

2 Kings 5:1 - 27

Truth and the abuse of power



Think about and discuss one or two questions from each section.

The text – 2 Kings 5:1-27

1. Read 2 Kings 5:1-27. There are many stories like this one in the Bible. In this story God changes things in unlikely ways – the weak become strong and the strong become weak. Retell this story to one another focusing on the most important things that happen. What is wonderful about the events that are recounted here?
2. At the heart of the story is the conversion of Naaman. Read again 2 Kings 5:15. How do Naaman's words in 5:17-18 confirm the reality of his conversion?
3. At the beginning of this story, Naaman the Syrian commander has leprosy. At the end of the story, Gehazi the Israelite servant has leprosy. There has been a great reversal! What does this teach us about God?

The Scriptures – 2 Kings 5:1-27 as a portion of the Scriptures

4. In 2 Kings 5:17 Naaman asks to take as much dirt as two mules can carry back to Aram. Why is this? In answering this question, look at the words of Exodus 20:24.
5. Read Luke 4:24-30. This is the only passage in NT Scripture in which Elisha is named. What is the main point that Jesus is making as he teaches in this passage?
6. There are many instances in the Bible when the God of Israel graciously reaches out to people from other nations. Read and discuss another such account in the life of Jesus in Matthew 15:21-28.

Our lives – walking the way of Jesus in response to 2 Kings 5:1-27 as a portion of the Scriptures

7. What have you learnt about God in this passage from 2 Kings?
8. In what ways does Elisha's life look forward to Jesus' life? What similarities have you noticed?
9. How can we pray for you as you seek to be a disciple of Jesus in response to the Scriptures?