



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. 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

Three B.i.G. (Believe in God) Truths

- ★ God is a great big God.
- ★ God loves us with a great big love.
- ★ We are part of God's great big world.

Objectives

- ★ Children will hear the Bible story about a servant girl who told 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 them.

Naaman suffered from leprosy. Leprosy causes painful and disfiguring skin sores. Left untreated, leprosy can cause permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs, and eyes. Naaman's leprosy, though, had not hampered his abilities as an excellent leader and respected commander of a Syrian army.

During one of his campaigns, Naaman's army had captured a young Hebrew girl, who had been given to Naaman's wife as a servant. Although this girl had been taken from her family to become a slave among strangers, she remembered what she had learned among the Hebrews about God's faithfulness. She cared about her captors, and when she learned about Naaman's disease, she remembered the miracles the Hebrew prophet Elisha had done in the Lord's name. "Oh, if only Naaman could meet Elisha!" the young girl said. "I know the prophet could cure his leprosy!"

When Naaman heard about Elisha, he asked for permission to go to Israel to get help. Permission was granted, and Naaman prepared for the trip.

When Naaman arrived in Israel, he was directed to the home of Elisha. What a surprise that Elisha did not come out to meet Naaman but simply sent a message instructing Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan River. Naaman was offended by the thought of washing in those dirty foreign waters. But Naaman's servants' words reveal something of Naaman's character that the Hebrew servant girl must have seen also. His servants cared about Naaman and felt comfortable speaking out to him. "If he had told you to do something difficult, wouldn't you have done it? Why wouldn't you do something so easy?" they said to Naaman.

So Naaman washed seven times in the Jordan River and was healed. As a result, Naaman believed in God and thanked Elisha for his kind help.

We praise children for their accomplishments—scoring a soccer goal, painting a pretty picture, riding a two-wheel bike, making good grades. Let's also praise them for helping one another—for allowing someone else to go first in line, for serving someone else a snack, for volunteering to help clean up the classroom, for serving as problem solvers when difficulties arise. Praise their simple actions of kindness and their wise suggestions. Assure the children that they are respected and truly helpful!

Invite them in . . . (15 minutes)

Welcome!	✓
Helping Hands	✓
Praise Time	✓
Seven Activities	
Backyard Time	✓

. . . Into the Bible (30 minutes)

Transition Time	✓
Hear the Bible Story	✓
Namaan's Maze	✓
Seven Times!	

. . . Into Life (15 minutes)

How Can You Help?
Get-Well Cards
Closing Worship



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



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

DVD Summary: Backyard Time

Mr. Z wants to donate his money to a homeless shelter, but he cannot get his piggy bank open. He rushes around looking for a hammer, while Ms. Lucy and Bongo try to tell him to just use his key. Mr. Z throws his piggy bank into the air, hoping that it will break when it falls to the ground. When Ms. Lucy catches the piggy bank, Mr. Z finally pays attention to Bongo and Ms. Lucy and uses a key to open his piggy bank. When Mr. Z says the Bible verse, he remembers the Bible story about Naaman, who would not listen to a simple solution to his problem.



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.

Welcome!

Supplies: Stickers, Attendance Chart, Leader—inside front cover, DVD, DVD player, television

- Do** ★ Welcome the children as they arrive. Give each child a servant girl **Sticker** to place on the **Attendance Chart**.
- ★ **Say:** Our Bible story today is about a man named Naaman and a young servant girl who cared about Naaman and helped him.
 - ★ **Say:** We have a new Bible verse today. It says: “*Children, you show love for others by truly helping them*” (1 John 3:18, CEV). Today we will find out how the young girl helped Naaman.
 - ★ Teach the children how to sign the Bible verse (**DVD; Leader—inside front cover**).

Live B.i.G. God can use children to help others with their good suggestions.

Helping Hands

Supplies: Stickers, construction paper, crayons and markers

- Do** ★ Help each child trace his or her hands on a piece of construction paper.
- ★ Let the children decorate their hand prints with crayons or markers.
 - ★ Give each child the “I Am a Helper” **Sticker** to add to their hand drawings.
 - ★ **Say:** When we do something to help someone else, we sometimes say that we have helping hands. In our Bible story today we will hear about a young girl who did something to help a man named Naaman.
 - ★ **Say:** Let’s name some things we can do to help others and be good helping hands. We can name ways that we can actually use our hands to help someone, or we can name other ways to be helping hands.
 - ★ Write the children’s answers on their traced hands.

Live B.i.G. We can use our hands to help in many different ways.

Invite them in . . .

Praise Time

Supplies: DVD, Leader—page 6, DVD player, television

- Do** ★ **Say:** Our Praise Time song is called “I’ve Got Helping Hands.”
- ★ **Say:** Let’s remember the ways we can help others with our helping hands (“*Helping Hands*,” page 100).
 - ★ **Say:** Let’s use our hands to clap as we sing.
 - ★ Play “I’ve Got Helping Hands” (DVD). Encourage the children to clap their hands.

Live B.i.G. We can use our helping hands to share God’s love.

Seven Activities

Supplies: Leader—page 107; seven stickers for each child (such as circle stickers or star stickers) or seven squares of tissue paper and gluesticks; crayons or markers

Prepare

- ★ Photocopy “Seven” (Leader—page 107) for each child.
- ★ Provide seven stickers for each child or cut seven small squares of tissue paper for each child.

- Do** ★ Have the children count with you from one to seven.
- ★ Give each child a number 7 (Leader—page 107).
 - ★ **Say:** Our Bible story is about a man named Naaman and a servant girl who helped him. The number 7 will be an important part of the story. Let’s decorate the 7 with crayons or markers.
 - ★ Have the children add seven stickers or glue on seven pieces of tissue paper to the number seven as they decorate.
 - ★ Have the children do various movement activities such as jump up and down seven times, turn around seven times, touch their toes seven times, and so on.

Live B.i.G. Elisha helped Naaman by telling him to wash in the river seven times. God wants us to help others.

Backyard Time

Supplies: DVD, DVD player, television

- Do** ★ **Say:** I heard that Mr. Z has a problem and needs some help from Ms. Lucy and Bongo. Let’s find out what is happening in the backyard.
- ★ Watch Backyard Time (DVD).
 - ★ **Ask:** Why did Mr. Z need help? How did Bongo and Ms. Lucy help him? How did Mr. Z feel when he was finally able to open his piggy bank?
 - ★ **Say:** In our Bible story, a man named Elisha told Naaman what to do to get well, but Naaman did not listen. Finally, Naaman listened to Elisha. I wonder what happened then. I wonder if Naaman felt like Mr. Z did today?

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

Transition Time

- Do**
- ★ Have the children stand in a circle.
 - ★ **Say:** Let's sing a happy song and clap our hands.
 - ★ Teach the song "Oh, You Show Love for Others" to the tune of "The More We Get Together."
 - ★ Have the children clap their hands as they sing.

Oh, You Show Love for Others

Oh, you show love for others,
for others, for others.

Oh, you show love for others
by truly helping them.

By helping, by helping,
by helping, by helping.

Oh, you show love for others
by truly helping them.

- ★ Sing the song again and have the children stomp their feet.
- ★ Have the children sit down to hear the Bible story.

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

Hear the Bible Story

Supplies: Bible, Leader—page 106

- Do**
- ★ Open your Bible to 2 Kings 5.
 - ★ **Say:** Today's Bible story is found in the Book of Second Kings. Show the children the story in the Bible.
 - ★ **Say:** Before I tell the story, we need to warm up our faces a little. Show me a sad face; a happy face; a mad face; an excited face. Good job! We will need all of these feelings for our Bible story today.
 - ★ Tell the story "Naaman and the Servant Girl" (**Leader—page 106**). Encourage the children to participate by making the appropriate facial expressions as you go.
 - ★ **Ask:** How did the young girl help Naaman? (*She told Naaman's wife about Elisha.*)

Live B.i.G. One way we can help others is by telling them about things that will help.

Naaman's Maze

Supplies: Leader—page 139, crayons

Prepare

- ★ Photocopy “Naaman’s Maze” (**Leader—page 139**) for each child.

Do

- ★ Give each child “Naaman’s Maze” (**Leader—page 139**).
- ★ Point to Naaman at the beginning of the maze.
- ★ **Say:** Our Bible story is about a man named Naaman who had a bad skin disease. His wife’s servant girl told her that the prophet Elisha could help Naaman. Naaman went to find Elisha. Trace the path from Naaman to Elisha.
- ★ Have the child use a crayon to trace the path from Naaman to Elisha.
- ★ **Say:** Elisha sent Naaman a message. He told Naaman to wash in the water of the Jordan River seven times.
- ★ Have the child use a crayon to trace the path from Elisha to the river.
- ★ **Say:** When Naaman finished washing, his skin disease was gone. He was healed.
- ★ Have the child use a crayon to trace the path from the river to Naaman at the end of the maze.

Live B.i.G. The servant girl showed love by telling Naaman’s wife about how Elisha could help Naaman. We can tell others about things that will help.

Seven Times!

Supplies: plastic bowl or tub of water, towels

Prepare

- ★ Partially fill a plastic bowl or tub with water.

Do

- ★ Place the bowl or tub of water on one end of the room.
- ★ Have the children line up on the opposite side of the room from the water.
- ★ **Say:** Naaman wanted to be healed of his skin disease. The prophet Elisha told him to wash in the Jordan seven times and he would be well.
- ★ Instruct the first person in line to hop to the water bowl and dip his or her hand in the water seven times.
- ★ Have all the children count to seven as the child dips his or her hand in the water.
- ★ Then have the child hop back to the line.
- ★ Play the game until all the children have had a chance to play.

Live B.i.G. Elisha helped Naaman be well. God wants us to help others.



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

How Can You Help?

Supplies: Leader—page 140, scissors

Prepare

- ★ Photocopy and cut apart the “How Can You Help?” cards (**Leader—page 140**). You will need one card for each child.

- Do**
- ★ Have the children sit in a circle. Give each child a card.
 - ★ Chant the following poem as the children pass the cards around the circle:

Naaman's servant girl was a helper,
and I'm a helper too.
She told Naaman's wife about Elisha.
There's lots that I can do.

- ★ On the word *do* everyone stops passing the cards.
- ★ Select one child. Have the child look at the picture on his or her card.
- ★ **Ask:** What is happening in the picture? What are some ways you could help with the problem shown on the card?
- ★ Repeat the activity until every child has been selected to talk about a card.

Live B.i.G. We can be God's helpers.

Get-Well Cards

Supplies: Kids' Book, Stickers, markers or crayons

Prepare

- ★ Punch out a heart card (**Kids' Book**) for each child.
- ★ Make arrangements with your pastor about who will receive the cards.

- Do**
- ★ Give each child a heart card (**Kids' Book**) and a bandage **Sticker**.
 - ★ Have the child attach the **Sticker** to the front of the heart.
 - ★ Have the children decorate inside the cards with crayons or markers.
 - ★ **Say:** One way we can show love and help others is by sending get-well cards to help the person feel better.
 - ★ Tell the children about who will receive the get-well cards.

Live B.i.G. God wants us to help others.

Closing Worship

Supplies: Stickers, Kids' Book, Leader—page 106

Prepare

- ★ Detach a storybook (**Kids' Book**) for each child (instructions, page 144).
- ★ Photocopy "Naaman and the Servant Girl" (**Leader—page 106**) for each child.

- Do**
- ★ **Say:** In our Bible story today many people helped Naaman become well.
 - ★ **Ask:** How did the young servant girl help? (*She told Naaman's wife about Elisha.*) How did Naaman's king help? (*He wrote a letter to the king of Israel.*) How did Elisha help? (*Elisha told Naaman to wash in the river seven times.*) And then Naaman's servants helped. What did they tell Naaman he should do? (*go ahead and wash in the river*)
 - ★ **Say:** All of these people showed love to Naaman by telling him about something that helped him. One way we can show love to others is by telling them about things that will help them.
 - ★ Put a "God Wants Us to Help Others" worship badge (**Stickers**) on each child.
 - ★ **Pray:** Dear God, show us ways to help others. Thank you for all the people who help us. In Jesus' name. Amen.
 - ★ Give each child a storybook (**Kids' Book**) and a copy of "Naaman and the Servant Girl" (**Leader—page 106**) to take home.

Live B.i.G. We show love when we help others.

Naaman and the Servant Girl

Once there was an army commander named Naaman, who was very famous. *(Let's look proud and important.)*

But Naaman had a terrible skin disease called leprosy. Having leprosy made Naaman sad. *(Let's all look sad.)*

There was a young girl in Naaman's house who worked for his family. She had an idea. The young girl told Naaman's wife, "I know someone who can make Naaman well!"

Telling Naaman's wife about someone who could help him made the young girl happy. *(Let's all look happy.)*

Naaman's wife rushed to tell Naaman the news. When he heard the news, he was excited! *(Let's all look excited.)*

Immediately Naaman told his king what the young girl had said. "Go ahead," said the king. "I will give you a letter asking for the king of Israel to help you."

So Naaman went to the king of Israel. He gave the king the letter asking for help. But the king could not help him. The king was sad. *(Let's all look sad.)*

When Elisha heard about the letter, he told the King of Israel to send Naaman to him. So Naaman left the king and went to Elisha's house.

When Naaman got near, Elisha sent a servant out to meet him. "Stop!" said the servant. "Here is the message from Elisha," the servant said. "He wants you to go and wash in the Jordan River. Wash seven times and your skin will be healed."

"What! Why would Elisha not simply touch me and make me well?" said Naaman. "Why do I have to go and wash in the dirty Jordan River when I have much better rivers at home?"

Naaman was mad! *(Let's all look mad.)*

But Naaman's servants said to him, "This is a very easy thing to do! What if Elisha had wanted you to do something much harder? You should try what he has told you to do!"

So Naaman went to the river and began to wash himself. He washed once, twice, three times, four times. Nothing happened. Then he washed five and six times. Still nothing. Finally he washed the seventh time. And when he came out of the water, his disease was gone!

Naaman was happy! *(Let's all look happy.)*

Naaman went to Elisha's house and thanked him. Because of Elisha's help, and because of the young girl's help, Naaman was well.

based on 2 Kings 5:1-14

