



STORIES OF ELIJAH & ELISHA



Sermon Outline

Key verse

Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed." But Naaman went away angry...

2 Kings 5:10, 11a

Naaman had a problem with leprosy... and pride

1. Don't be a llama
Don't let pride keep you from God's blessings.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

1 Peter 5:6

2. Be a kangaroo
Keep moving forward in the Lord's strength.

So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean.

2 Kings 5:14

ELISHA & NAAMAN'S LEPROSY

Opening thought

Naaman was a commander in the Aramean army. But as great a man as Naaman was, he had a problem. He had leprosy. The cure involved washing seven times in the Jordan River, but Naaman didn't want to do it because of his pride. The Lord wanted to cure Naaman of more than leprosy. From his story we learn that although each of us is broken, God can heal us.

For personal reflection or group discussion.

- What is your best "home remedy" for a cold or illness?
- What is your most embarrassing moment?

Questions to go deeper in your faith.

Elisha told Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan River. Why do you think that was the cure? What might God have been teaching Naaman?

Llamas will remain in a makeshift pen with a single rope rather than lowering their heads to escape. How was Naaman like a llama? How can people be like llamas? (2 Kings 5:11-12)

What evidence is there in this story that Naaman had changed spiritually as well as physically?

Read 2 Kings 5:15-16. Why do you think Elisha refused to accept gifts from Naaman?

More scriptures on pride

Proverbs 11:2

Romans 12:3

Proverbs 29:23

Isaiah 2:11

Prayer

Thank you, Lord for demonstrating your love for us through the sacrifice of your Son. Help us to see ourselves as we really are: sinners in need of healing and grace. Humble us and conform us to the image of your Son Jesus Christ. In His name we pray, Amen.