



Peter Healed a Man

May 9, 2021- 3rd Grade - 5th Grade (Mother's Day)

BIBLE PASSAGE: Acts 3-4

KEY PASSAGE: Romans 1:16

BOTTOM LINE: The Holy Spirit empowers me to live a Godly life.

CHRIST CONNECTION: After Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the power to do what they could never do on their own. With the power of Jesus' name, Peter healed a man who was lame. Not even the religious leaders could stop Jesus' followers from sharing the good news about Jesus.

Context

With the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were empowered to carry out Jesus' mission for them: to take the gospel to all the nations. More and more people believed in Jesus. They met together at the temple to praise and worship God, and the first church began.

One afternoon, two of Jesus' disciples- Peter and John- went to the temple to pray. They encountered at the gate a man who could not walk. Rather than give the man money, Peter gave him something much more valuable: immediate physical healing in Jesus' name.

As you teach this Bible story to kids, keep three things in mind. First Peter's healing the beggar was not magic: it was a miracle. Beginning in Acts 3:12, Peter responded to the people who were amazed at what had happened. "Why are you amazed at this... as though we had made him walk by our own power?" The man wasn't healed because Peter was a super-believer. Peter explained that it was by Jesus' power the man was healed.

Second, the man's healing made him happy and thankful. He entered the temple and rejoiced! Consider the wonderful miracle of salvation. We are dead in our sin, and God makes us alive in Christ! How we should rejoice and give thanks to the Lord!

Finally, Peter and John were bold in their witness. When confronted by the religious leaders, they did not shy away. Peter and John preached about the salvation found in Jesus. In fact, they said they were "unable to stop speaking about what [they had] seen and heard." (Acts 4:20)

The same power that enabled Peter to heal a man who was lame- the power of the Holy Spirit- enables believers today to live on mission for Jesus. Pray that God would give the kids you teach a willingness to be used by Him for His glory and for the fame of Jesus' name.

TAKEAWAYS

- Peter and John went to the temple to pray but God had other plans for them.
- On the way into the temple, they met a paralyzed man who was begging for money.
- Instead of giving him money, they offered him healing in the name of Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit worked and the man was healed. The man got up and started walking, jumping, and praising God!
- Everyone who saw him was amazed at what had been done in Jesus' name.

- **BOTTOM LINE:** The Holy Spirit empowers me to live a Godly life.

Small Group Prayer: “Father God, thank you for each of the kids in our circle today. God as we learn about you guide our conversations and help each kid to see you in a better way today. Thank you for Jesus and the promise to rescue us. We love you and want to worship you with our whole lives. In Jesus name, Amen.”

Social Activity: I Spy Activity Page or What Can You Build

What You Need: Week 1 I Spy Activity page (1 per kid), clothes pins, popsicles sticks, other miscellaneous building supplies, pencils, crayons

What You Do:

Give each kid an I spy activity page to complete as others arrive. They can circle or color in the pictures as they find the objects. See who can complete the page fastest.

OR

Using clothes pins, popsicle sticks and other building supplies kids will work together to build the tallest structure, the widest structure, the structure with the most peaks, etc. Encourage kids to use their creativity and work together with everyone to build a unique structure.

What You Say: As kids are coming in, set up the game and ask kids to join you as you play the game. Games are a great way for kids to engage with each other and you as you get to know each other. Use this time to ask them questions about their week and any other important follow up questions to things you have talked about in the past.

Play a Worship Song or 2 from your Worship DVD/Roku
Play the Large Group teaching DVD/Roku

Application Activity: Too Many Simons

What You Need : no supplies needed

What You Do:

- Select two or more volunteers to lead the game.
- Instruct the volunteers to give commands.
- The rest of the kids will only obey the commands of the volunteers when the volunteer says “Simon Says” before issuing the command.
- The kids may choose which of the two leaders’ “Simon says” commands they will obey.

What You Say “That game was chaos, wasn’t it? It’s hard enough to only obey the “Simon says” commands when it’s one leader giving them, but with many leaders and no clear direction on who you are supposed to obey, it’s impossible to keep track of things.

In our story today, Peter and John had two different sets of commands of Jesus to share gospel with everyone and heal people in His name; and the commands of the religious leaders to never speak about Jesus again. Thankfully, Peter and John were wise enough to know that Jesus is the most important leader to obey. He is God’s Son!

The Bible tells us to obey government authorities, so we know that we don’t get to live in ways that break the law. However, if anyone ever gives you a command that goes against Jesus, you can be sure that obeying Jesus is the right call, no matter who is asking you to disobey Him.

Key Passage Activity:

As you read the key passage together, encourage kids to help put the correct words in the blank together as you say each of the highlighted words while reading...

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
 The old has gone, the new is here! **2 Corinthians 5:17**

Why are these words important? These words show us the focus of this passage in the Bible. Therefore =

transition, pay attention now , *anyone*= everyone has the chance to believe , *in*= joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior , *creation*= reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit , *old*= the previous moral and spiritual condition , *here*=because spiritual awakening brings a new life

Discussion Questions:

- **What do you think the man needed more- money or healing? Why?** Help kids recognize the man had spent his life begging for money, but Peter, through the power of the Holy Spirit, was able to give the man much more than money. He was able to give him the gift of a healed body. God has the power to do more than we could ever imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)
- **How did Peter and John's confidence in the power of the Holy Spirit help effect the way Peter and John shared the good news?** Help kids recognize that Peter and John were able to speak boldly because they knew they had the power of the Holy Spirit. All believers can have the confidence to share the truth of the gospel with boldness. (Romans 1:16)
- **Will God heal every person who has an illness or disability?** Guide kids to think through two lenses: the lens of our physical lives now and our eternal lives with God. Even though not everyone will have their physical ailments healed now, everyone who believes in Jesus will one day live in a restored world with no pain, sadness, sickness, or death.
- **Why should I trust God with my wants and needs?** Help kids recognize that God's plans are so much better than anything we could want or plan for ourselves. (Isaiah 55:8)