

# A compassionate servant

**Bible verses:**

2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman is healed

**Aim:**

To discover how a little girl helped God bring healing, and to be curious about how we can talk about God

**Today's fruit:**

Love and kindness



In this session we'll discover the story of an amazing little girl who placed her trust in God and showed love and kindness to her master.

Naaman was a very important man, serving the King of Aram. Despite all his wealth and power, Naaman was not happy as he struggled with a severe skin disease. But one little girl changed his life! God used her to change a life, and he can use us in exactly the same way.

Kindness is demonstrated by Namaan's servant girl when she told him what God could do.

**Each child will need:**

- Memory verse wristband
- *Share it* handout – two designs
- *Explore It ideas* handout

**You will need:**

- A copy of the alphabet (optional) – see Start It
- Memory verse poster
- Fruit of the Spirit posters: *Love* and *Kindness* – download from **Salvationist**
- Flip chart and pens (optional)



## Start it

**Say:**

We are going to start our session today with a memory game to get our brains working. Many

of you will have played the game *I went to the shop, and I bought ...* where you remember the list and then add an item. We are going to play a different version of this game. Our sessions this month are all about amazing children in the Bible who went on mini adventures that form part of God's big story.

Ask the children to sit in a circle and to start with the line 'I went on an adventure, and I saw ...' To make the game more challenging, each item needs to start with the next letter of the alphabet. You may want to display a copy of the alphabet for children who need a memory aid.

### Example:

- 'I went on an adventure, and I saw an aeroplane.'
- 'I went on an adventure, and I saw an aeroplane and a bunch of bananas.'
- 'I went on an adventure, and I saw an aeroplane, a bunch of bananas and a catapult.'

### Say:

Now that we've got your brains working, we are going to look at our memory verse for this month. In every story we will explore this month, there is an amazing child who put their trust in God. Our memory verse reminds us that we need to do the same.

Give each member of the group a memory verse wristband and share the verse together.

## Memory verse

**'Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.'**

(Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV)

### Say:

Over the next month, you will get lots of opportunities to learn this verse, and by Session Five you will know it off by heart.

If possible, display the memory verse in the room where you meet so you can come back to it each session.



## Sing it

### Say:

Today's song will help you to remember our memory verse and, more importantly, will help you to place your trust in God.



## Song

'Proverbs 3:5-6' (Trust in the Lord) by The Rizers (3:25)



## Share it

### Say:

Today we will discover an amazing story of healing found in the book of 2 Kings in the Old Testament.

## Video

*Naaman is Healed (Stories of the Bible)* by Saddleback Kids (3:26)

### Ask:

What fascinating characters are in this story?

### Say:

There are lots of amazing characters in this story, but our sessions this month are all about children. We're going to focus on the young girl who worked as a servant in Naaman's house.

### Read:

**'Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man to his master. He had much honour because the Lord had used him to give victory to Aram. He was a mighty and brave man. But he had a harmful skin disease.'**

**'The Arameans had gone out to steal from the Israelites. And they had taken a little girl as a captive from Israel. This little girl served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "I wish that my master would meet the prophet who lives in Samaria. He would heal Naaman of his disease."'**

(2 Kings 5:1-3 ICB)

### Ask:

- Why was the little girl living in Naaman's house?
- Why was it brave for the little girl to go and speak to Naaman's wife about the prophet?

### Say:

The little girl had been taken away from her home and forced to serve Naaman's wife in a place that she did not know. It would have been understandable if she had kept the information about the prophet to herself. Why should she help the person who had taken her captive? The little girl didn't think that way. She loved God and wanted her master Naaman to know God as well.

Display the *Love* and *Kindness* fruit of the Spirit posters.

**Ask:**

In what way did the little girl show love and kindness to her master Naaman?

**Read:**

**‘Naaman went to the king. He told him what the girl from Israel had said. The king of Aram said, “Go now. And I will send a letter to the king of Israel.” So Naaman left and took about 375 kilograms of silver. He also took about 75 kilograms of gold and ten changes of clothes with him. He brought the letter to the king of Israel. It read, “I am sending my servant Naaman to you. I’m sending him so you can heal him of his skin disease.”**

**‘The king of Israel read the letter. Then he tore his clothes to show how upset he was. He said, “I’m not God! I can’t kill and make alive again! Why does this man send someone with a harmful skin disease for me to heal? You can see that the king of Aram is trying to start trouble with me!”’**

(2 Kings 5:4-7 *ICB*)

**Ask:**

- Why was it surprising that a great leader like Naaman listened to the advice of a little girl?
- What did Naaman take with him when he went to see the king of Israel? Why do you think he took so much silver and gold?

**Say:**

If you added up all the money a person earned in a year and then multiplied it by 600, then that would be around the amount that Naaman took with him to pay for a chance to meet the prophet Elisha! Naaman was used to getting what he wanted and was willing to pay whatever it took if it meant he would be cured. He was confident that if he took lots of money, then that would help him to jump the queue to see Elisha. The King of Israel was not so confident about Naaman’s healing.

**Ask:**

- How did the King of Israel react to King Aram’s letter?
- Why do you think he was so upset?

**Read:**

**‘Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes. So he sent a message to the king. It said, “Why have you become so upset that you tore your clothes? Let Naaman come to me. Then he will know there is a prophet in Israel!” So Naaman went with his horses and chariots to Elisha’s house. And he stood outside the door.**

**‘Elisha sent a messenger to Naaman. The messenger said, “Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then your skin will be healed, and you will be clean.”**

**‘Naaman became angry and left. He said, “I thought Elisha would surely come out and stand before me. I thought he would call on the name of the Lord his God. I thought he**

would wave his hand over the place and heal the disease! Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, are better than all the waters of Israel! Why can't I wash in them and become clean?" So Naaman went away very angry.'

(2 Kings 5:8-12 *ICB*)

**Ask:**

- Why do you think Naaman had a temper tantrum?
- What was he expecting Elisha to do?

**Read:**

'But Naaman's servants came near and talked to him. They said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? Doesn't it make more sense just to do what Elisha told you to do? After all, he only said, 'Wash, and you will be clean.'" So Naaman went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times. He did just as Elisha had said. Then Naaman's skin became new again. It was like the skin of a little boy. And Naaman was clean!'

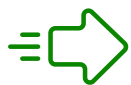
(2 Kings 5:13-14 *ICB*)

**Ask:**

- How do you think Naaman felt when he came out of the water and discovered he was healed?
- Do you think it helped him to believe in God? Why?

**Say:**

Naaman was finally healed of his skin disease. One brave little girl put her trust in God and spoke out. God can do amazing things – and with his help, so can we!



## Action it

**Say:**

One way that we can share the love of God with others is by talking about our faith and what we believe God can do. This is exactly what the little girl did, and it led to the healing of her master.

**Ask:**

- Is there anyone you know who always shares stories about their relationship with God? Who are they, and what kinds of stories do they tell?
- Have you ever heard of people 'giving their testimony'? What do you think it means?

**Say:**

Explain to the children that they are going to think of ways that we can tell others about God.

Give each child a *Share It* handout. Discuss with the children all the different things they could share about what it means to be a Christian and to love God. You could list these on a flip chart. Ask the children to choose three and either draw or write about them in the speech bubbles on their handout.

If you have time, the children could sit in a circle and practise sharing their faith using an idea from one of their speech bubbles. Encourage the children to take the sheet home and use it to tell a friend about God.

## Pray it

### **Say:**

The little girl showed love and kindness. When God's Holy Spirit is helping us, we can show love and kindness to others.

### **Ask:**

- In what situations could you show a little more love and kindness?
- Are there any people you can think of who need to feel the love and kindness of God through your actions? What could you do to show them how much they are loved by God?

### **Say:**

For our Pray It section today, we are going to share a song that reminds us of the love and kindness God has shown to us, and how we can share it with others.

## **Song**

**'Give a Little Kindness'** by ChattHillsKids (3:14)

Pray on behalf of the group to bring the session to a close.

## Explore it

Remember to send home the *Explore It ideas* for children and families.



*Explore It* is produced by the Children and Youth Department in collaboration with Kay Moorby (soulwithaview)

# A compassionate servant

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.



**Bible verses:**  
2 Kings 5:1-14



**Aim:**  
To discover how a little girl helped God bring healing, and to be curious about how we can talk about God



**Today's fruit:**  
Love and kindness



## Pray

Think of seven people that you would like to pray for regularly. Every time you have a wash, shower or bath this week, remember the seven people and pray for them.



## Memorise

Challenge someone at home to learn this month's memory verse with you. Make a poster to stick up at home and keep checking in with each other to see if you can remember the verse.



## Song for the week

'Proverbs 3:5-6' (Trust in the Lord) by The Rizers (3:25)



## Memory verse

**'Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own  
understanding;  
in all your ways submit to him,  
and he will make your paths straight.'**

(Psalm 3:5-6 NIV)

