

YOU BETTER DUCK!!!

SEVEN DUCKS IN A MUDDY RIVER

2 Kings 5:1 – NIV - Naaman Healed of Leprosy

5 Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. **He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.**

2 Kings 5:9-14 - NIV

⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house.

¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "**Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.**"

¹¹ But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy."

¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

¹³ 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'!"

¹⁴ 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.

Naaman had to DEAL with some THINGS!!!

- Anyone ever have to **DEAL with some ISSUES** in your own life
- Anyone ever wonder if you were **REALLY going to come out ALIVE**
- Anyone ever wonder **why GOD sent you** a certain direction....
- When you didn't think it was **the RIGHT way** to go?
- **He didn't say** it would be easy...
- **He said...**it would be worth it!!!

This morning...

I want to ***deal with the ISSUES*** that Naaman had to deal with each time he ducked down into the water, ***as GOD told him too!!!***

- **Do you want God to break some MESS off you this morning?**
- Then yell DUCK!!
- Tell your neighbor....**YOU BETTER DUCK!!!**
- This morning... **as we DUCK...*God is going to break some STUFF off of us!!***

1st Duck.... Pride

- He was captain of the hosts of King of Syria, **he had lots of pride.**

Proverbs 29:23 - NIV

²³ Pride brings a person low, but the lowly in spirit gain honor.

Punch your neighbor and tell them...

"I TOLD YOU TO DUCK!!!"

2nd Duck... Self Esteem

- ***I thought he would come to me (vs. 11)***

Romans 12:3 - NIV ³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

3rd Duck... Reasoning

- Both Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus were cleaner.
- He was trying to reason with the man of GODS orders
- **But when GOD speaks**, his orders **must be followed** exactly as they were given
- Even when we **don't** understand.

Isaiah 55:9 - NIV ⁹"As the heavens are higher than the earth, ***so are my ways*** ***higher than your ways*** and ***my thoughts*** ***than your thoughts.***

4th Duck... Peer Pressure

- *What will they think back home?*

Joshua 24:15 - NIV ¹⁵But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then *choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve*, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. *But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.*"

5th Duck... Shame

- *I'm ashamed of where I am and what I am doing*

Luke 9:26 - NIV ²⁶If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

6th Duck... Obedience

2 Kings 5:13 - NIV ¹³Naaman'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!'*"

1 Samuel 15:22 - NIV ²²But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

7th Duck... Healing

John 14:12-14 - NIV ¹²I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

James 2:20 - NIV ²⁰You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?

James 2:26 NIV ²⁶As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

James 5:13-16 - NIV

¹³Is any one of you in trouble? ***He should pray.*** Is anyone happy? ***Let him sing songs of praise.***

¹⁴Is any one of you sick? ***He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.***

¹⁵And the prayer offered in faith **will make the sick person well**; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.

¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. ***The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.***