

THE BIBLE

Jesus Heals the Leper: Luke 5:12-15

LARGE GROUP ORDER

WELCOME, RULES & ANNOUNCEMENTS (3 min)

WORSHIP SONG (3min)

PASSING OF THE PEACE (1 min)

ATTENTION GRABBER (4 min)

THE BIG IDEA (1 min)

MEMORY VERSE (3 min)

PRAYER (2 min)

BIBLE STORY (6 min)

WORSHIP SONG (3 min)

OFFERING (during song)

DISMISSAL (1 min)

LARGE GROUP

WELCOME, RULES & ANNOUNCEMENTS (3 min)

WORSHIP SONG (3min) | "All Around The World"

PASSING OF THE PEACE (1 min)

ATTENTION GRABBER (4 min) | The Unbelievable Paper Hole

- Now let's do an experiment that seems impossible. Does anyone think they can cut a hole in this piece of paper that's big enough for a grownup to walk through?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** This is one of the coolest and simplest paper tricks to amaze kids. It's easy! Promise.
 - 1. To cut a hole in a piece of paper that is big enough for a human to walk through, start by folding a piece of paper in half lengthwise, so it is a long rectangle.
 - 2. Cut a little slit at the top, about ¼ inch from the top, starting from the folded side stopping ¼ inch from the edge, then cut another slit on the other end.
 - 3. Open the paper and cut straight down the fold in the middle line, between the two slits.
 - 4. Fold the paper back in half how you just had it and make cuts, alternating between the folded side and the unfolded side, back and forth, about ¼ inch from each other, and each one stopping ¼ inch from the end.
 - 5. When you're done, unfold it, and the paper will magically make a "hole" that is big enough for any grown adult to walk through.

Before you start cutting, let a few older kids come up and try to cut a few pieces of paper. After they aren't able to do it, then make the cuts in front of them. While you're making cuts, talk to the kids about the power of Jesus.

- Jesus is all powerful. He uses His power to help people. That's what the miracles
 of Jesus were all about: helping people. He wants to do unbelievable things in our
 lives.
- Think about how amazed the people must have been after Jesus performed His miracles!

THE BIG IDEA (1 min) | Jesus cares about us when we are sick.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea.
- This week's Big Idea: **Jesus cares about us when we are sick.**

MEMORY VERSE (3 min) | John 14:6

I AM THE WAY (hold one arm out to the side)
THE TRUTH (hold the other arm out to the side)
AND THE LIFE (point both arms up).
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER (shake one finger)
EXCEPT THROUGH ME (point up).

PRAYER (2 min)

BIBLE STORY (6 min) | Luke 5:12-15

- In our Bible story today, we're going to learn about someone who was sick with a
 disease called leprosy. Leprosy is a sickness that causes blisters and sores all over
 someone's skin. It is contagious, which means it can spread by touching people.
 People with leprosy were called lepers.
- Lepers were considered unclean and were treated as outcasts. They had to live together in the streets outside of town and couldn't talk to or see their family or friends, who were too afraid of getting sick to see them.
- We'll see in our story today that Jesus was different from everyone else. He didn't avoid people with leprosy. He went to them. He cared for them.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the story in your Bible and encourage kids to do the same. Read it!
- FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: During the Bible story, give your kids with special needs a doll and tell them to pretend the doll is sick and they can take care of it. You can give them a mini "First Aid Kit" with things like bandages or a toy stethoscope they can use to pretend to take care of the doll.
- A miracle is something only God can do. There are 37 miracles of Jesus recorded in the Bible, and all of them were done to help others and show God's power. They were not just for fun or for show.
- Out of those 37 miracles, 25 of them were about Jesus healing people who were hurt or sick.
- We can read in the first four books of the New Testament, known as the Gospels, about what Jesus did during His ministry on earth. He spent a lot of His time helping and caring for people who were sick or needed help.
- When you are sick, or when you know someone who is sick, you can pray to God and ask Him for healing.
- Sometime God heals our bodies and sometimes He doesn't, but Jesus showed us that God always loves us and takes care of us when we're sick.
- Have you ever known someone who was sick and was healed, either through doctors or medicine, or through a miracle?

NOTE: Keep in mind that some kids may have questions about why some people are healed and others are not. This is a deep subject, and if kids want to discuss it, you can remind them that not everyone in the Bible was healed (Paul talks about a 'thorn' in his flesh, which was a physical ailment that he had to live with), and that many times, people can grow closer to God

in their suffering. Jesus identifies with all who suffer, because He himself suffered and endured pain. You can also remind kids that the ultimate healing is when people get to spend eternity in heaven with Jesus, with perfect bodies and no more pain.

OFFERING (during song) | UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)

WORSHIP SONG (3 min) | "Let's Get A Little Crazy"

DISMISSAL (1 min)

ELEMENTARY SMALL GROUP

GAME | Chocolate Unicorn

- Let's pretend for a second that unicorns are real. What part of a unicorn makes it magical? Their horns, of course! We're going to play a game where we see who can build a unicorn horn using small chocolate cakes.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Call up two kids to play the game and give them each seven unwrapped chocolate ding dongs or mini chocolate cakes. Have them tilt their heads back. Give them 60 seconds and see who can stack seven cakes on their forehead. At the end of 60 seconds, the person with the tallest horn wins.
- Your unicorn horns are pretty incredible. Unicorns are amazing and beautiful, but (unfortunately) they're not real.
- When Jesus was here on earth, He did some pretty incredible miracles that some people found it hard to believe in — that is, until they saw His miracles with their own eyes. We're going to learn today about a time when Jesus miraculously healed someone who was sick.

REVIEW BIBLE STORY | Luke 5:12-15

- A miracle is something only God can do. There are 37 miracles of Jesus recorded in the Bible, and all of them were done to help others and show God's power. They were not just for fun or for show.
- Out of those 37 miracles, 25 of them were about Jesus healing people who were hurt or sick.
- We can read in the first four books of the New Testament, known as the Gospels, about what Jesus did during His ministry on earth. He spent a lot of His time helping and caring for people who were sick or needed help.
- When you are sick, or when you know someone who is sick, you can pray to God and ask Him for healing.
- Sometime God heals our bodies and sometimes He doesn't, but Jesus showed us that God always loves us and takes care of us when we're sick.
- Have you ever known someone who was sick and was healed, either through doctors or medicine, or through a miracle?
- How do you think Jesus felt when the man stopped him and asked for healing?
- What did Jesus do to heal the man? (He touched him.)
- How do you think the man felt after he had been healed?
- How do you feel when you are sick and someone helps you?
- Who do you know that you can show love to this week, and how can you help them?
- What is a miracle? (Something that only God can do.)
- If you could ask God for a miracle, what would you ask for?

ACTIVITY | Helping Hands

- Since we're talking about Jesus' healing touch, we're going to trace our hands and remember that we can use our hands to help people too.
- Jesus had compassion for the lepers and wasn't afraid to be near them even though they were outcasts where they lived.
- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Give each child a sheet of black construction paper and a piece of chalk. Have them trace their hand prints on the black paper. Give each child a red heart sticker to place on the palm parts of each handprint. Tell them sometimes God uses us be his hands so we can help people in unbelievable ways. Tell them to write on their handprint one person they can help and how they can help them.
- Jesus cared about the sick people. His loving touch was life-changing for everyone He encountered.
- We can share Jesus' love with others by helping people and praying for them when they are sick.
- Take this handprint home as a reminder to use your hands to share the love of Jesus with people by helping them and praying for them.

MEMORY VERSE | John 14:6

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THE TRUTH (hold the other arm out to the side)
AND THE LIFE (point both arms up).
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER (shake one finger)
EXCEPT THROUGH ME (point up).

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer. Today, we're going to thank God for helping us when we were sick, and we are also going to pray for people who are sick. Who do you know that is sick?
- Dear God, thank you for being our healer and our comforter. Today, we want to pray for the people in our lives who are sick. We ask you to heal them and help them, amen.

PARENT PICKUP

While waiting, the students can color, complete any unfinished activities, redo other games or activities, play Hangman or a different game on the board.

PRESCHOOL SMALL GROUP

WATCH VIDEO

SNACK & BIBLE STORY REVIEW | Story Retell (Luke 5:12-15)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!
- What disease did the man in the Bible story have? (Leprosy.)
- What was the miracle in the Bible story? (Jesus healed the man who had leprosy.)
- What did Jesus do to heal him? (Jesus touched him.)
- How do you think the man felt after Jesus healed him?
- How does Jesus feel about people who are sick? (Jesus cares about them.)

GAME | Spots on, Spots Off

- What did the disease leprosy make the man have all over his body? That's right, sores and spots. But did the spots stay on the man after he met Jesus? No, Jesus healed him and the sores disappeared. Let's play a game to help make the spots disappear from this stuffed animal.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put the stuffed animal (you can use a unicorn if you have one, to go with the theme) or baby doll on one side of the room and line the kids up on the other side. Give them each a dot sticker and let them run, one by one, to put it on the stuffed animal or doll, Then, once they have all gone, let them run back one by one and take the dots off. Optional: let them put band-aides on after the spots are gone.
- How do you think the man felt when Jesus healed him from leprosy? What do you think the man did?
- He was probably so happy! Remember, Jesus healed him because Jesus cares about people who are sick.

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ACTIVITY | Healing Hands

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Trace each kid's hand (or let them trace their own, if they can) on a piece of construction paper. Give them two band-aides and tell them to put the band-aides in the shape of a cross in the middle of their hand. Then let them color their pictures.

- The cross on your picture will remind you that Jesus is the healer for people who are hurt or sick. The hand reminds you that you can use your hands to help people who are sick.
- Take your picture home to remind you of our Bible story today.

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer. Today, we're going to thank God for helping us when we were sick, and we are also going to pray for people who are sick. Who do you know that is sick?
- Dear God, thank you for being our healer and our comforter. Today, we want to pray for the people in our lives who are sick. We ask you to heal them and help them, amen.

PARENT PICK UP

• While waiting, the students can color, complete any unfinished activities, redo other games or activities, play with the toys in the room.