

GOT TROUBLE?

What To Do When You Don't Know What To Do

IT'S NOT THAT COMPLICATED

2 Kings 5:1-19 Jeff Schreve

But his servants caught up with him and said, "Father, if the prophet had asked you to do something hard and heroic, wouldn't you have done it? So why not this simple 'wash and be clean'?"

2 Kings 5:13 The Message

Could it be that the answer to your BIG trouble is more simple than you think?

1. We all have trouble in life.

Now Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man with his master, and highly respected, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man was also a valiant warrior, but he was a leper. 2 Kings 5:1

A. Amid all the good, there is always some bad.

B. Amid all the bad, there is a God who can work miracles.

Now the Arameans had gone out in bands, and had taken captive a little girl from the land of Israel; and she waited on Naaman's wife. *I wish that my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! Then he would cure him of his leprosy. 2 Kings 5:2-3*

2. We all want our trouble to go away.

And Naaman went in and told his master, saying, "Thus and thus spoke the girl who is from the land of Israel."

Then the king of Aram said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." And he departed ... 2 Kings 5:4-5a

A. We will go to great lengths.

B. We will spend lots of money.

... and took with him ten talents of silver and six thousand shekels of gold and ten changes of clothes. 2 Kings 5:5b

C. We will do difficult things.

3. We all have to come to grips with God's simple answer.

2 Kings 5

- 6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, "And now as this letter comes to you, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may cure him of his leprosy."
- 7 And it came about when the king of Israel read the letter, that he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man is sending *word* to me to cure a man of his leprosy? But consider now, and see how he is seeking a quarrel against me."
- 8 And it happened when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, that he sent *word* to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Now let him come to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel."
- 9 *So Naaman came with his horses and his chariots, and stood at the doorway of the house of Elisha.*
- 10 *And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you and you shall be clean."*

A. We must jettison our pride.

But Naaman was furious and went away and said, "Behold, I thought, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper.' 2 Kings 5:11

B. We must lean not on our own understanding.

"Are not Abanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. 2 Kings 5:12

C. We must obey the clear and simple word from God.

Then his servants came near and spoke to him and said, "My father, had the prophet told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" 2 Kings 5:13

So he went down and dipped *himself* seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. 2 Kings 5:14

Today, will you humble yourself and simply obey Him?