

*Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant." 2 Kings 5:13-15 (NIV)*

## **Pride Versus Humility**

**Do you think that you know it all? Do you have every question answered? Do you know every decision to make and step to take?** I definitely don't know it all. I certainly don't have every question answered. I don't even know what I don't know. Take one look at my life and you will see that I have made many missteps. I have left a trail of foolish and unwise decisions. **Well, it is very good that you recognize your need for help.** Why is that?

**You want to know me.** Yes, I want to know you. **Nothing will hinder you from coming to know me more than pride.** Why is that? **You tell me. What are you like when you are filled with pride?** When I am filled with pride I am self-reliant and self-sufficient. No one can tell me anything when I am filled with pride. Then I think that I know it all. Then I am sure of my decisions to make and steps to take in life. My life could look like a train wreck waiting to happen to everyone around me and no one would be able to flag me down to change my course. **Why is that?** I would not listen. My pride would make me so sure that I am absolutely right. **Has that ever happened to you?** Yes, I have gone full speed into bad decisions more often than I want to admit. **When you are filled with pride how well have you listened to me?** When I have been filled with pride I have had no need to listen to you. I have thought I had no need for you to guard and guide my life. **That's true. That's why pride will hinder you from coming to know me.** I get it.

**Nothing will help you more to come to know me than humility.** Why is that? **You tell me. What are you like when you are filled with humility?** When I am filled with humility I am open to listen to whatever you have to say to me. I spend time with you in your word. I listen attentively to your voice. I allow your word to change my heart and transform my mind. I allow you to replace my thoughts and ways with your thoughts and ways. Even the pace of my decisions slows way down. **Why is that?** I am willing to wait for your instructions. I don't want to run ahead of you or lag behind you. I want to follow you to wherever you are leading me to do whatever you are asking of me. I especially want you to guard and guide my life. **Then you will come to know me as you rely on me. Is that what you want?** Yes Lord, I will humbly rely on you so that I can come to know you.

*Lord, I admit it. I don't have the answers. I don't know every decision to make or step to take. I have been foolish and unwise. I have gone left instead of right. I have stopped instead of started. I have retreated instead of advanced. I will follow and obey you. Amen*

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant."

NIV

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Behold, I Know*

But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant."

ESV

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

But his officers tried to reason with him and said, "Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something very difficult, wouldn't you have done it? So you should certainly obey him when he says simply, 'Go and wash and be cured!'" So Naaman went down to the Jordan River and dipped himself seven times, as the man of God had instructed him. And his skin became as healthy as the skin of a young child's, and he was healed! Then Naaman and his entire party went back to find the man of God. They stood before him, and Naaman said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant."

NLT

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. And he returned to the man of God, he and all his aides, and came and stood before him; and he said, "Indeed, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel; now therefore, please take a gift from your servant."

NKJV

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel; please accept a present from your servant."

NRSV

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

But his servants caught up with him and said, "Father, if the prophet had asked you to do something hard and heroic, wouldn't you have done it? So why not this simple 'wash and be clean'?" So he did it. He went down and immersed himself in the Jordan seven times, following the orders of the Holy Man. His skin was healed; it was like the skin of a little baby. He was as good as new. He then went back to the Holy Man, he and his entourage, stood before him, and said, "I now know beyond a shadow of a doubt that there is no God anywhere on earth other than the God of Israel. In gratitude let me give you a gift."

MSG

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***Now I Know*

And his servants came near and said to him, My father, if the prophet had bid you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, Wash and be clean? Then he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, as the man of God had said, and his flesh was restored like that of a little child, and he was clean. Then Naaman returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and stood before him. He said, Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel. So now accept a gift from your servant.

AMP

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***I Know At Last*

But his officers tried to reason with him and said, "If the prophet had told you to do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? So you should certainly obey him when he says simply to go and wash and be cured!" So Naaman went down to the Jordan River and dipped himself seven times, as the prophet had told him to. And his flesh became as healthy as a little child's, and he was healed! Then he and his entire party went back to find the prophet; they stood humbly before him and Naaman said, "I know at last that there is no God in all the world except in Israel; now please accept my gifts."

TLB

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***I Know That*

Then his servants came near and spoke to him and said, "My father, had the prophet told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child and he was clean. When he returned to the man of God with all his company, and came and stood before him, he said, "Behold now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel; so please take a present from your servant now."

NASB

2 Kings 5:13-15

**Knowing God***I Now Know*

Naaman's servants came near and said to him, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? Doesn't it make more sense just to do it? After all, he only told you, 'Wash, and you will be clean.'" So Naaman went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as Elisha had said. Then his skin became new again, like the skin of a child. And he was clean. Naaman and all his group returned to Elisha. He stood before Elisha and said, "Look, I now know there is no God in all the earth except in Israel. Now please accept a gift from me."

NCV

2 Kings 5:13-15

# Now I Know

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Knowing God** – 2 Kings 5:13-15

**In Context:** *Read 2 Kings 5*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God’s Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'" So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant." 2 Kings 5:13-15

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

Naaman's servants | went | to him | and | said, | "My father, | if | the prophet | had | told you | to do | some | great thing, | would you | not have | done it? | How much more, | then, | when | he tells you, | "Wash | and | be cleansed!" | So | he went down | and dipped himself | in the Jordan | seven times, | as | the man | of God | had | told him, | and | his flesh | was restored | and | became clean | like that | of a | young boy. | Then Naaman | and all | his attendants | went back | to the | man of God. | He stood | before him | and said, | "Now | I know that | there is | no God | in all | the world | except | in Israel. | Please accept now | a gift | from | your servant." 2 Kings 5:13-15

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, I admit it. I don't have the answers. I don't know every decision to make or step to take. I have been foolish and unwise. I have gone left instead of right. I have stopped instead of started. I have retreated instead of advanced. I will follow and obey you. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

**When has pride made you reluctant to obey simple instructions from God and His word?**

How are you relying on God's word as your final authority in guarding and guiding your life?

Why will your ability to come to know God be greatly hindered if you do not obey Him and His word?

What are you doing when your thoughts are in disagreement with God's word?

**Why is it always a terrible mistake to elevate your thoughts over God's word?**

When have you changed your thoughts so that they come into alignment with God's word?

**How has God blessed your life and allowed you to know Him as you have obeyed His word?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Make up your mind that you are going to follow and obey God and His word so that you can come to know Him.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that you will come to know God better as you follow and obey Him and His word.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you have come to know God as you have followed and obeyed Him.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you obey God's word so that you can come to know Him.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, I will obey your word so that I can come to know you.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I come to know you as I follow you and obey your word today?*

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