

Naaman and Elisha

2 Kings 5



Why is this man in the river? Is he dirty? Listen to today's story to find out.



The Story

Naaman was a great leader of the army in Syria. He had a bad disease called leprosy.

One day his wife's servant girl said, "Naaman should go to see God's servant in Israel. He would be able to heal him of his leprosy!"

This servant of God was named Elisha. He was a prophet.

Naaman's king thought it was a good idea. He wrote a letter to the king of Israel asking that Naaman might be healed. The king of Israel was worried because he didn't know how to heal anyone.

Elisha said, "Let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."

Naaman rode in his chariot pulled by his horses. His servants went along with him. He came to Elisha's house but Elisha didn't come out to meet him. Instead he sent a messenger who told Naaman, "My master said you should go wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then you will be healed."

When Naaman heard this he was very angry. He had expected Elisha to come out of his house and heal him in person. Then Naaman said, "I could have washed in the rivers of my own country and become clean!"

He went away angry. Naaman's servants tried to talk to him. They said, "If the prophet had told you to do something very hard, wouldn't you have done it? So now, just try following his simple directions."

Naaman did it. He went to the Jordan River and dipped himself seven times in the water. When he came out, his skin was healed and back to normal. The disease was gone! He went back to Elisha to thank him and give him some gifts. But Elisha would not take the gifts.

As Naaman was leaving to go back to his country, Syria, Elisha's servant, Gehazi, ran after him. Gehazi had a wicked plan to get money from Naaman. He made up a lie and told Naaman that his master had sent him to ask for money and clothing for some young men who needed it. Of course Naaman gladly gave it to him. Gehazi ordered his servants to carry the clothes and money back to Gehazi's tent so Elisha wouldn't see it.

Later Elisha asked Gehazi, "Where did you go?"

Gehazi lied, "I didn't go anywhere."

Elisha knew the truth. He cursed Gehazi and gave him the disease of leprosy.

The Lord, through Elisha healed Naaman of his leprosy.

Activity One

- Color the happy or sad face to show how Naaman felt.



1. Naaman had a disease called leprosy.



2. The servant girl told about a prophet who could heal Naaman.



3. Elisha didn't come out to meet Naaman to heal him in person.



4. Through Elisha, God healed Naaman.

God, through Jesus Christ, has taken away our sins.

Passages

Psalms 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

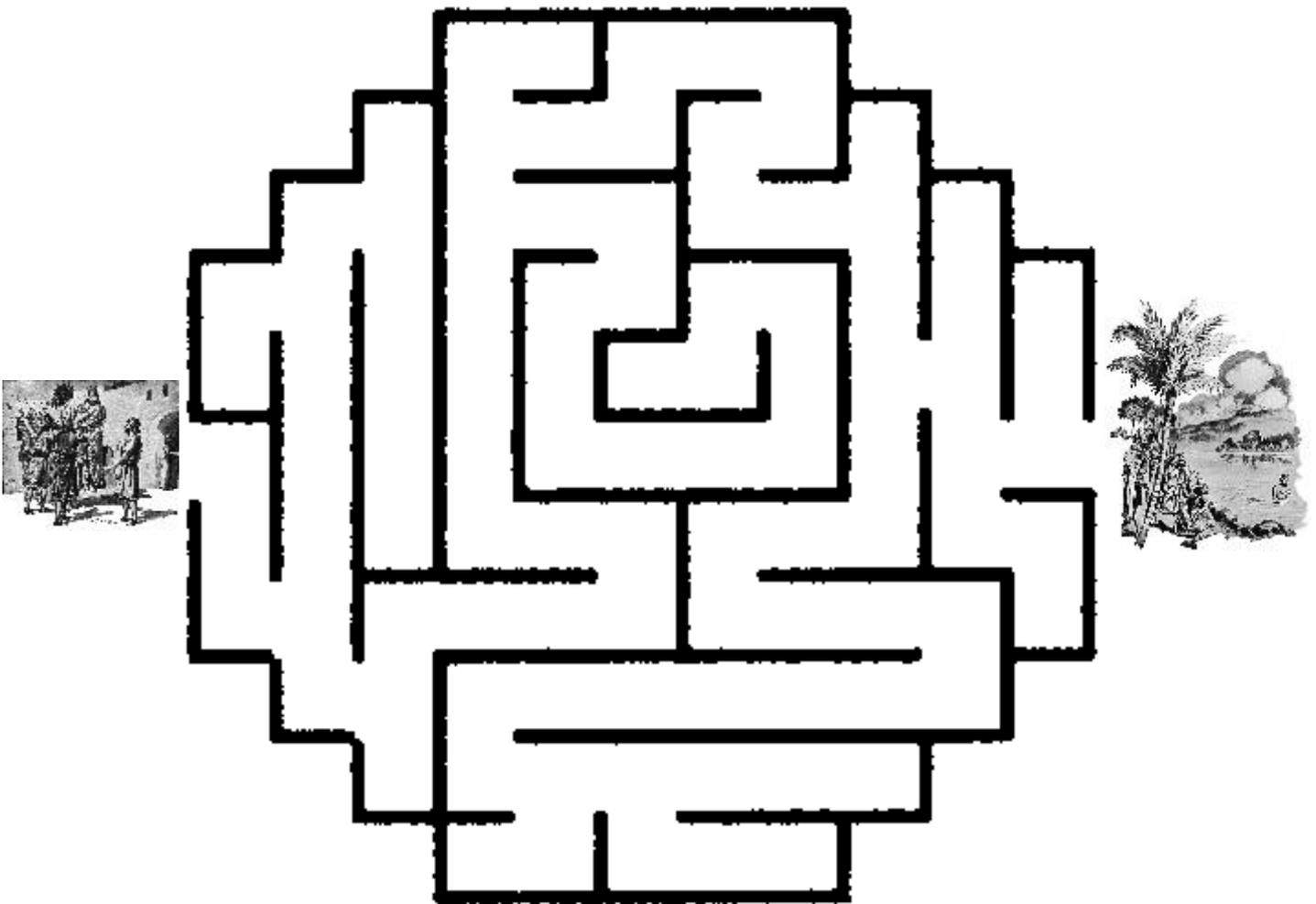
1 John 1:7 - The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Hymn

- TLH #297 v. 1

The Gospel shows the Father's grace,
Who sent His Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died
That man might thus be justified.

Activity Two - Help Naaman find his way back to Syria.



Prayer

Dear Jesus, sometimes we don't believe in Your Word like we should. Sometimes we are like Naaman who didn't know that the simplest thing to do was just trust in Your Word. Please give us a stronger faith. Help us always to follow You until we see You at last in heaven. Amen.