

Naaman Instructions

Give your assistant this copy of the lesson text to prepare for acting out the role of Naaman during the lesson.

Set up a river by draping a blue sheet over several chairs or a table. Leave room for Naaman to bend down behind the sheet. You may want to use powder on Naaman's face and hands to represent leprosy. Have a moist cloth ready for him to wipe off the powder while behind the sheet. Add props/actions for interest.

Naaman enters and pretends to knock on Elisha's door. Naaman rode up to Elisha's house with his horses, chariots, soldiers, and servants, looking very important. After all, Naaman was a rich and courageous man coming to visit Elisha! But Elisha didn't even come out to say hello or invite Naaman in. Instead, Elisha sent his servant to deliver a message to Naaman, who stood outside the door waiting.

2 Kings 5:10

Let's read the message Elisha's servant gave to Naaman. Turn toward the actor Naaman as you read 2 Kings 5:10.

? What instructions did Naaman have to follow to be cured? *Wash in the Jordan River seven times.*

That seems pretty simple, but it was not what Naaman was expecting. In fact, Naaman was furious! Naaman acts angry, taps his foot, etc.

Naaman was angry that the healing did not happen as he imagined. He thought Elisha would come out and pray and wave his hand and cure him. But Elisha didn't even talk to him! Instead, he was told to go and wash in the Jordan River.

Naaman looks proud and arrogant. Naaman was a proud Syrian army commander; he didn't want to wash in a river—especially not here in Israel, the land of his enemies.

Naaman was ready to forget the whole thing and go home. Naaman acts frustrated and turns to go, then turns back. Thankfully, he had servants who loved him. The servants understood that Naaman's pride was keeping him from obeying Elisha's instructions. Naaman needed to be humble and obey. He had to have faith that God could heal him.

Naaman listened to his servants, and he went to the Jordan River. Have Naaman walk behind the sheet as if stepping into the river then hold nose and dunk down behind the sheet. He stepped down into the water and dipped down (have students count with you)—one, two, three—but still no change. Wasn't that enough? Naaman looks at his hands and sees no change.

He went down into the water three more times, but his leprosy was still there. On the seventh dunk, Naaman can stay down a little longer for effect and wipe off powder with a cloth before standing back up. Finally, Naaman dunked down once more, and when he came up out of the water the seventh time, he was healed! Naaman looks at his hands and cheers. His leprosy was gone, and his skin was as clean and clear as it was when he was a child! Imagine his servants cheering as he came out of the river, completely rid of that horrible disease. Naaman comes out from behind the sheet looking happy. Let's all cheer for Naaman! Have students cheer as Naaman exits. Now Naaman knew that Elisha's God really was the all-powerful, true God.

Print one copy for your assistant.