

Kids can Do too!

Date: 15th February, 2009

Reading: 2 Kings 5: 1-14

Compassionate Community

Do you think you are just a kid
and can't do much to help God?



There was once a girl who was a slave in the house of an important man, a general in the King's army. His name was Naaman. He was brave and well-respected, but he suffered from a skin disease called leprosy.

In those days no-one knew how to cure leprosy, or even how to treat it, and people were very scared of catching it. But the slave girl (who loved God) knew there was a man in Israel, one of God's prophets called Elisha, who could cure Naaman with God's help. She told her mistress about Elisha, her mistress told her husband Naaman, and Naaman went to Israel to see Elisha.

Naaman's Story

However, the story is not that simple. When Naaman arrived at Elisha's place, Elisha sent his servant out to see Naaman. Naaman was insulted! He was an important man and the prophet should shown him some respect! He should have come out and spoken to him face to face.

Then the servant told him Elisha's message:

"Go and wash yourself in the River Jordan seven times, and you will be cured."

Naaman was even more insulted! "Is that all?" he fumed. "The prophet should have come out and prayed over me, rubbed some special oils on me, invoked his God's power. This – washing in the Jordan River – is too simple, too easy. And anyway, the Jordan River is too muddy. We have much better rivers at home!"

Naaman would have stormed off home, but his manservant said to him,

"Sir, if he had asked you to do something really difficult, would you have done it?"

"Well, yes," replied Naaman.

"So why not try this simple thing he has asked you to do? You have nothing to lose. At least give it a go."

So Naaman went to the River Jordan and bathed himself in its muddy waters seven times, and he was cured. He became a servant of God himself.

Because the slave girl listened to God and spoke up, Naaman and his family became part of God's family too.

[You can read the whole story in the Old Testament, in the second book of Kings, chapter 5.]

So you see, children **can** do God's work. Today we have Jesus to show us what God's work is like.

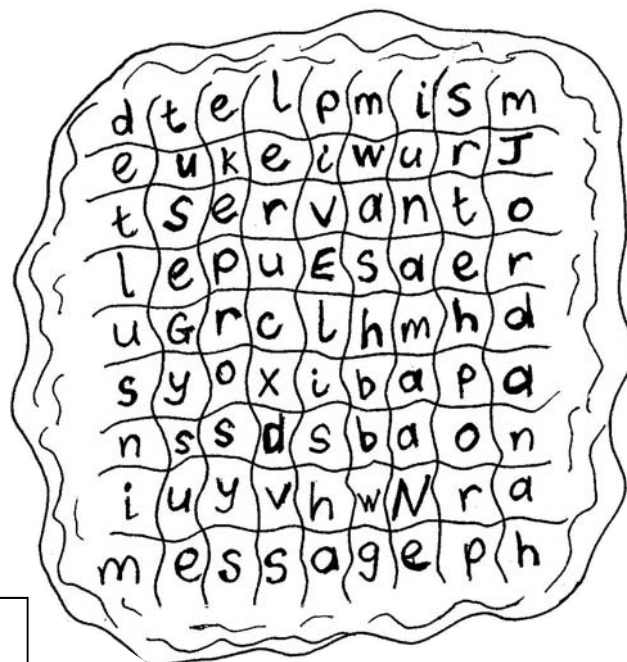
word search



Find these words in the waterhole. They can be vertical, horizontal, forwards, backwards and on the diagonal.

servant Naaman
Elisha leprosy
cure Jordan
wash insulted
simple prophet
message God

Colour in the waterhole when you have finished.



Adapted from an activity sheet produced in conjunction with KCO SA and first published in **KUCA NEWS Winter 2006 page 20**

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