**A Study in Narrative Preaching**

***2 Kings 5***

**Naaman Healed of Leprosy**

*Directions:* Follow the seven steps to narrative preaching with your study partner. These steps are found on your notes (pp. 109-112) but don’t look these pages up right now. Begin each step at the time listed even if you are not finished with the preceding step.

**1. Study (11:55)**

a. *Passage*: We will read the entire chapter as a literary unit and plan to preach the whole chapter.

b. *Exegesis:* Address these key issues…

1) 12:00 What key questions come to mind when reading the text for the first time?

2) 12:05 Study the setting, characters, and plot. Three individuals are noted in the text. If the teaching revolves around one or more of them, what would the lesson be?

a) Naaman

b) Elisha

c) Gehazi

**2. Structure (12:10):** Look for the major movements in the story and make each a Main Point. What are these key sections of this narrative—how does it flow? (Don’t be overly concerned about using Z1+X+Z2+Y form unless it just comes easily.)

**3. CPT (12:15):** Write your exegetical idea below (Z1+X+Z2+Y form preferred but not required).

**4. Sermon’s Purpose (12:20):**

a. What is the common principle between the Elisha’s time and modern times?

b. What is the desired listener response based on this common principle?

**5. CPS or MI (12:25):**

a. The MI must flow from an understanding of the EI (cf. p. 34).

b. Put your EI (CPT) into a short command for us (MI or CPS).

**6. Structure (12:30):** Outline the sermon in very rough form (only the subject, MPs, and MI). Please use the following simple inductive structure only.

Subject in Intro:

I. (=EI)

II. (=MI)

Note some specific applications of the MI:

**7. Preach:** You won’t have time to manuscript, practice, or preach in class today!

**2 Kings 5**

**Naaman Healed of Leprosy**

**Exegetical Outline**

Exegetical Idea: The way God showed His superiority over Baal was by transferring leprosy from the believing foreigner Naaman to the hireling-minded Jew Gehazi.

I. (1-7) The way God showed His superiority over Baal was through Naaman the foreigner seeking *healing* of his leprosy from Israel’s God (he saw Baal as an unconcerned local deity).

A. (1) Naaman thought he had conquered enemies in his own strength but actually the LORD had given him victory and he still couldn’t defeat leprosy.

B. (2-7) Naaman’s pilgrimage for healing from Israel’s God was misunderstood by Jehoram but still emphasizes that even Joram knew that healing comes from God—not Baal.

II. (8-14) The way God showed His superiority over Baal was by healing Naaman’s leprosy through Elisha’s “silly” Yahweh solution instead of the “more respectable” Baal ritual.

A. (8-12) Naaman initially rejected Elisha’s healing counsel because of the humility involved (he had already humbled himself to go to a foreign country to seek help from an “inferior” king).

B. (13-14) At his servants’ request Naaman followed the advice and received miraculous healing.

III. (15-27) The way God showed His superiority over Baal was through judging Gehazi’s hireling attitude which was akin to Baal’s prophets who used Baal for materialistic purposes.

A. (15-19a) Elisha refused reward from the believing Naaman and granted his concession to feign pagan worship.

B. (19b-27) Gehazi’s hireling perspective (in contrast to Elisha who lacked his greed and lying) was disciplined with Naaman’s leprosy.

**Homiletical Exposition** (cyclical inductive form)

Introduce Subject: How does God show us that He alone can solve our problems (that He is sovereign and thus better than any other solution)?

I. God shows us that solutions other than Him are unreliable.

A. The pagan Naaman recognized that his own strength and god couldn’t remove his leprosy so he went to Israel’s God (1-7).

B. During trials we must trust God rather than unreliable sources (such as ourselves, charms, temple rites, astrology, doctors, government, advisors, etc.)

II. God asks us to obey a seemingly ridiculous command so He’ll get the credit.

A. Naaman wasn’t healed through his own efforts but through a silly procedure prescribed by God’s servant Elisha (8-14).

B. God may meet our needs through “inferior” people and “silly” though biblical advice.

III. God judges us for prideful acting as if He is only there to meet our needs.

A. God judged Gehazi for greedily trying to take advantage of Him (15-27).

B. God will discipline us for trying to use him for selfish interests (pride judged through a humbling experience, sickness as in James 5:16, etc.).

Main Idea: Humbly submit to God as the only solution to your problems.