

August's B.i.G. Idea We believe that God wants us to help others.

August's Bible Verse

Children, you show love for others by truly helping them, and not merely by talking about it. 1 John 3:18, CEV

August's B.i.G. Theme We Can Help Others

Lesson 10 * Naaman and the Servant Girl

Today's Bible Story

2 Kings 5:1-14

Objectives

- Children will connect with the biblical story of the servant girl telling Naaman about the prophet Elisha.
- Children will discover that one way we can show love to others is by telling them about things that will help.

Naaman was a powerful Assyrian leader. In spite of his power and political influence, he had a flaw. Naaman had a skin disease, probably leprosy. In spite of having everything, he was tormented by the one thing that did not respect a person's position or wealth or power. It can also be so in modern life. People in positions of political power and influence are susceptible to the same diseases as the rest of us. The wealthy are susceptible to the same addictions, the same illnesses, the same relationship disasters as the poor. This serves as an important reminder that though human beings tend toward the egocentric, we are not the center of the universe. God is Creator, and we are a part of the creation. Things can and do sometimes go amiss.

Our story includes the story of a small girl who served Naaman's wife. Though she served the household as a slave girl, she had the courage to speak up about her faith and her knowledge of Elisha's power to heal. She showed compassion for Naaman's plight and offered information she thought might help. We teach young children about the wondrous works of God; let us also teach them to share their beliefs and talk freely about their faith. Elisha knew that Naaman was a proud man. Elisha wanted Naaman to understand that before God, all humanity was at the same level; he was not any more or any less important to God than any other person. Elisha gave specific direction to Naaman that would bring him relief. Naaman's response, however, is one of anger and resentment. He viewed Elisha's words as degrading and ineffective, and stalked away with "an attitude." Children can well identify with Naaman's attitude, since they are sometimes told to do things they do not want to do. When they do not understand the purpose of a command, they want to know, "Why do I have to do that?" This was Naaman's response as well. It was only through the wise counsel of well-chosen servants that he was led to comply with Elisha's commands. Then he found healing.

This entire story, with political leaders and God's own prophet, hinges on the voice of one small girl. A young child without any power of her own, a young servant girl spoke with courage and wisdom. She shared the truth of what she knew in her heart. As you prepare today's lesson, think about ways of helping the children find their voices. Help them to put their faith and belief into words. Perhaps theirs, too, will become voices of courage and truth in our world.



Activity	TimeSaver Ec	•••• oFriendly
Invite them in (15 minutes)		
Path to Healing	v	
Sevens	V	
Helping Ways	V	
Elisha Says / The B.I.G. Sound	V	
Into the Bible (30 minutes)		
Naaman Puppets	v	
Naaman Is Healed	v	
Bath Salts		v
At The Station	v	
Into Life (15 minutes)		
Helping-Hands Banner	V	
Health Kits		
Closing Worship	v	

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TimeSaver TimeSaver Activities that require little or no planning and only basic supplies.

EcoFriendly

 \bigcirc Activities that encourage responsible earth EcoFriendly stewardship by providing options to use recycled or repurposed materials.

DVD Summary: The Station

Liz wants to help a family who has been in an accident, but she can't donate blood because she's too young. She's frustrated about not being able to help, until she convinces JJ to donate in her place. Ana recalls a Bible story about Naaman, who was healed because a servant girl sent him to the prophet Elisha. Your students can understand that God is pleased when they show love to someone who needs help.



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The B.i.G. Idea We believe that God wants us to help others.

Choose one or more activities to introduce your children to the Bible story.

Path to Healing



Supplies: Leader-page 129, colored pencils

Prepare

- * Photocopy "Path to Healing" (Leader-page 129) for each child.
- **D0** ★ **Say:** Today we're going to learn a story about a man who needed healing. God used other people to help the man know how to be healed. Our Bible verse this month tells us about helping others.
 - * Give each child a copy of "Path to Healing" (Leader-page 129).
 - * Allow the children time to complete the puzzle.
 - \star Have the children read the verse aloud.
 - ★ Ask: Our story today is about a little girl who helped a man find out where he could be healed. Now that you know this verse, what would you do if you knew someone that needed help?

Live B.i.G. We should help other people who need us.

Sevens



Supplies: Leader-page 130, crayons

Prepare

- * Photocopy "Sevens" (Leader–page 130) for each student.
- **D0 ★** Give each child a copy of "Sevens" (Leader-page 130).
 - Say: Naaman went to see a prophet named Elisha, who would heal him. Elisha told Naaman to dip himself in the river seven times to be healed. Let's see if we can find which of these pictures has seven things in it. Circle the boxes that contain seven pictures. Put an "X" on the ones that do not.
 - \star Allow the children time to complete the puzzle.

Live B.i.G. Like Naaman, we can follow instructions.

Helping Ways



Supplies: Leader-page 131, crayons

Prepare

- ★ Photocopy "Helping Ways" (Leader—page 131) for each student.
- **D0** ★ Provide each child a copy of "Helping Ways" (Leader-page 131).
 - Say: The man in our story today needed help so he could feel better. The little girl told him the name of someone who could help him feel better. Look at the people in the puzzle. On one side, you see people who or things that need help. On the other side are people who can help. Match the helping person to the person who or thing that needs help.
 - \star Allow the children time to complete the puzzle.

Live B.i.G. We can help people find the assistance they need.

Elisha Says / The B.i.G. Sound

Supplies: DVD, DVD player, television

Prepare

- ★ Preview The B.I.G. Sound (DVD).
- **D0** ★ **Say:** God loves everyone, and we can be the hands of God's love by helping those who need it.
 - ★ Play The B.I.G. Sound (DVD).
 - * Say: Many people reached out to help Naaman be healed. Elisha was one of them. Naaman listened to Elisha. We will listen to see if we can be helpers.
 - \star Have the children spread out in an open area in the classroom or outside.
 - ★ Say: I will tell you many things to do. You must listen carefully and do only what Elisha tells you to do. Act out in motions the helping directions that Elisha gives.
 - ★ Give directions for the children to act out such as: Stand on one foot; Hop up and down; Touch the ground; Elisha says shake your neighbor's hand; Tiptoe in a circle; Elisha says carry something for your grandpa; and so forth.
 - \star The students are to only respond to what "Elisha says" by acting out the direction.
 - ★ Make a clear distinction between what Elisha says (some type of helping activity) and other directions (meaningless actions).

Live B.i.G. Prophets help us know how to be the hands of God.





The B.i.G. Idea We believe that God wants us to help others.

Choose one or more activities to immerse your children in the Bible story.

Naaman Puppets



Supplies: foam cups, craft sticks, construction paper, blue tissue paper, markers, glue, scissors

Prepare

- ★ Cut the construction paper into pieces that will fit inside the foam cups.
- **Do ★** Give each child a cup and one piece of the cut construction paper.
 - * Have each child use markers to draw a Naaman puppet on a sheet of construction paper.
 - ★ Have them cut Naaman out and glue onto a craft stick.
 - ★ Help the children cut a slit in the bottom of the cup. The puppet will be moved up and down through this hole.
 - ★ Have the children cut pieces of blue tissue paper and glue them to the outside of the cup to create the Jordan River.
 - ★ Insert Naaman, stick first, through the hole in the bottom of the cup.

Live B.i.G. We trust God to help us.

Naaman Is Healed



Supplies: Bibles, Leader–page 128, Naaman puppets made previously, simple costumes

Prepare

- ★ Photocopy "God Heals Naaman" (Leader—page 128) for each child.
- D0 ★ Say: Today's story is about a commander in the army who had a skin disease that made him suffer. A little girl who worked for his wife told him about Elisha and how Elisha healed people. Let's find out how this happened.
 - * Show the children how to find 2 Kings 5:1-14 in their Bibles.
 - ★ Have a skilled reader read the story from her or his Bible. As the child reads about Naaman washing himself in the river, have the children dip their puppet down into the "water" seven times.
 - * Pass out the story, "God Heals Naaman" (Leader-page 128).
 - ★ Choose children to play the parts of the Narrator, Naaman, the Little Girl, the Syrian King, the Israeli King, and Elisha. Divide the rest of the class into two groups—one to be Elisha's Servants, and the other to be



Naaman's Servants.

- ★ Allow them to choose a simple costume, or use a piece of cloth for a headdress.
- ★ Say: We will act out a short play to find out more about Naaman.
- * Allow the children a few minutes to read through the play (Leader-page 128).
- ★ Act out the play.

Live B.i.G. We can all help others in some way.

Bath Salts



Supplies: for each child: 1 cup Epsom salts, ½ cup sea salt or coarse salt, food coloring, ½ teaspoon glycerin, glass jar with metal lid or disposable 12-ounce container with lid; ceramic or metal mixing bowl; mixing spoon; blank gift tags or card stock; fine-tip markers; ribbon; scissors; optional: essential oil for fragrance such as vanilla, citrus, or peppermint

Prepare

- ★ Multiply the recipe for additional children.
- D0 ★ Say: Many people like to take a bath. It helps us stay clean. Naaman's bath in the Jordan River actually helped him to be healed. We will make some bath salts that will help make a soothing bath.
 - * Combine salts in bowl and mix well.
 - ★ Add a couple drops of food coloring and mix well.
 - ★ Add glycerin and two to three drops of essential oil and mix well.
 - ★ Have the children spoon salts into the jars and close them.
 - ★ Have the children make a gift tag with the scent (if you used one), suggesting using ¹/₃ to ¹/₂ cup in the bath.

Live B.i.G. God is always with us.

At The Station

Supplies: DVD, DVD player, television

Prepare

- * Preview The Station (DVD).
- **Do * Say:** Let's visit The Station and see what happens today.
 - ★ Play The Station (**DVD**).
 - Ask: Liz knew about a family who needed help, but she wasn't old enough. How did Ana react when Liz asked her to help? How did JJ react? What would you do if someone asked you to help? In our Bible story today, the young girl may not have seemed old enough to make a difference, but what she said helped Naaman be healed. Liz was too young to actually give blood herself, but her words encouraged JJ and Ana to help others.

Live B.i.G. We can ask others for help.





The B.i.G. Idea We believe that God wants us to help others.

Choose one or more activities to connect your children's lives to the Bible story.

Helping-Hands Banner



Supplies: long piece of banner paper, tempera paint, paper plates, paper towels, soap and water, markers, paint smocks, newspaper

Prepare

- ★ Write "Helping Hands Help Others" in large bold letters across the top of the banner.
- ★ Cover the banner work area with newspaper.
- ★ Pour several colors of tempera paint onto the paper plates, one color per plate.
- D0 ★ Say: The little girl in our story helped Naaman know where to go for healing. Elisha helped Naaman know what God wanted him to do. The servants helped Naaman calm down so he could follow the directions. Finally, Naaman helped himself when he was obedient to God's prophet. We can help others, too, no matter how big or how small we are. We will make a banner to let the church know how we can help.
 - ★ Have the children put on paint smocks.
 - * Have each child dip one hand in the tempera paint and firmly press his or her hand onto the banner.
 - ★ Say: Somewhere around your handprint, write or draw one way you help others.
 - \star Give the children time to write or draw ways they help others.
 - ★ Set the banner aside to dry.

Live B.i.G. We can help, no matter how big or how small we are.

Health Kits



Supplies: for each kit: one-gallon plastic zipper bag, hand towel, washcloth, large comb, metal nail file or fingernail clippers, bath-size bar of soap, adult-size toothbrush, six plastic adhesive bandages, one dollar to purchase toothpaste

Prepare

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 Check the UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief) website, http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/health-kit, to be sure you have up-to-date requirements for the health kits.

- ★ If you want the children to collect items for the kits, send a note home with instruction on what to bring a week or two ahead of time.
- D0 ★ Say: The following kit is used in places where people do not have ready access to many essential supplies for everyday life. Health kits provide basic necessities for people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes. When people gain the knowledge and materials to maintain personal hygiene, their overall health improves.
 - ★ Set up an assembly line of items for the kits and let the children follow the line, placing one of each item inside a one-gallon plastic zipper bag. Let the children fill the bags until the supplies are gone.

Live B.i.G. We can help others feel better by sharing our resources.

Closing Worship

Supplies: construction paper, crayons, colored pencils, markers, scissors, glue, small stickers

- **Do ★** Invite each child to choose one piece of construction paper.
 - Say: Today we learned about how many people helped Naaman find healing. One of them was a young girl. Several were servants who worked for Naaman. One was a prophet of God. Have you ever asked God to help you feel better? Have you ever asked God to help someone else feel better? On today's journal page, you might write a prayer to God asking for God's healing, or you may want to draw a picture of someone who needs God's healing. You may also write or draw about a time when you chose to help others.
 - ★ Provide the students with the supplies listed above and allow them to interpret today's lesson.
 - ★ Save the journal pages until the last day of this month when you will bind them together to take home. (Visitors may wish to take their pages home today.)

Live B.i.G. God is always with us.

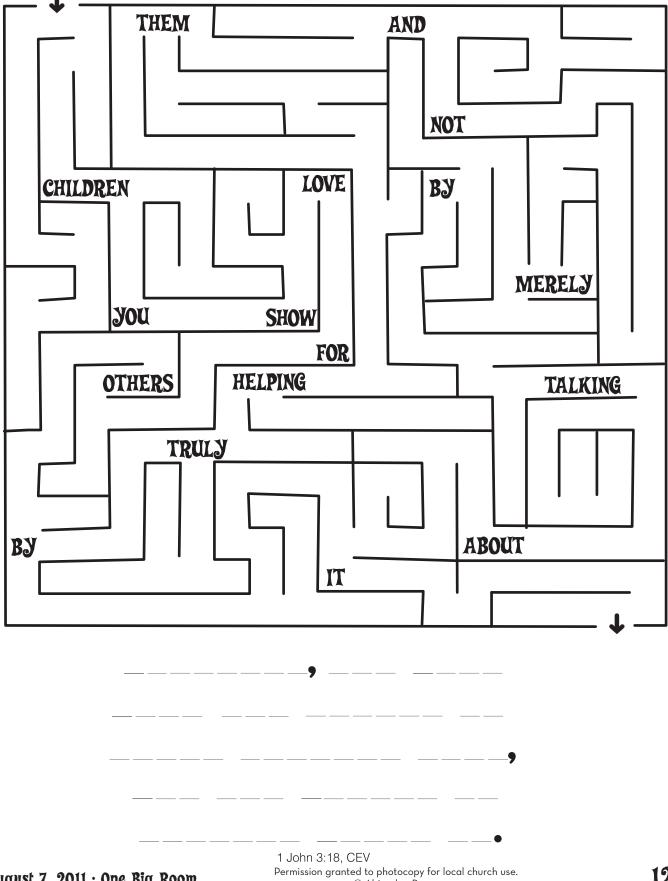


BACE	God Heals Naaman
Lesson 10	(Based on 2 Kings 5:1-14.)
	Narrator: Naaman was a commander in the army.
Naam	an: I am a brave soldier, but I am sad because I have a skin disease.
Narrator:	Naaman's army had captured a girl who had become a servant for Naaman's wife. One day the girl told Naaman's wife some interesting news.
Little Girl:	I used to live in Israel. I know of a prophet in Samaria who could heal. I wish my master would go and see this prophet Elisha. Elisha would heal his skin disease.
Narrator:	When the Syrian King heard that his commander Naaman could be healed, he commanded Naaman to go to Israel.
Syrian King:	Naaman, go to Israel and be healed there! Take this letter to the king.
) Narrator:	So Naaman went to Israel and took the letter to the King of Israel.
Israeli King:	(receiving letter) Oh, no! The Syrian King thinks I can heal this man!
Elisha:	(to Israeli King) Send the man to me; I will heal him.
Narrator:	So Naaman went to Elisha, but Elisha didn't even go out to see Naaman! He sent someone from his house outside to deliver a message to Naaman.
Elisha's Servants:	Elisha says that you should go and wash yourself in the Jordan River seven times. Then your skin will be healed.
Naaman:	Why didn't he come out and talk to me? I thought he would stand there and pray to the Lord his God. I thought he would wave his hand over my skin and heal me. I could have washed in a river back home; why did I need to come all this way to be told to take a bath?
Naaman's Servants:	What if the prophet Elisha had told you to do some great thing? Wouldn't you have done it? But he only said, "Wash yourself. Then you will be pure and clean." You should be even more willing to do that!
Narrator:	Naaman decided to go to the river. As soon as Naaman dipped in the river seven times, he was healed of his skin disease!
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Path to Healing

Trace Naaman's path and write the words you come to in the blanks below. Then you will discover the secret to his healing.



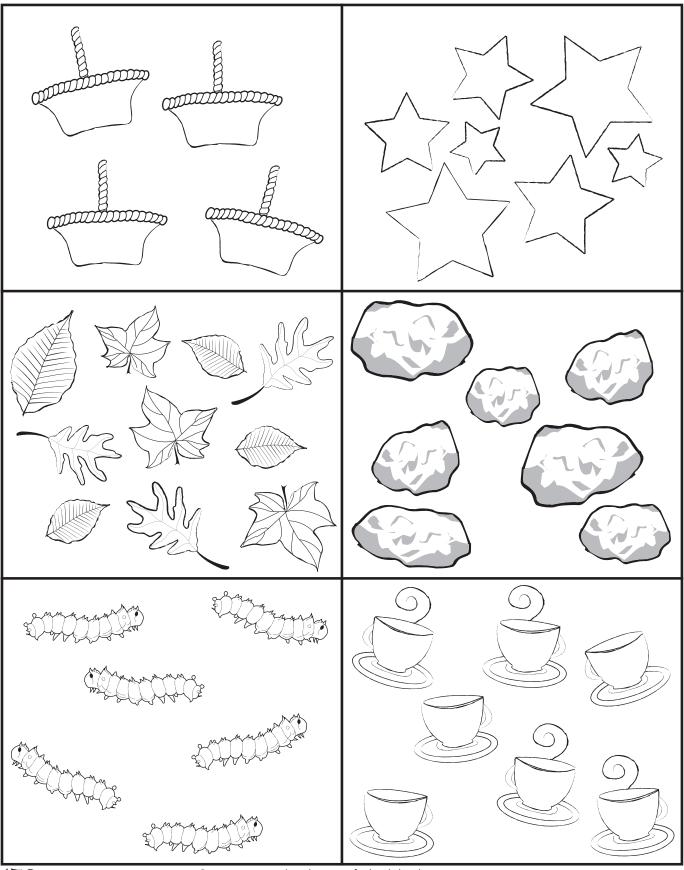
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Sevens

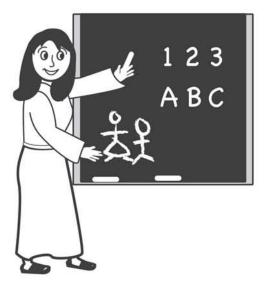
Circle the items that are in groups of seven. Put an "X" on the groups of items that have fewer or more than seven.





Helping Ways

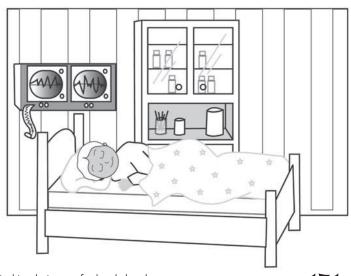
Draw a line between the need and the helper.













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