



To the Unnamed Girl

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Focus The story of Naaman's healing represents how believers are to serve others and expect nothing in return. It is not our job to make others pay for their debts. Believers are to bring people into God's great love and grace, inviting them to experience God's peace.

Fun If you could have a two-minute face-to-face encounter with anyone, who would it be, and what would you talk about?

Review Key Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1–22

1. Elisha the Prophet

Elisha is confident in God. Elisha told the King of Israel to send Naaman to his house because he knew what God would do. Elisha didn't come out to greet Naaman because he wanted to communicate that none of the items he brought, or his entourage, would have any impact on whether or not he would be healed. God is not a respecter of people. Elisha saw Naaman through spiritual eyes as a broken and hurting man who needed God's salvation.

2. Gehazi

Gehazi was a hypocrite and a liar who went back to Naaman to ask for his money. Gehazi takes the money and returns only to find out that Elisha knows what he did, and Elisha puts leprosy on him. Gehazi brought a curse upon himself when he decided that Naaman should have purchased his healing and paid for his forgiveness. Gehazi is also like the older brother of the prodigal son. He does not celebrate the salvation of his brother, but instead he demands that he pay for it.

3. Naaman

Naaman came believing that he could buy his healing and salvation. Elisha knew Naaman was appealing to the higher powers of the world and not to God. Elisha points Naaman to authenticity so Naaman would see himself the way God sees him. Naaman struggled to accept the call that Elisha offered to him to go and dip into the Jordan seven times, and pride almost stole his healing. Naaman decides to humble himself and he is healed. Not only is Naaman healed, but now he will only serve and worship the one true God.

4. The Unnamed Girl

The servant girl is hardly mentioned in the passage of Scripture. We know that she was captured and taken as a prisoner of war. We don't know the name of the young girl who told Naaman's wife to go and see the prophet, but she is faithful to follow God and to love others. She even wants to help the man who holds her in captivity. The unnamed girl is committed to doing the small things right because God's greatness always works best through our smallness.

Group Dynamics Idea Each member of your group is precious in God's sight and has unique gifts and talents that you, as their leader, can identify and help them develop. The more you get to know each person in your group, the more you will begin to identify and specifically speak into their gifts.

Discuss

1. Elisha knew God's character and wasn't affected by Naaman's wealth or status. How does knowing God affect our perspective of other people?
2. At first, Naaman resisted the way Elisha said he would be healed. How do you think we miss out on the blessings of God because our expectations are different?
3. Naaman had to humble himself to be healed. How might pride keep us from experiencing a breakthrough from God?
4. What can we learn from the unnamed girl about serving faithfully in difficult circumstances? Have you ever been in a situation you didn't like but felt like God wanted you to remain faithful?

5. The unnamed servant girl demonstrates that God works through the small things. How has God worked through the small things in *your* life?
6. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you through this message? Are there areas of your life that need adjustment, so they reflect God on earth? Are you treating others in a way that reflects Christ and the Church? Are you living in a way that shows the world God's grace, in the same way Elisha and the unnamed girl did? If not, what are some steps you can take to change?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Elisha stands for seeing others the way God sees them.
- Gehazi stands for pride and hypocrisy.
- Naaman stands for the sinner saved by grace.
- The unnamed girl stands for our call to love others.

Prayer Heavenly Father, help us to cultivate a heart attitude of humility. Help us to be like the unnamed girl who loved others in the face of adversity and ridicule. Thank You for all that You have done in our lives. Change us to be more like You and to have a heart of humility and love for others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip What were you most excited about when you first decided to lead a small group? Write down your answer. As you consider your experience leading a group over the past few months, do you feel that you were successful in meeting your goal or expectations? If not, then write down one or two ideas that will help you to reach your goal for the remainder of the semester. Be encouraged! You are making a difference!