

Victory and Strength in Weakness

II Kings 5:1-19

- I. **God sets the terms for our provision. It starts with an exchange of our weakness and humility for His strength (James 4:4-6; Matthew 5:1-7; I Corinthians 1:26-31; II Corinthians 12:9-10).**
 - A. Naaman would have paid any price for his healing, but the only payment required was humility. At first, he was too proud and self-sufficient to receive the miracle he needed (II Kings 5:10-14).
 - B. God wanted to show Naaman unmerited favor, but Gehazi distorted it (II Kings 5:19-27).
 - C. Examples of our weakness and God's strength: salvation, and prayer (Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:1-8; II Chronicles 7:13-16).

- II. **The lessons of direct encounter with God (revival)**
 - A. Receiving the Holy Spirit: Receiving Someone who is supernatural is the central issue (Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4, 14-18).
 - B. As with Naaman, God sets the terms of how He comes to us.
 1. Being vulnerable and open about your brokenness or problem (e.g., addictions, sickness—James 5:13-18)
 2. Willingness to come in childlike faith, no matter how the Spirit packages the answer (Isaiah 55:8-9; Matthew 11:28-30).
 3. Hunger and humility will carry you to God every time (Mike's testimony).
 4. Dipping seven times (II Kings 5:13-14) represents a willingness to soak repeatedly in the Spirit's refreshing power and peace.

- III. **God solves our problems and brings us into deeper relationship with Him at the same time. He is always better than we think (II Kings 5:15-19).**
 - A. God, in dealing with Naaman, was also preparing to make a bigger statement to the King of Aram (II Kings 6:11-23). He also uses our victories to make a bigger statement to those in our world.
 - B. Our pain makes us vulnerable to God, and God makes Himself vulnerable to us (e.g., Israel's history of leaving God).
 - C. The deeper question becomes whether we are married to God for His provision, or because we love Him. God is continually healing our heart in this matter (Matthew 6:25-27, 31-34; Psalm 32:6-11).

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