“You Were Much Closer” with Fred Hammond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcTqTYSUHRQ>

“Just to be Close to You” with Fred Hammond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ya3TbkAentU>

“A Song of Strength” with Fred Hammond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7-XxVJNVHw>

“You are the Living Word” with Fred Hammond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agdw4UnCH2o>

“I Will Trust” with Fred Hammond

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyCdFDXxMNQ>

“I Am” with Jason Nelson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59H1hntyGMA>

“Anything Can Happen” with Jonathan Nelson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfjsbE2AbMA>

“I Believe” with Jonathan Nelson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDLByAnQ93Q>

“He Did It Again” with Sinach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xu6RM5KkaiM>

“I Testify” with Ada

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0SdoQqrE_8>

“Order My Steps” with Joy Nicole

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHC7ASrzZRc>

“He’s Able” with Joy Nicole

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1jQc-WKsTl8>

**We Have the Word of God**

***2 Kings 5:1-14***

What is your gateway into everything you need? For some of us, hard work gives us access to great things. For others of us, our achievements give us the license to claim wholeness. For many of us, our deeds or relationships get us as far as we can translate them into money.

But we have the Word of God. This Bible Study about Naaman the leper asserts that the Word of God changes our lives. The Word of God heals us and strengthens us. The Word of God comes with the power we need to make a difference.

So much potential lies unclaimed in the Word of God. Naaman came to Elisha’s house with horses and chariots and Elisha sent Naaman the Word of God to wash seven times and be clean in the river Jordan.

Why didn’t Naaman respond with faith to the Word of God? After all, it was the word of a slave girl that led him to go into a weak country for healing from a prophet that he did not know.

To some of us, God and His Word seem distant from us the same way that Naaman felt distant from the Prophet Elisha. Naaman thought that Elisha would come to him when Naaman arrived in his horses and chariots. *Namaan was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper… So he turned and went away in a rage, 2 Kings 5:11,12b.*

Similarly, we believe that God sees our problems and should come out to us. God should stand over us, identify God’s Self, and touch us. God should touch us where it hurts and heal us. But when it does not look like that has happened we are disappointed. We are angry and in a rage.

But we have the Word of God. We have the Word of God that is powerful. We have the Word of God that is sincere milk for us *(1 Peter 2:2)*. We have the Word of God that is the sword of the Spirit *(Ephesians 6:17).*

And if we would try the Word of God, we would find out how much God loves us. If we would try the Word of God, we would find out how much God is standing over our lives to deliver us. If we would try the Word of God we would understand how much God is working to develop a relationship with us. If we would try the Word of God we would find God to be much closer than we realized.

Consider Namaan’s servants who came to Namaan and asked Him to follow the Word of God. They were servants but addressed Namaan as their “Father”. These servants obeyed Namaan’s commands and somewhere along the way viewed Namaan as being closer than a master. Namaan was actually a father to them. These servants urged Namman to obey the simple Word of God that said, “Wash and be Clean;” and also find out something new about God.

Consider the Word of God in our lives. Consider the Word of God that we have read in the Bible, heard through others who love us, and heard from God, God’s Self. God’s Word is kind and gracious.

The Word of God to Namaan was to “Wash and Be Clean,” and the Word of God is just as loving to us today: “Wash and Be Clean!” *Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, Acts 2:38.* When we follow the Word of God, God will abide with us and bless us.

We are closer to God and God is more in touch with our lives than we could ever imagine. Jesus, the Word, is every powerful. But the body of Christ, the church, has leprosy. It is a leprosy that God would heal in us if we would just walk with God in God’s Word. We have the Word of God and the Word is ready to make huge differences in our lives.

God Loves Us!

Tobias Pinckney, 7/3/16, Powered to Witness University

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