

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. **Proverbs 16:9**

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long. **Psalm 25:4, 5**

MARCH 23, 2025

PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

TEXT: 2 KINGS 5:1-15

TITLE: HOPE IN HOPELESS SITUATIONS

INTRODUCTION

- A. "If you make people think they are thinking, they will love you. If you really make them think they will hate you." _____
- B. Too often, people want us to confirm their thinking versus making them think _____
- C. **Isaiah 55:8, 9**, ⁸ "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. ⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts."

MUCH TO BE HOPEFUL FOR

- A. Naaman _____
1. Commander of the army of the king of Syria
 2. A great and honorable man in the eyes of his master
 3. By him, the Lord gave victory to Syria
 4. He was also a mighty man of valor
- B. There is much in our lives for which to be hopeful _____

BUT, THAT "ONE THING"

- A. Naaman was a leper _____
1. **Leviticus 13:45**, ⁴⁵ "Now the leper on whom the sore is, his clothes shall be torn and his head bare; and he shall cover his mustache, and cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!'"
 2. Leprosy was highly contagious
 3. Leprosy attacks nerve endings and destroys the body's ability to feel pain – while also causing neuropathic pain
 4. Naamann was not of the Children of Israel
- B. We all have that "One Thing" _____

HOPE IN A HOPELESS SITUATION IS TRUSTING GOD'S HEART OVER MY HEAD

- A. Hope for Naaman _____
1. Recommended by an unlikely source
 2. Received from an unlikely person
 3. Administered in an unlikely place
 4. Facilitated in an unlikely way
 - a. In Namaan's head
 - i. He will surely come out to me
 - ii. Stand and call on the name of the Lord his God
 - iii. Wave his hand over the place
 - iv. And heal the leprosy.
 - b. In God's heart
 - i. Go and wash yourself seven times in the Jordan River
 - ii. Then your skin will be restored, and you will be healed of your leprosy
- B. Hope for you _____