.

Her faith believed that the God of Israel through His prophet Elisha could do anything!

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV) — Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

➤ **LIVE YOUR FAITH EVERYWHERE**

Spiritual Influence is the capacity to have an effect on the direction of someone's future

1. Personal HUMILITY.

2. Genuine EMPATHY.

3. Spiritual INTEGRITY.

4. Consistent HONESTY.

2 Kings 5:4–5 (ESV) — So Naaman went in and told his lord, “Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel.” And the king of Syria said, “Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel.” So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing.

When the unnamed girl from Israel told this to Naaman's wife, she went and told Naaman...

Naaman and his wife had observed the girl's actions long enough to trust her at her word...

Consistent Honesty – Acting and speaking the truth over time without contradictions

➤ **TELL THE TRUTH**

Spiritual Influence is the capacity to have an effect on the direction of someone's future

1. Personal HUMILITY.

2. Genuine EMPATHY.

3. Spiritual INTEGRITY.

4. Consistent HONESTY.

5. Embracing OPPORTUNITY.

2 Kings 5:1–3 (ESV) — Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, “Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.”

What if she would have remained silent?

But she didn't!

The story continues...

Elisha tells him to go dip himself seven times in the Jordan and he would be healed...

His pride made him angry and feel disrespected...

He left frustrated, but his servants who were with him convinced him that it would hurt anything...

So we went to the Jordan...

2 Kings 5:14 (ESV) — So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

He was healed!!!

So he went back to Elisha to offer him all his gold, silver, and clothing...

Listen...

2 Kings 5:15 (ESV) — Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, “Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel ...”

Proverbs 3:27 (NLT) — Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it’s in your power to help them.

➤ **TAKE THE RISK**

I am SOMEONE’S next DIVINE encounter!

→ **21 Days of Fasting**

- **Beginning tomorrow (January 10-30) we are starting our annual 21 days of prayer and fasting**
- **Visit 21days.crossgates.org for more info**

→ **Think ONE LifeGroup**

- **If you are not currently part of one of our lifegroups I want to ask you to join a special lifegroup focused on Think ONE...**
- **At both 9 and 10:30 we will be having a special LifeGroup meeting in the VENUE**
- **Led by Brad Randall and Carter Collins**

Remember, you are someone’s next divine encounter!

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Living with Spiritual Influence
2 Kings 5:1-19

Think ONE is about _____ living!

**Spiritual Influence is the _____ to have an _____
on the _____ of someone's _____**

1. Personal _____.

➤ _____

2. Genuine _____.

➤ _____

3. Spiritual _____.

➤ _____

4. Consistent _____.

➤ _____

5. Embraces _____.

➤ _____

I am _____ next _____ encounter!