

Week of May 18, 2025



Pastor Bob's Message...



God's Hand in Restoring Lives

Introduction

God is in the business of restoring broken lives. Throughout the pages of Scripture, we see men and women touched by divine mercy and healing—not because they earned it, but because God is gracious. In this week's Sunday school lesson, we turn to the story of Naaman, a powerful commander who had everything a man could want—except health. He suffered from leprosy, a

disease that not only affected him physically, but socially and spiritually as well. His story in **2 Kings 5** reveals how God's hand works through unexpected people and circumstances to bring restoration.

Naaman's Condition (2 Kings 5:1-3)

Naaman was a great man in the eyes of his king. As the commander of the Syrian army, he was a military hero, respected and successful. Yet the Bible tells us in verse 1, "but he was a leper." Despite all his achievements, Naaman had a problem he could not solve.

Leprosy was more than a physical ailment—it was a condition that separated people from others. It brought shame, isolation, and often a slow death. Naaman's influence and wealth could not heal him. He needed something more than human help. This sets the stage for God to show His power.

But notice who begins the journey of Naaman's healing—a **young Israelite servant girl**. She had been taken captive during a Syrian raid, yet her heart was not bitter. Instead, she pointed Naaman toward the true God: "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy" (v. 3).

Here we see God's providential hand at work. A nameless servant girl becomes the first messenger of hope. God often uses the humble and overlooked to accomplish His purposes. Through her faith, a seed was planted.

A Humbling Process (2 Kings 5:10–12)

Naaman acted on the servant girl's words and traveled to Israel to see the prophet Elisha. But when he arrived, Elisha didn't even come out to meet him. Instead, he sent a messenger with simple instructions: "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean" (v. 10).

Naaman was furious. He expected a grand gesture—maybe some hand-waving, incantations, or a public display of healing. Instead, he received a command that seemed beneath his dignity. The Jordan River was muddy and unimpressive compared to the rivers of Damascus. Why would washing in it make any difference?

Naaman's pride was hurt. This teaches us an important lesson: **God's restoration often requires humility**. He will not work according to our expectations or ego. Instead, He calls us to trust Him, to obey even when it doesn't make sense, and to surrender our pride.

Healing and Transformation (2 Kings 5:14–17)

Fortunately, Naaman's servants intervened. They urged him to consider Elisha's command. Naaman finally listened, went to the Jordan, and dipped himself seven times. The result? "His flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean" (v. 14).

The miracle wasn't in the water, but in God's power and Naaman's obedience. As soon as he obeyed, healing came—not just physically, but spiritually as well. In verse 15, Naaman returned to Elisha and declared, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel."

God didn't just cleanse his body—He captured his heart. The proud commander became a humble worshiper. He even asked for dirt from Israel to take back with him, so he could worship the true God on holy ground (v. 17). This shows the depth of his transformation.

Pastor Bob's Message Continues...

Application for Today

This story is more than an ancient account—it's a living testimony of how God still works today.

- 1. God Sees Beyond Our Problems Like Naaman, we may have areas of our lives that feel unfixable. But God is able to restore what is broken—physically, emotionally, spiritually.
- 2. **God Uses the Least Likely People** A young servant girl became the link to a miracle. God may use you, no matter your position, to point someone to Jesus.
- 3. **Pride Hinders, but Humility Heals** Naaman almost missed his healing because of pride. When we humble ourselves before God, we open the door to His grace.

God's Power is in Simple Obedience – The instruction was simple: wash in the Jordan. Our healing may come through simple faith steps—prayer, forgiveness, confession, or acts of obedience.

Conclusion

God's hand is still in the business of restoring lives. Naaman's story reminds us that healing and transformation begin with faith, humility, and obedience. Whether we are the ones in need of restoration or the ones pointing others toward it, God is able to use every person and every moment for His glory. Trust His hand—it is mighty to save and gentle to restore.

Pastor Bob

Memorial Day Service—Sunday, May 25
If you would like to bring a flag or picture of your loved one, who served in the military, please bring your items Sunday, May 25.

Please see Linda Hatley.

EQUIP

Registration is now open! The event will be August 19, in Mayfield, KY.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TeamKid/Youth Meals on Wednesday Nights @ 6 pm Wednesday, 05.21.25 Andy & Jan Pegram

** Brief meeting (Sunday, May 25) down front on the piano side, following the morning service, for people who are interested in attending the Projected Date for the Mission Trip

July 13 – July 19

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Cost is \$125 per family \$75 per person





Visitation Night will be Monday nights at 6 PM.

Meet at the church
before you head out to make visits.



2025 Youth Events

Yes Conference - Feb 7th-8th

Youth Sunday - March 30th (Lunch & Skating to fellow AM service. Bring \$25)

Glow Bowling @ Superbowl - May 2nd

(7PM-10PM Cost is \$7.50 Per Person)

Summer Swim Parties
(Look for information last week of May)

Centrifuge Camp - June 9th-13th

Youth Sunday - June 29th

Youth Sunday - August 31st

Hearts on Fire - November 21-23

Vacation Bible School Meeting, Sunday, May 18, following the morning service Finance Team Meeting — Sunday, May 18 @ 4 PM Cabinet Meeting — Sunday, May 18 @ 4:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baby Bottle Campaign for Hope Unlimited

Mother's Day May 11

To
Father's Day June 15

Sunday, May 25, @ 5 PM

OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 26, DUE TO THE HOLIDAY!



Friday & Saturday, June 13 & 14 8 AM—3 PM



Bro Travis' Message

Dear Parents,

Hello! I wanted to remind you about the study we're doing that focuses on helping students remain steady in the face of adversity, and encourage them grow deeper in their relationship with God. This Bible study is called Anchored: Sure and Steadfast, and this week is the final lesson of a three lesson unit called The Earth and Creation. This final lesson aimed to help students grow more confident sharing their faith with people who hold opposing views of creation. Students had an opportunity to learn about three other views, and why those differ from our own.

Lesson Overview: As we wrap up this unit on The Earth and Creation, it is vital for students to know that there are many people out there with different opinions about the Universe and how it was created. As people who are anchored

in our faith, we can stand firm in the truth that God is the intelligent designer of the Universe, the world, and even

Believers will face hard questions throughout their spiritual journey, but it is with love and boldness that we can

open conversations about many topics. This lesson will reinforce what we have learned about God's Creation while

giving us a glimpse into some other popular theories about the Universe's existence.

What We Want Your Student To Learn: There are quite a few theories as to how the Universe and everything in it came to be; however, only one can be true. As Christians, we believe that God is the Creator of the Universe. What We Want Your Student To Do With What They've Learned: Be able to have open, honest, and loving

conversations with others who may have differing opinions regarding the creation of the Universe. Scripture Passages We Studied: Genesis 1:1, Psalm 104:16-24, 2 Corinthians 5:17-19, Revelation 21:1-5

Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.

Next Steps. . .

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your student, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- What was your Anchor Statement for this week? (Answer: Through observing what God reveals in Scripture as well as the intentional design of the world around me, I believe that He alone is the Creator of the Universe.)
- Practice having a conversation with your student as though you have a different view of Creation. Be sure they understand you are acting/practicing. This could help them practice sharing their beliefs, even if someone challenges them.
- How can we honor God as the Creator of all things?

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I'm praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don't hesitate to let me know



WEEKLY SCHEDULE/GIVING

LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 18-10 AM

Sunday, May 25—10 AM

Sunday Bulletin and the monthly newsletter are online! Go to

www.bellviewbaptistpaducah.com

Only newsletters that will be sent out are the members with no email addresses.

Last Sunday's Report for May 11, 2025

Required Weekly......\$10,107.91

Offering Received......\$7,473.99 Designated Received.....\$105.00

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK Deacon of the Week

Keith Byers – 270-559-8482

Greeters/Welcome Center

Keith & Bonnie Hodge | Pam Courtney | Bonnie Hodge

May Ushers Ronnie Adams - Keith Byers - Ronald Harding Kenneth Harper – Dwain Richards

Security Team for Sunday, May 18 – #3

card Ministry for May—Ruthie McCabe

Please NO food or drinks in the Worship Center.

JUNE 1, THERE WILL BE PRESCHOOL AND NURSESRY (1 year old to 3 years olds) AVAILABE DURING THE 10 AM WORSHIP