



Pastor's Comments

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Northampton Assembly of God

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The Little Captive Maid

In my recent message titled, **"You Have To Go Down,"** I emphasized the crucial role that the little captive maid of Israel had in the miraculous healing from leprosy of the great Syrian general, Naaman, and his conversion to God. It was **her faith in God** and **her caring love** expressed to Naaman's wife that started the events rolling, *"Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy"* (2 Kings 5:3). Why would this rich, highly honored military man and his wife accept what this little captive maid had to say? Obviously, **her deep faith in God** showed in everything she did! It impacted **the way she lived her life and made her believable!**

Having been captured and made to serve as a slave under the hand of an enemy nation's leader could have made this little maid bitter and resentful, but instead, she was obediently and lovingly serving. She was living her life just as Jesus said that we must live ours, **"Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you"** (Matthew 5:44). Long before Jesus commanded that—she did it! **Because she forgave** and did not allow resentments and bitterness in her heart, God mightily used her.

This little maid had **the faith we need—faith to break through** the barriers—**faith to love** when we are hated—**faith to rise above bitterness** and the resentments of life—**faith to believe that God can save the worst sinners** around us. Just as this humble little maid **wanted the best for her master**, and God used her greatly as an instrument in His hand, **so God can use us** if He can find in us **a believing humble heart that wants the best for our enemies.**

Hear this full message, **"You Have To Go Down!"** at: www.naog.ws/sermons.htm