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NAAMAN'S CURE

II Kings 5:1-15

Naaman was desperate! He was a mighty Syrian army captain with men and power under his control, but he had the terrible disease of leprosy! All the money and weapons in the world could not help him now. Leprosy ate away his flesh, made him an outcast from society, and would surely cause his death. In desperation, he took the advice of his servant girl and went to the humble home of Elisha, the man of God in Israel. Waiting in his impressive chariot with his servants, he expected the prophet to come out to him with great ceremony and perform a spectacular miracle.

To his humiliation, Ellisha only sent his servant out with a message, "Go, wash in the Jordan River seven times and thou shalt be clean."

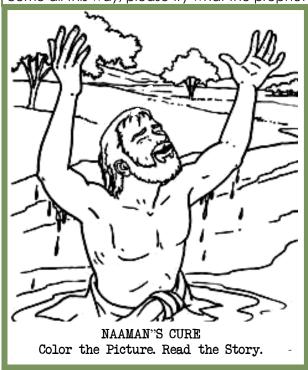
Naaman was furious! Water would not cure leprosy, and he had rivers in Syria cleaner than the Jordan! He ordered his servants to turn around and take him home! He would not wash in the dark muddy Jordan River!

Then one of his servants spoke, "Sir, after you have come all this way, please try what the prophet said."

Still insulted and angry, the proud Naaman went down into the river. He held his breath and dipped down under the water. —up he came—Oh, no! not one spot was gone. There was no change except that he was soaking wet!

The second time—3-4-5-6-7 times! Then out of the water Naaman rose. He looked at his hands, arms, legs, and chest. One of his servants checked his back. Oh, joy! The spots were all gone! The leprosy was healed, cured! Naaman praised the God of Elisha. He was convinced there was no other God in all the earth but the God of Israel, and he promised he would never offer sacrifices to any other god but the Lord. He was not only cured from his physical disease, but he was cured of his more deadly inner disease of sin, and Elisha sent him back home in peace.

The same God who healed Naaman can cure your inner disease, too. Like leprosy, sin eats away in your spirit and soul causing you to be an outcast, separated from God, and under the sentence of eternal death. But here's good news! Jesus Christ died on the cross for your dreaded sin. He paid the price for your punishment. You do not have to suffer death and hell. Paul said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Christ is the answer to your sin. He will save you if you, in faith, will call upon His name (Romans 10:13).



CBC Kidz Puzzle Power!

NEHEMIAH ELISHA

JOB

SOLOMON

PSALMS KINGS B U E S T H E R T P H R Y
Q E A M R E Z E K I E L C
T P S A L M S G J Z D L H
S M L N E H E M I A H S R
F O D O Z C F L S Y B C O
I G LA R H E J I R M X N
J P X O A U A V E S O I I
S K N I M R B V W K H Q C
B N A F N O O B D Q K A L

ESTHER

EZRA

ISAIAH

PROVERBS

CHRONICLES

EZEKIEL

FIND AND CIRCLE THE BIBLE NAMES IN THE PUZZLE ABOVE. LOOK UP, DOWN, FORWARD, AND DIAGONALLY.

KIDZ KREATION CORNER THE FAITHFUL SUNFLOWER

"Stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God" (Job 37:14).

Do you like to snack on sunflower seeds? Do you know where they come from? Hearty sunflowers in their brilliant golden color are beautiful in their simplicity. Their sturdy stalks support rich green leaves and lovely flowers. The plain black centers of the flowers are surrounded by a single row of slender yellow petals radiating outward like rays from the sun. Cultivated sunflowers grow tall and have giant size flowers. From these come the good seeds rich in fat and protein. Roasted and salted, children like them for snacks. Raw, birds find them delicious. Crushed, they make valuable oil for food and other products. The sunflower stalks and leaves make fiber and fodder for animals.

It is delightful to see those that grow wild and run free along roads, fence rows, and in fields. They tilt their bright faces to cheer a passing stranger or tease a playful child skipping by. These smaller sunflowers wave back and forth with the hot dry summer wind but always keep their faces toward the sun. Ah, there is the secret of their brightness and beauty. From morning to evening, as the sun moves from east to west, the sunflower's grace gently follows the sun. When the sun rises in the morning, the sunflower lifts its head to seek its source of light and strength. All day long, it keeps its face to the sun, and at last in the evening when the sun sinks below the horizon it bows its head to rest and await dawn.

What an example the sunflower is for Christians! We should be faithful, enduring soldiers for Christ even through the heat of opposition or temptation—not in ourselves but because we keep our faces humbly turned to the source of our light and strength, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Our first thought in the morning and our thoughts through the day should be of Him. If we let sin, pleasure, pride or selfishness hide His face from view, our heads will be low. We will be dejected, defeated Christians. Our joy and testimony depend on how we face the Son and follow Him. Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, is our light and life. "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4). Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).







(Be sure to take your vitamins and say your Vita-Verse every day!)

DID YOU SEE THE SOLAR ECLIPSE?

A total solar eclipse passed over our country on August 21, 2017. News reporters called it "spectacular," "a



phenomenon," and "the most beautiful thing on the planet." Wikipedia wrote: "No human can disrupt the incessant dance of the cosmos, and the moon's shadow will not wait on you if you are not ready. Like a mindless juggernaut, it plows its way through space. As predicted by the astronomers decades in advance, the shadow arrives with perfect accuracy, and touches the north Pacific Ocean at 16:48:33 UT...A minute later, the entire shadow will be racing across the surface of the water at supersonic speed...until land gets in the way...The predictions for the appearance are given in split seconds for various points across America"...from Oregon until it touches the final state in its path.

Pray tell me, kids, how astronomers and scientists can predict the timing and path with such accuracy? How can the millions of eclipse watchers make advanced plans so as to be at the right location at the right moment? The reporters talk about the "phenomenon" but they do not ask how it is so predictable. They look at the phenomenon but never see the phenomenal God, who created and controls it!

The Psalmist wrote, "The heavens declare the glory of God...Their line is gone out through all the earth...In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun (Ps.19:1,4). Jeremiah said, "He hath made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by His understanding (51:15).



Kidz Newz Clubbers know that God, who "in the beginning" created the heaven and the earth, is still in control and keeping it all on His "split-second" schedule! And we know that all who trust Christ as their Savior can not only trust Him

to keep His faithful schedule for sunrise and sunset, springtime and fall, we can also trust Him to be with us every day and take us safely to Heaven in His timing.