Peter Healed a Man

Acts 3-4 | K-3rd Grade Unit 28 - Session 2 **26**

STORY POINT:

The Holy Spirit gave Peter power to heal a man who could not walk.

KEY PASSAGE:

"His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who call us to his own glory and excellence."

2 Peter 1:3

AS KIDS ARRIVE:

As kids arrive let them color and work on their activity pages. There are also some floor games they can play with like LEGOS, blocks, Go Fish, etc.

WELCOME KIDS AND GO OVER UP RULES:

"We are so glad you are here today! My name is ______. We always love hanging out with you and opening up the Bible together. We have a lot of fun things planned for today and I'm going to need your help to make it happen. Do you remember any of our UP Rules?"

Rules will always be on the wall in each room so you can refer back to them.

(Let the kids respond and remind them if they get off track)

- 1. Listen Up
- 2. Look Up
- 3. Sit Up
- 4. Hand Up
- 5. Zip Up
- 6. Mask Up
- 7. Clean Up

OPENING QUESTION:

Invite kids to come to the floor and sit on a log cushion. Ask them the following question to help start the conversation for the day.

SAY: "Before we get started I have a quick question for you. Would you rather be sick for a month and eat all the candy and junk food you wanted or not be sick for a month and not be able to eat candy or junk food the whole month?

(Give the children time to respond.)

SAY: That's a tough question! But it's also interesting to think about being sick. Sometimes we are sick and we forget what it's like to feel normal, don't we? Have you ever heard or seen someone get healed from being really sick?

(Let the kids respond)

Our story today is about how someone was healed of their sickness.

OPENING ACTIVITY: Leapscotch

Supplies: tape

Use tape to make a modified hopscotch style grid on the floor. Make each square a few feet away from the next, so that kids must jump a bit further than they would in a normal hopscotch game. Then play a game of "leapscotch."

SAY: Normally this game has the squares much closer together and we call the game hopscotch. But today we had to leap to get from square to square. Today, we will learn about a time Peter healed a man who could not walk. Afterwards, the man was leaping around and praising God! How do you think Peter healed the man?

BIBLE STORY: Peter Healed a Man

Acts 3-4 - Unit 28 - Session 2

Supplies: Action figures and a block temple made out of LEGOS or blocks (Tell the Bible story using the story below and then show the Bible story video)

Go over Key Passage: 2 Peter 1:3

A bookmark will be in a Bible at 2 Peter 1:3. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud.

SAY: "God wants people to have everything they need to live a life that pleases Him, so He sends his Holy Spirit to help everyone who is a follower of Jesus."

(Encourage kids to repeat after you)

"His divine power"

"has given us all things"

"for life and godliness,"

"through the knowledge"

"of him who called us"

"to his own glory and excellence."

The word "divine" means from God or from heaven. And the word "godliness" means living like God wants us to live or obeying God.

SAY: Alright, if you're ready to hear our story, touch your nose and then touch your toes! Then touch your nose. And put your finger over your mouth.

SAY: No other book is like the Bible. The Bible is God's one big story that teaches us how he has worked through all of history and rescued us from sin. Today's Bible story is found in the book of Acts.

STORYTELLER TIP: Ask a couple children to come up front to use the props to help tell the story. As you tell the story, cue the child with ideas in parentheses of what to do.

SAY: Today we are going to tell our story by acting out certain parts. But I'm going to need some help.

One afternoon, Peter and John—two of Jesus' followers—went to the temple to pray (use the action figures to show Peter and John going to pray, make them kneel down). They saw a man sitting by a gate. The man could not walk (put an action figure sitting by the gate).

Sometimes people call individuals who cannot walk "lame". Every day, the man's friends carried him to the temple (show the action figures carrying their friend). As people entered the temple, the man asked them for money since he couldn't work (have the kids parade different action figures by the crippled man and have him ask for money).

Peter said to the man, "Look at us." (turn the crippled man toward Peter) The man looked at Peter and John, expecting them to give him something.

Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you, but I will give you what I do have." Then Peter said, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" (have the child who is playing Peter to repeat after you "In the name of Jesus...")

Peter reached out and helped the man up (have Peter reach out and help the man up). All of a sudden, the man's feet and ankles were strong. He could walk! In fact, the man leaped around (Have the man leap around)! He went into the temple with Peter and John, and he praised God (have them sing Hallelujah!). The people in the temple saw that the man was healed, and they were amazed.

The next day, the religious leaders asked Peter and John (have Peter and John stand before another action figure that looks like a religious leader), "How did you heal this man? By what power or in what name did you do this?"

Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit. He said (move Peter around like he's addressing the religious leaders), "This man was healed by the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth. You nailed Jesus to a cross, but God raised Him from the dead. It is because of Him that this man is healed!"

Peter told the religious leaders that they rejected Jesus because they thought He was not important, but He is the most important One of all.

The religious leaders didn't know what to say. They ordered Peter and John to never preach or teach in the name of Jesus again (have the religious leader point at Peter and John). Peter and John said, "Do you think it would be right for us to listen to you instead of God? We cannot be quiet. We must tell people about what we have seen and heard."

Peter and John met with other believers and prayed that God would give them power to speak boldly and without fear (have Peter and John kneel down like they are praying).

Here is how this points us to Jesus: After Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples power to begin doing God's work on earth. With the power of Jesus' name, Peter healed a man who was couldn't walk. Not even the religious leaders could stop Jesus' followers from sharing the good news about Jesus.

(Feel free to show the Bible Story video if you have time to help reinforce the story.)

Our Big Picture Question helps us think about how our story points us to Jesus.

Big Picture Question:

How Does the Holy Spirit help Christians? The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

PRAYER:

(You can take prayer requests from kids before you pray if you want to pray for the kids. You can also ask a child if they would like to pray.)

"Father, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit. And thank you for taking care of us when we are sick and when we are feeling well. Help us to listen to His voice and obey You in all we do with our hands, our feet, our eyes, our ears and our mouth. Give us courage to live for You. Amen."

CRAFT: Feel Better Soon Card

Supplies: band-aid, blank card and envelope, googly eyes, glue stick or glue dots Instructions:

- **1.** Give each child a card.
- **2.** Have children write "Feel Better Soon" on the front of their card.
- **3.** Give each child a band-aid. Show them how to stick it on the card.
- **4.** Give each child two or three googly eyes.
- **5.** Help them glue their eyes to the band-aid.
- **6.** Allow them to decorate their card more if they want or write a note to someone who might be sick.

SAY • Doctors help us when we are sick or injured. Sometimes they give us medicine that helps us feel better. Doctors could not help the man who could not walk. He sat by the gate day after day, hoping someone would give him money because he could not work. When Peter and John saw him, they gave the man something more important than money. By the power of the Holy Spirit, Peter healed the man who could not walk. The man walked and jumped all the way to the temple so he could worship God.

People are not always healed when they are sick or can't walk. Sometimes people stay sick for a long time. But we can always show kindness by letting them know we are praying for them and finding ways to help them. Try sending this card to someone when they are sick or hurt and let them know you are praying that they would feel better.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why did the man who could not walk sit at the gate by the temple every day? (to ask people for money)
- 2. What did Peter do when the man asked for help? (Peter healed the man who could not walk.)
- 3. What did the man do next? (He went into the temple, walking, leaping, and praising God.)
- 4.Did Peter and John agree when the religious leaders told them to stop telling people about Jesus? (No, they could not be quiet about Jesus.)
- **5.How does the Holy Spirit help Christians?** The Holy Spirit comforts us, shows us our sin, and guides us as we live for God's glory.

If you finish early, allow children to play on the floor with games or color while they wait for their parents.