



GRACE CITY CHURCH

AWKWARD ~~~~~
FAMILY
~~~~~  
**CHRISTMAS**



## **WEEK 2: I GIVE UP! (LOOKING FOR PEACE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES)**

JEREMY BELL, TEACHING PASTOR

2 KINGS 5:1, 15-20, 27 NIV

**1** Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

**15** Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant." **16** The prophet answered, "As surely as the Lord lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing." And even though Naaman urged him, he refused. **17** "If you will not," said Naaman, "please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the Lord. **18** But may the Lord forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I have to bow there also - when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the Lord forgive your servant for this." **19** "Go in peace," Elisha said. After Naaman had traveled some distance, **20** Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, "My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the Lord lives, I will run after him and get something from him."

**27** "Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and his skin was leprous - it had become as white as snow.

# NOTES

(The stuff that sticks out to me)

We are a church where everyone is welcome,  
and everyone is wanted...including you!

# GOING DEEPER

(Some ideas to put it into practice)

## Questions to Ponder:

**What is the significance of the Prince of Peace being born in a manger?**

**When do you feel more peaceful: when you try to control a situation or when you surrender it over to God?**

**Do you find it easy or difficult to allow God to be in control?**

## A Verse to Memorize:

**2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**Isaiah 9:2, 6 NIV**

## Take a Step:

**Feeling peaceful can seem out of reach, especially if we try to maintain control. If there's a certain situation that you're fighting to control, try surrendering it over to God instead.**

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and everyone is wanted...including you!**

# ALL IN, TOGETHER

## General Budget

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| 2023 Weekly Budget: | \$10,187 |
| Given December 3rd: | \$9,489  |
| Difference:         | (\$698)  |

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 2023 Annual Budget: | \$529,724  |
| 2023 Budget YTD:    | \$488,976  |
| 2023 Given YTD:     | \$438,356  |
| Difference:         | (\$50,620) |

## Build Your Church Fund

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| BYC December 3rd: | \$1,502   |
| BYC YTD:          | \$192,218 |
| BYC Total Given:  | \$512,105 |

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