



Hearts for
JESUS



Chapel Talk: Sharing the Love of Jesus "Naaman and the Slave Girl"

Text: II Kings 5:1-15a

Prop: Bottle of Medicine

Show a bottle of medicine.

Ask: "What is this? How does it work?" *Accept answers.* Medicine is a wonderful gift from God. If you are sick, you can take it and get better. What if you know of a medicine that could cure someone of a terrible sickness? Would you keep it a secret or tell others so they could be healed?

In our Bible reading, Naaman, a commander in the king's army had leprosy, a horrible skin disease. His servant girl knew how her master could be healed. The girl was captured during a battle. She was taken from her parents who worshiped the true God. The girl did not forget what she had learned from her parents about God. She urged her master go to see the prophet in Samaria named Elisha. The master saw the girl's faith. He believed that the prophet could heal him. He went to Israel to the king and then to Elisha.

Elisha wanted Naaman to know that it was God who can cleanse and make whole. He directed Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan River. At first, Naaman refused to enter the river and bathe. Then the other servants

encouraged him to trust the prophet's words. Naaman obeyed and was healed. He trusted in the true God who had made him well. He said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel."

Even though Naaman was not from Israel, He trusted God and became part of God's people. Through our baptism, we also have become part of God's people, members of His family. God desires that all people come to faith. He wants us to share His love with others as the girl did in the story. If the girl had not told her master to visit the prophet, he would not have been cured. Instead, his skin **was** healed and he **became a believer** in the true God.

Through your gifts and prayers, you can help others learn of the true God. The money you give will help children go to school to learn that Jesus died on the cross for their sins and rose again for them. Some of them come from families who worship idols as Naaman did. Many of them are learning of Jesus' love and forgiveness and are baptized, becoming children of God. Even though you are young, God hears your prayers. He will bless the children and the teachers. He will give them something better than medicine. He will give them eternal life.