



Healer – Lesson I

4K and 5K

Divine Attribute: God is Healer

Heart Response: Pray to him

Memory Verse: Psalm 103:3

“He forgives all my sin. He heals all my sickness.”

Points of Emphasis:

1. Jesus healed many people from sin and sickness.
2. We can trust and believe that God has the power to heal.
3. We can pray to God and ask him to heal us.
4. God forgives our sin when we ask and believe.

Personal Preparation:

In this unit, we will take a look at the lives of several people who were in seemingly impossible situations—a paralyzed man (Mark 2:1-12), the father of a dying girl (Luke 8:40-56), a blind man (John 9), a group of lepers (Luke 17:11-17), and grieving friends after Lazarus’ death (John 11:17-44).

As you read through these Bible stories, you will get a sense of how desperate these people were to be near Jesus. They knew Jesus had the power to heal them; they broke social barriers just to get near him. They didn’t worry about what the world thought of them. They needed Jesus and lived like they believed that he had something they needed more than anything else.

As you prepare to share this lesson with your class, take some time to pray. Tell God about the areas that need to be restored in your life. Ask him to be your strength and your light in all areas of your life. He has the power over death and he can bring light to even the darkest part of our hearts. Ask him to show you the areas where you are holding back because of social barriers or reputation. Surrender all of it to him and thank him for the provision that has already taken place.

God loves his people and is worthy of our worship and our entire lives.

As you teach your class, look for opportunities to point the children to Jesus. Model for them what it means to ask for God’s help and to thank him for his answers. Teach them who God is, and create space for them to seek God and pray to 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.

Memory Verse Poster

Supplies:

Memory verse poster (one per bin)

Piece of paper – already in room (one per child)

Hang the verse poster on the board. You can give each child a piece of paper to color as you go over the memory verse with them a few times. You may want to give them some direction on what to

draw, based on the attribute/lesson. For example, you could say something like “Draw a picture of someone you know and love” and talk to them about people and relationships in our lives.

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

Lesson picture - paralyzed man (one per bin)

(Open your Bible.) **The Bible says, “He forgives all my sin. He heals all my sickness.” Psalm 103:3. That is our new memory verse. Can you say that with me?”** (Have the children repeat the Bible verse with you one or two times before beginning the story.)

Today, we will begin learning about Jesus being a healer. Can you say “healer?” This means that Jesus makes sick people better. When Jesus heals someone, it is a miracle. A miracle is a special thing that only God can do. Let’s begin our story.

When Jesus is in a town named Capernaum, the people hear (put your hand up to your ear) that Jesus is in a house there. Many people come into the house where Jesus is. In fact, so many people are in the house that there is no room (shake your head “no”) for any more people—even near the door! All of the people are in the crowded, full house listening to Jesus teach God’s Word.

Outside, a group of four (hold up four fingers) men come to the house. (Pat the table as if walking.) The four men are carrying a man who is paralyzed. Can you say “paralyzed”? “Paralyzed” means that the man cannot use his legs to walk. That is why he has to be carried by the four men (hold up four fingers).

The four men cannot get to Jesus because there are so many people in the house. So the four men dig a hole through the roof of the house above Jesus’ head. Then the men lower the paralyzed man down into the house on a mat through the hole in the roof. (Show lesson picture)

When Jesus sees what the men have done, he knows they have great faith in him. Jesus says to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Jesus forgives the man of his sins, and he tells the man to pick up his mat and walk.

What do you think the paralyzed man does when Jesus tells him to get up and walk? (Allow time for answers.) Remember, this man is paralyzed. He can’t walk. The Bible tells us that the man stands up on his legs and walks. Wow! This is a miracle! Can you say “miracle”? Jesus has healed this man. We can praise Jesus because he is a healer!

We can always pray to God and tell him what we need. He wants to heal us not just when we are sick or hurt, but he also came to heal our hearts. He can forgive our sins and make us brand new. He wants to heal us from our sin because it is not good for us. He loves us and wants us to live a life of loving him and others. Let’s pray and talk to God.

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.

Lord, you are our healer. We know that we can trust you with the answers to our prayers. And we know that you love us. Amen.

The Paralyzed Man

Supplies:

Spool of neutral colored yarn (four 3" pieces per child) (one per bin)

Piece of cardstock cut to 2.8 x 5.5 (one per child)

Paralyzed man cutout (one per child)

Tape

Crayons

Have the children color the picture of the paralyzed man and glue it onto the cardstock. Tape a piece of yarn to each corner of the cardstock. (You could also punch holes in each corner, thread the yarn through, and tie a knot on the back.) Have the children hold the yarn at the top to pretend like they are carrying the paralyzed man to Jesus.

***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. **Why did the paralyzed man's friends lower him down through the roof?** (Because he was desperate to see Jesus and believed that Jesus could heal him.)
2. **What did Jesus do for the sick man?** (He forgave him and healed him.)
3. **How did the men help their friend?** (They took him to see Jesus. They carried him.)
4. **Who healed the paralyzed man?** (Jesus.)
5. **How can we talk to Jesus?** (We can pray.)
6. **When can we pray?** (Anytime.)
7. **Where can we pray?** (Anywhere.)

Jesus Says

Have children sit on the floor with their legs straight out in front of them. Remind them of the paralyzed man who couldn't move his legs. Give them instructions like, "Jesus says, 'Wiggle your toes,'" "Jesus says, 'Tap your knees,'" etc. At the end, say, "Jesus says, 'Stand up and walk.'"

