

JESUS HEALED A CHILD AND A MAN

Matthew 15; Mark 7



A woman from Canaan came to Jesus. She believed Jesus could help her daughter. Her daughter was very sick. The woman cried out to Jesus, “Please help my daughter!”

At first, Jesus was quiet. Then He said, “I was sent to help God’s people.”

The woman said, “Even dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

When Jesus heard the woman’s response, He said, “You have great faith! Your daughter is healed.”

And right then, her daughter was made well!

After that, Jesus went to a crowd by the Sea of Galilee. Many people brought their sick loved ones to Jesus. Some people couldn’t hear or talk, and some couldn’t walk. Jesus healed them all!

Jesus helped a man who could not hear or speak. Jesus put His fingers in the man’s ears and touched the man’s tongue. Then Jesus said, “Be opened!” Suddenly, the man could hear and talk clearly!

The people who saw what Jesus did were amazed. They said, “Jesus does wonderful things! He even helps people who cannot hear or speak!”

Because of Jesus’ miracles, the people

praised God.

Christ Connection: Jesus has power over sickness and healed many people to show He is God’s Son. Jesus also has power over sin and came to bring forgiveness, life, and hope to everyone who believes in Him.



1 WELCOME TIME

Greet each preteen as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

•What is something amazing you saw this week?

2 SESSION STARTER

☐ OPTION 1: WHAT DO YOU HEAR?



Before this activity, find a variety of sounds—some which are familiar such as a doorbell or a car horn and some which might be harder to guess. You can use an online video search engine to locate and play different sounds. Challenge the kids to listen closely as you play each sound and encourage them to shout out what they think they heard. Reveal the answer and see if they are correct. Continue until you have played all the sounds. If time allows challenge kids to make their own sounds and see if the rest of the group can guess what sounds they are making.

SAY “ Today we will learn about how Jesus healed a man who could not hear. **PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT JESUS’ MIRACLES AND PRAISED GOD.** Only God could bring healing and hope the way Jesus did for the man in today’s story. ”

☐ OPTION 2: TRUST!

Fill a small cup almost to the top with water and place a index card covering the entire rim of the cup. Then, flip the cup over, securing the card with your hand. (It is normal for a little water to spill out while you turn the cup over.) Once you have turned the cup completely over, gently let go of the notecard. The card will stay suctioned to the cup, and no water will come out of the cup. Note: The index card will likely fall off the cup if left upside down for too long. Consider practicing this activity beforehand, not leaving the cup upside down for too long, and doing it over a basin that can catch the water if it spills. For added excitement, ask for one kid to be a volunteer and put their hand under the cup while you demonstrate how the water stays in the cup.

SAY “ I and (name of the kid volunteer) trusted that the water would stay in the cup. Today we will see how people trusted that Jesus has the power to save and heal. Jesus has power over sickness and healed many people to show He is God’s Son. ”



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Today we are going to hear about when Jesus healed a child and a man. Whether this is your first time or your tenth time hearing this story, there is always something new to learn in God's Word.

Read from Matthew 15; Mark 7.

•What does this story teach us about God?

Today we heard about two specific miracles where Jesus healed a child and a man. **PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT JESUS' MIRACLES AND PRAISED GOD.** Jesus has power over sickness and healed many people to show He is God's Son. Jesus also has power over sin and came to bring forgiveness, life, and hope to everyone who believes in Him.

•What did Jesus say to the woman?

Jesus told the woman that because of her great faith, her daughter was healed. When the woman went home, she found her daughter completely healed.

Form groups of two or three and practice retelling the Bible story in your own words. Think of someone you could share the story with this week.

2 MISSIONS MOMENT

Share that when Vesta Sauter was a child, her father who was deaf wanted to enter full-time ministry. Their pastor told her father that there were not many options for Deaf people to receive training, which meant he would not be considered qualified to serve in ministry. That memory stayed with Vesta..

Nevertheless, Mark and Vesta Sauter moved to the Czech Republic in 1997 to serve among the Deaf. They found that Deaf children in Czech schools were required to sign following the same structures as the spoken language, which is different from their sign language. As a hearing child of Deaf parents, Vesta's first language was American Sign Language. When she started school, she initially struggled with the pronunciation of certain words. Vesta knew it was difficult for Deaf students to study in a language that was not their heart language, or the language they first learned to communicate in.

While the Sauters have been on the mission field, they have worked hard to help Deaf people learn Bible stories through sign language. They are working on the Deaf Pathway Global project to have at least 300 Bible stories translated into 300 sign languages. They also helped start a special school near Nashville, Tennessee, to train Deaf people to be pastors and missionaries.

Pray, thanking God for the work of the Sauters and others who help Deaf people know about Jesus.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

Today we saw that Jesus has power over sickness, but He also has power over sin and came to bring forgiveness and life. If you would like to learn more about trusting Jesus as your Savior, I encourage you to talk with your parents or a church leader.

4 PRAY

Thank You, Lord, for Your power over everything, including sickness and even sin. Thank You for sending Jesus to conquer sin and death for us so that we can have forgiveness, life, and hope when we believe in You. In Jesus' name, amen.

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

The gospel is the good news—the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use Scripture and the guide provided below to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.

				
GOD RULES	WE SINNED	GOD PROVIDED	JESUS GIVES	WE RESPOND
Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.	Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.	Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.	Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.	Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

1 THINK ABOUT THE STORY

- **Why do miracles not seem to happen as often now as they did in the Bible?**
- **How have you seen God work in your life?**

2 GROUP DISCUSSION

Distribute Bibles. Guide preteens to open their Bibles to Mark 7. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Mark 7:36.

Explain God used four different men to write the Gospels. Two of the men, Matthew and John, were part of Jesus' twelve disciples. Mark was a friend of Peter, another disciple, and Luke was a doctor who recorded eyewitnesses' accounts of Jesus' life and ministry.

Choose another volunteer to read aloud Mark 7:36 again. Then lead the group to discuss the following questions.

1. Will God always heal sick people?

No. Sometimes God does heal sick people on earth, and sometimes He does not. While it can be hard for us to understand, we know that God does heal all who are spiritually sick and call on His name. Even though we will face hardship and sickness on earth, Christians can take comfort knowing that because of Jesus, they have eternal life and hope of heaven where there is no sickness or pain. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Revelation 21:4.)

2. What does the woman's persistence in crying out to Jesus teach us about prayer?

The Bible says we should be persistent in prayer. That means we shouldn't just pray about something one time and then give up praying. We should continue to cry out to God for ourselves and others, knowing He hears us and answers us when we pray. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Luke 11:5-10.)

3. Through today's story we saw that PEOPLE WERE AMAZED AT JESUS' MIRACLES AND PRAISED GOD. What are some things we can do that cause people to praise God?

If we are Christ-followers, it is important that our actions and words point people to God. The best way to do this is to know what God's Word says and to do it. When we obey what God says, we can show others that life with Jesus is better than anything else. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 Peter 3:15.)

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Why do we need to be born again?
Because of sin we are spiritually dead, but Jesus came to give us
new life.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

1 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY

Instruct kids to open their Bibles to John 11:25. Lead them in reading the key passage aloud together. Our key passage says that we must believe in Jesus as our Savior to be saved. When we believe in Him and repent of our sins, our sins are forgiven and we have eternal life with Him.

Form kids into groups of two or three. Challenge each group to think about the words of the key passage and create motions that go with the words. Allow groups time to come up with their motions and then invite them to present their motions to the entire group as they say the key passage together.

2 PRAY

Invite volunteers to share prayer requests. Then pray, thanking God that through Jesus our sins can be forgiven and we can have new life.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

JESUS HAS THE POWER

Invite kids to sit around tables and distribute a sheet of paper to each kid. Place colored pencils, pencils, and crayons in the center of each table. Write *Jesus has power over sin and came to bring forgiveness, life, and hope to everyone who believes in Him* on a dry erase board and direct kids to copy this statement onto their papers. Then, challenge kids to use the craft supplies to provide illustrations that go along with this statement. Encourage kids to be creative by using pictures from today's story or any pictures they think goes along with the truth that Jesus has power over everything. Display kids' completed drawings in your classroom or around your church.

Share that today we were reminded that Jesus has power over sickness and healed many people to show that He is God's Son. He also has power over sin and death. Through His death and resurrection, we can have forgiveness and eternal life with God.