

WEEK 32 | SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

Elisha, God's Power and Compassion

Bible Passage: 2 Kings 5

Big Idea: God's power to heal and His compassion for people reach far beyond Israel's borders, offered freely to anyone humble enough to receive it His way.

1 MEMORY VERSE

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2 Kings 5:15

Now I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel.

What It Means and How to Practice

This is what a powerful army commander named Naaman said after God healed him through a very simple act of obedience. Say it together this week, and remind your child this was said by someone who almost missed his healing because of pride.

Ask

Why do you think Naaman almost missed his healing? Suggested Answer: He wanted something dramatic and impressive, and God's instructions were too simple for his pride to accept at first.

2 TODAY YOUR CHILD LEARNED

Today your child learned about Naaman, a powerful army commander with a serious skin disease that nothing could cure. A young Israelite servant girl in his household, someone he had every reason to ignore, told him about a prophet named Elisha who could heal him. Naaman traveled to Israel expecting an impressive ceremony, but Elisha simply told him to wash seven times in the Jordan River. Naaman was furious at first, but his own servants talked him into trying it, and he was healed completely. Your child also learned that Naaman was an outsider and even an enemy of Israel, yet God healed him anyway, and that Jesus later pointed back to this exact story to show that God's grace reaches everyone, not just people who seem to deserve it.

3 WHY THIS LESSON MATTERS

This lesson protects your child from thinking God's help has to look impressive to be real. Naaman almost missed his healing because he wanted ceremony and drama, when God's actual instruction was plain and simple. It also shows that God's grace cannot be bought or earned, since Elisha refused every bit of payment Naaman offered. God's compassion reaches people who seem like outsiders too, which matters for any child who has ever felt like they do not belong.

Simple Explanation

You can say, sometimes God's help looks a lot simpler than we expect, and that is okay, because it is the trusting that matters, not how impressive it looks.

4 TALK ABOUT IT AT HOME

Use one or two of these during dinner, bedtime, or in the car.

Who first told Naaman about the prophet who could heal him?

A young servant girl in his own household.

Why did Naaman get angry about Elisha's instructions?

He wanted something dramatic, and washing in a river seemed too simple.

Why did Jesus bring up this story hundreds of years later?

To show that God's grace reaches outsiders too, not just people who seem to deserve it.

Is there a time you wanted God's help to look a certain way instead of just trusting Him simply?

Personal reflection, encourage honesty, then pray about it together.

5 WHEN YOUR CHILD RESISTS A SIMPLE INSTRUCTION

Your child pushes back on something simple you have asked, wanting it to be more complicated, more fair, or more dramatic than it needs to be. Try saying, I know this feels too simple, but sometimes simple is exactly right, even a powerful army commander in the Bible almost missed something wonderful because he wanted it to be harder than it was. God's best instructions are often the plainest ones.

6 PRAYER TO PRAY TOGETHER

Dear God, thank You for reaching people everyone else might overlook. Help us come to You with simple trust instead of pride, and thank You for offering Your grace freely to anyone who receives it. In Jesus' name, amen.

7 A FINAL THOUGHT FOR PARENTS

Your child does not need an impressive plan from you this week, just simple, faithful presence. God worked through a plain river and an unnamed servant girl to change an army commander's life. He can work through your ordinary, unimpressive moments with your child too.