

GOD'S SOLUTIONS *to* LIFE'S PROBLEMS

By Dr. Stephen G. Tan | 2 Kings 5:1-16 | [Watch ▶](#)

DISCUSS

Life is full of problems and challenges to face year after year. Like how we read and follow instructions in manuals for a new product or equipment, we need to follow God's instructions written in His Word to find solutions to life's problems. 2 Kings 5:1-16 teaches us five biblical principles for how to tackle life's challenges.

Problems are only problems when God is not considered in the equation (v. 1-7).

- Who was Naaman and what kind of personal problem did he encounter in his life? Who gave him hope to solve his problem?
- What is your usual reaction when problems of life present themselves? Why do many Christians go to God as the last resort when they are in trouble? How do you plan to tackle the problems that you may encounter with God in the picture?

God's solutions to our problems may not always make sense to us (v. 8-10).

- Who was Elisha and what instruction did he send to Naaman to get rid of his problem?
- Do you find it hard to obey God's instructions in His Word? Why? Why should you obey by faith and follow His instructions even when His instruction doesn't make sense to you?

God's instructions to solve our problems are not up for discussion, but for action (v. 11-12).

- Why did Naaman become furious when he heard the instructions from Elisha's messenger on how his leprosy was to be cured?
- Can you relate with Naaman when you don't like the instruction of God given for you to follow in order to solve your problem? And like Naaman, how do pride, expectations, and arrogance keep people from recognizing God's help to solve life's problems? When God tells

you to live out your life with integrity, do you still have to discuss it with Him or do you act on it because God said so?

There is nothing to lose by following God's commands, but everything to gain (v. 13-14).

- What advice did Naaman's servants give him to convince him to change his mind? Did Naaman follow their advice? What was the result of his humility and obedience?
- If it is to your benefit that you live out God's commands, what else could hinder you from obeying Him? What do you have to lose in obeying God especially if He doesn't ask you to do anything beyond your capacity? What would you gain by obeying Him?

God's instructions lead to solutions of life's many known and unknown problems (v. 15-16).

- What did Naaman realize and acknowledge after he was healed of leprosy? Why did Elisha refuse to accept the gifts or rewards that Naaman brought with him? Aside from physical healing, what else did Naaman receive because of his obedience?
- Share some practical instructions and commands from the Bible that give solutions to current problems and challenges that you may have. How do God's instructions bring blessings?

REFLECT

How would you avoid worrying as you tackle life's challenges? How do you plan to live your life in obedience to God's commands?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You for blessing me with another year. Thank You that in spite of some problems and challenges that I may be bringing into the new year, You are there for me. Thank You that the Holy Spirit will guide and teach me to faithfully live in obedience to Your commands. In Jesus' name. Amen.