



All-Powerful – Lesson 3

4K and 5K

Divine Attribute: God is all-powerful

Heart Response: Have faith

Memory Verse: Luke 18:27

“Things that are impossible with people are possible with God.”

Points of Emphasis:

1. God is the only one who has the power to do miracles.
2. God is the only one who has the power over all of creation.
3. God allows us to participate in his work to show his glory.
4. God gives us his strength and power when we put our faith in him.

Personal Preparation:

In this unit, we will study the miracles Jesus performed while here on earth. We will learn two very different truths about Jesus. We will learn that he is completely human—we see him fast asleep during a “furious” storm and we also see him attend a wedding celebration. On the other hand, the Scriptures obviously declare his divinity—being fully God. We see that although he is a man, he is still fully God. He displays his power by turning water into wine, by calming a storm, by turning five loaves and two fish into more than enough to feed over 5,000 people, and by walking on water.

These situations seemed hopeless in human terms. We do not have the ability to turn water into wine; we do not have the means to feed or meet the needs of all the people we come in contact with; we have no power over creation and the elements. These miracles show us Jesus’ authority over the impossible. Jesus has power over any storm, any lack, any chaos, any terror, and any situation.

As we share these stories with the children, let’s focus on who God is and how he is more powerful than anything we face in life. We too can have power over fear and sin through Jesus. The power that we see used in these stories is the same power that later raised Jesus from the dead and is available to us as believers.

When Jesus asks his disciples: “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”, he seems to be referring to all the things he has taught them and shown them. The word “still” indicates that Jesus has given them quite a lot of evidence about his power and love. He is saying: “After all you have seen—do you still have no faith? Why are you afraid? Do you have sufficient reason for your fears and doubts?” These are good questions for us to consider too. Do we believe that God is all-powerful and is for us? Do we trust in his power and his hope when situations seem hopeless? Remember, God is omnipotent (all-powerful). We can have faith in him!

CENTER TIME

10-20 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

To help the children transition into class, please use a center format at the beginning of each service. Set up three centers in your classroom to allow children options of activities. Ideas include, but are not limited to:

1. Read books on the floor.
2. Color at the table.
3. Play with blocks on the floor.
4. Play with puzzles at the table.
5. Play with Play-Doh at the table.

OPENING ACTIVITY

10 minutes at the start of service

The following activity is provided to begin engaging the children for the upcoming lesson. As the teacher of your class, you have an important

opportunity to come alongside the parents of these children to teach them about God.

Impossible

Supplies:

Large container (one per bin)
Medium container (one per bin)
Small container (one per bin)
Paper wad (one per bin)

Set the large container on the table or a chair. Have the children take turns throwing a paper wad into the large bin while standing about three feet from the bin. Let them get it into the bin successfully. Then, have each child try with the smaller bin. This should be harder but not impossible. Next, trade out the small bin for the small cup. Then, have them turn around so they cannot see the cup and have them try to get the paper wad into the small cup. Ask them if this is impossible. It should be impossible on their own. Then remind them of the memory verse, “Things that are impossible with people are possible with God.” Luke 18:27. Then ask, **If we have faith that God can do anything and we rely on him, can impossible things become possible? Yes! He is all-powerful and he is the strength that we need. We can have faith even when it looks like things are impossible. We can trust that God can see what we cannot. We cannot do things on our own.**

BIG GROUP TIME

please check your classroom schedule

Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time—to have fun worshiping God together. Give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the teachers up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). Teachers, you are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!

SMALL GROUP TIME

25-30 minutes

Bible Story

Supplies

Bible (Matthew 14:13-21, Mark 6:32-44, Luke 9:10-17, John 6:1-13)
Small container from opening activity (one per bin)
Set of loaves (five) and fish (two) cutouts (one set per classroom)

Did you know that Jesus is God? Jesus is all-powerful. He made everything. He created us! He loves us. He loves you and me! (Point to each child and say, “He loves [child’s name].”)

We have been learning that Jesus performed miracles to show who he is and to demonstrate his power. Do you remember what a miracle is? A miracle is an amazing thing that only God can do.

The Bible tells us about many miracles Jesus did that shows us who God is. Jesus is all-powerful! Have the children make muscles and say, “Jesus is all-powerful!” Jesus is so powerful that he turned water into . . . what? (Wine.) That is right, wine! And Jesus is so powerful that he calmed a . . . what? (A storm.) That is right, a storm! In our Bible lesson today, we are going to learn about another miracle Jesus did to show who he is.

Jesus has crossed over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, and a large crowd of people have followed him. They are following Jesus because they have seen the miracles he has done for those who were sick. Remember, God is also healer.

Jesus is with his disciples and sees the crowd of people. He welcomes them and speaks to them about God’s kingdom. He also heals those who need to be healed. Around dinnertime, all of the people get hungry. Raise your hand if you’ve ever been really hungry. (Allow time for responses.)

Jesus’ disciples tell Jesus that he should send the people away so they can get food for themselves. But Jesus tells the disciples, “You give them something to eat.” But there are over 5,000 people who need to be fed! The disciples

try to explain to Jesus that there are too many people to feed. They say to Jesus, “We only have five loaves and two fish. We would have to go buy food for this entire crowd.” (Show the children the basket with the loaves and fish.) **Could you feed over 5,000 people with only this much food? No way! That would not be enough food for that many people. But Jesus isn’t worried about feeding that many people because Jesus is God! Jesus is all-powerful!** (Have the kids repeat, “Jesus is all-powerful!”)

Jesus tells the disciples to have everyone sit down. Then, Jesus takes bread and looks up toward heaven and thanks God the Father. Then, he breaks the bread into pieces and hands it to the disciples. He tells the disciples to set it in front of all the people. Jesus then does the same with the fish.

All of the people eat as much as they want and are satisfied. (Rub your tummy as if it were full.) **There is more than enough! In fact, the Bible tells us that there were twelve baskets of leftovers!**

Could the disciples have fed all of those people on their own? No, Jesus wanted the disciples to participate in what he was doing, but it is only by his power that all those people were fed. Remember our verse, “Things that are impossible with people are possible with God.” Luke 18:27

We can have faith in Jesus. He will take care of us when we need something because he is our all-powerful God. Let’s all say, “Jesus is all-powerful!” (Have the kids repeat, “Jesus is all-powerful!”)

Jesus wants us to listen and obey him. We should also give to others like he instructed the disciples to do. It would have been easier for the disciples to send the people to get their own food, but Jesus calls us to love and serve one another. We get to participate in what God is doing, but it is only by his power that things are possible.

Prayer

Prayer time may not be appropriate immediately following story time. If this is the case, we ask that you be intentional about praying spontaneously or formally with the children at other times during class.

Thank you, Father, for being all-powerful. Help us to trust you to take care of us. Thank you for providing all we need and more so we can be generous with others like you are generous with us. We love you. Amen.

Fed By Jesus

Supplies:

All-Powerful plate (one per child)

Set of labels – five loaves, two fish (one set per child)

Give each child a place setting to color and a set of labels with two fish and five bread labels. Once the children have colored their plate, help them stick the loaves and fish labels to the plate. Talk about how God fed so many people with just two fish and five loaves of bread. **Jesus was calling his disciples to participate in what he was doing. He wanted the disciples to feed the people, but they could not do it on their own. When we have faith in Jesus, the impossible becomes possible.** Have the kids, again, repeat, “Jesus is all-powerful!”

***Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn’t matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. ***

SNACK & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

last 30 minutes

Please wash the children’s hands before snack time and say a prayer thanking God for the food. As they are eating their snack, please take time to go over the review questions.

Review Questions

1. **How many fish did Jesus use to feed 5,000 people?** (Two.)
2. **How many loaves did Jesus use to feed 5,000 people?** (Five.)
3. **Who can we trust to take care of us?** (Jesus!)
4. **Did Jesus want the disciples to feed all of those people?** (Yes!)
5. **Could the disciples have fed 5,000 people on their own with five loaves and two fish?**
(No. Only God is powerful enough to do a miracle like that!)

Pass the Food

Supplies

Fish or bread cutout from Bible lesson or piece of plastic toy food if available (one per bin)
CD player and CD/GCK Spotify playlist

Have the children sit in a circle. Tell them that they will have a piece of food to hand around the circle. Tell them that you will play some music, and when the music stops, the person holding the food should stand up and shout, "Jesus is all-powerful!" Play multiple times. For older children, ask them the review questions or memory verse when they stand up.

