



Healer – Lesson 5

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.

In and Out of the Tomb

Supplies:

Roll of painters tape (one per bin)

Make a line on the floor with a strip of painters tape. Have the children line up in a straight line facing you on the right side of the line. Tell them that the right side of the line is “In the Tomb” and the left side of the line is “Out of the Tomb.” Demonstrate for them that when you say, “In the tomb” or “Out of the tomb” the children should

jump to the correct side. If the children jump in the wrong direction or don't jump to the other side when you tell them, remind them to listen carefully and follow the command. For older children you can try and get the players to jump incorrectly by pointing to one side as you say to jump to the opposite side or by repeating the same side and/or changing the pace. Then let them know that you are going to learn about a man that Jesus told to come out of his tomb after he had been dead for days! That would be impossible for us, but not for God, who is Healer.

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 (John 11:17-44)

We have a new lesson this week. As you may remember, we've been talking about how God is Healer. Our memory verse tells us, "He forgives all my sin. He heals all my sickness." Psalm 103:3. Can you say that with me? (Have the children repeat the Bible verse with you 1-2 times before beginning the story.)

Do you remember what a "miracle" is? (Allow the children to answer.) **That's right. A miracle is an amazing thing that only God can do. Can you tell me some miracles that Jesus did in healing people that we've learned the last few weeks?** (Made a paralyzed man walk, healed Jairus' dying daughter, helped a blind man see, healed a group of lepers.) **Today, we're going to talk about another miracle that Jesus did to show**

his power.

Our Bible story today is from John 11. (Open the Bible to John 11: 17.)

Did you know that Jesus has some friends named Mary and Martha? They have a brother named Lazarus. Lazarus is a very dear friend of Jesus, but one day he gets very, very sick. When he gets sick, how do you think Mary and Martha feel? (Sad, worried that he won't get better)

They want him to get better, so they send a message to Jesus. Why do you think they send a message to Jesus? (They want him to know, they know that Jesus can heal Lazarus.)

Do you think that Jesus comes immediately after getting the message that Lazarus is very, very sick? (Allow children to guess.)

No, he actually doesn't. Even though he loves Mary, Martha, and Lazarus a lot, he waits a few more days before going to see them. When Jesus hears that Lazarus is sick, he says, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory. God's Son will receive glory because of it."

By the time Jesus gets to where Mary and Martha live, Lazarus has already died. How do you think Mary and Martha feel now? (Sad, upset that Jesus didn't come earlier to heal him while he was still alive.)

Mary and Martha each go out to meet Jesus. Martha says to him, "Lord, if you had been here Lazarus would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask."

Mary and Martha know that Jesus is Healer and could have kept Lazarus alive. They have faith and trust in Jesus that he can do anything. But, now they are wondering why Jesus didn't keep Lazarus from dying, and heal him while he was sick, like Jesus heals other people.

Jesus says to Martha, "Your brother will rise again. I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live forever, even after dying on earth. Do you believe this?"

“Yes, Lord,” she tells him, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world.”

Jesus goes to the tomb where Lazarus is and he tells the people “Take away the stone.”

Martha says, “But Lord, by this time there will be a bad smell. Lazarus has been dead in the tomb for four days.”

Then Jesus says to her, “Didn’t I tell you that if you believe you would see God’s glory?”

So they open the tomb by rolling the stone away. (Look up, as you continue.) Then Jesus looks up and says, “Father, I thank you for hearing me. You always hear me, but I said this aloud so the people standing here will believe that you sent me.”

Then Jesus says in a LOUD voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

What do you think happens? (Allow children to answer.) That’s right! Lazarus comes walking out with strips of linen around his hands and feet and a cloth around his face! Jesus had raised Lazarus from death back to life. It was another miracle!

Once again, Jesus showed his disciples that he is all-powerful, and he is in control of everything. Jesus can give life because Jesus is God! Jesus gives us life, too! We can trust Jesus to take care of us because he is our Healer.

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, that you are Healer. Help us to have faith in you and pray. You are the giver of life. Thank you for dying on the cross for us, and for conquering death so that we can have a new life with you. Amen.

Lazarus Alive Again

Supplies:

Toilet paper tube (one per child)

Rolls of gauze (four per bin)

Round clothespin with eyes drawn on (one per child)

Tape (classroom supplies)

Give each child a toilet paper tube and a strip of gauze. Have them roll the gauze around the tube and put a small piece of tape on the end to keep it in place. Then give them each one round clothespin and tell them to put Lazarus inside the tube. Then remind them in our Bible lesson today Jesus came to Lazarus after he was already dead for several days. Ask the children, “When Jesus got to the tomb, what did he say?” Remind them that Jesus said “Lazarus, come out!”

***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. What were the names of Jesus' friends in the story?** (Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.)
- 2. What happened to Lazarus?** (He died.)
- 3. What happened when Jesus told Lazarus to come out of the tomb?** (Lazarus walked out, he was alive.)
- 4. Who raised Lazarus from the dead?** (Jesus!)
- 5. Who gives us life?** (Jesus, God.)
- 6. Who can we trust to take care of us and heal us?** (Jesus!)
- 7. Who can do anything? (God; he is powerful!)**

Wrap Lazarus

Supplies

Rolls of toilet paper (2 per bin)

Form two teams. Have each team stand in a circle and pick one person on each team to be Lazarus. Have Lazarus stand in the middle of the circle. On "go," have each team use one roll of toilet paper to wrap Lazarus. Have each Lazarus stand still until both people being Lazarus are wrapped up. Then call out, "Lazarus, come out!" See who can be the first to free themselves from the toilet paper. Play as many times as time and toilet paper supplies allow.

