

2 Kings 5

God's mercy: Displayed and Defended

Theme: God is always at work putting His mercy on display, and we can respond either with humble obedience and faith leading to God's healing, or with a selfish contempt for His mercy leading to God's wrath.

I. God's Providence paves the way for His mercy (vv. 1-8)

- A. A _____ chain of interactions
1. Naaman
 2. Israelite slave girl
 3. King of Aram
 4. King of Israel
 5. Elisha
- B. God's mercy is at work despite wrong _____.

Application:

- God is always at work, even in mundane, or difficult circumstances.
- What is our motive? Is God simply a _____ ?

II. A Startling _____ by God's mercy (vv. 9-19)

- A. A Proud _____ Expectations (vv. 9-14)
- B. A _____ change of heart (vv. 15-19)
1. A Profession of Faith

2. A Desire for Faithfulness and a need for Discipleship

Application:

- This is a _____ narrative! Have you responded the way Naaman did at first, or have you responded as he ultimately did?
- Do we expect _____ from God? Do we ever think God's ways are _____?
- Jesus warns: some people can be so familiar with the facts of the Gospel, they could miss the reality of His power and mercy in their own lives.

III. A Selfish _____ for God's Mercy (vv. 20-27)

- A. Selfishness causes blindness to God's works
- B. A dramatic sentence for _____ God's Mercy
 - 1. God will not be fooled by _____!
 - 2. God takes His glory and _____ of mercy seriously!

Application:

- Our own selfish desires can _____ to the beauty of God's mercy.
- God is zealous to defend the fact that His _____ of mercy and salvation is FREE!
- Even believers can sometimes allow our service to God to be a _____, covering selfish motives.