

HOOK

GAME: PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE KING

Get kids in 2 or 3 equal teams, lined up at the back of the hall. Choose one of each team as the king, who will stand last in line. Maybe get some crowns for the king?

Each team gets some paper/card/newspapers; should be 1 pc for each person

Aim: to lay down steps (paper) one by one and create a path to the other end of the hall so that the king can cross.

First person puts down one piece and steps on it. Second person passes him another piece; then third etc. Everybody has to make it across the hall, so they have to keep passing paper and moving forward in the fastest way possible.

Then once all the steps are laid out, and everyone has reached the other side of the hall, the king can cross over.

First team with the king crossing wins.

STORY: JOHN THE BAPTIST & JESUS (Mark 1:1-11)

INTRODUCTION

Today we will start a new series on the book of Mark.

Mark:

- In the New Testament
- One of the 4 books that tell the life of Jesus (known as Gospels)
Can you name the other 3?
- We will look at the life and ministry of Jesus through Mark's eyes.

STORY

Meet John

In today's story, we meet Jesus' cousin. His name is **John**.

One day, when John was about 31, God called him for a special job. God told John to tell the people something important:

- You need to be rescued
- I have good news — the Rescuer is coming
- Make your hearts ready for Him!

So John went to the wilderness and started telling people about what God said.

John was quite an unusual man.

- He lived in the desert
- He wore clothes made of camel's hair
- He had a leather belt around his waist
- He ate locusts and wild honey

People from Jerusalem and the countryside came to hear him.

They turned to God, and John baptized them in the Jordan River — a sign for them to show that they wanted to follow God and begin a new life.

Someone greater?

The people began to wonder if John was the Savior whom God had promised.

But John told them "NO". I am just preparing the way for the Saviour

Remember our game? The rest of the team had to prepare the way for the last person to cross. John's role was to prepare people's hearts for Jesus.

"After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Someone more powerful than John was coming.

In fact, John said he was not even worthy to untie his sandals — the job of the second lowest servant in a house. (The lowest ranked servant's job was to wash people's feet. Did you know that Jesus came to wash our feet?)

John baptizes people with water; but the coming Saviour will baptise with Holy Spirit and fire.

Along came Jesus

One day, guess who wanted to come and be baptised by John too? Jesus

At first, John didn't want to baptise Jesus because he didn't think he was worthy; Jesus should be the one baptising John! Besides Jesus had no sin to repent of!

But Jesus wanted to be baptised — it was a prophetic act to show that one day, He will take away ALL their sins and give them His righteousness in return.

As Jesus was coming out of the water, suddenly ... Heaven opened, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove, and a voice came from heaven said, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

LESSON

Jesus is God's Beloved

Even before Jesus began his ministry or did anything to serve God, God already acknowledge 3 things:

- You are my Son
- I love You
- I am pleased with You

We are His Beloved too

Because of what Jesus did for us — take away ALL our sins and give us His righteousness in return — we can have a relationship with God as our Father.

And we don't have to earn His love or favour.

He's saying to all of you now:

- You are my son/daughter
- I love you
- I am pleased with you

Now say it for yourself:

- I am God's son/daughter
- He loves me
- He is pleased with me

Let's thank Jesus for what He has done for us!

MEMORY VERSE: Mark 1:11 *"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

Get the kids into small groups to share how they feel about being loved unconditionally by Jesus. Pray and bless each one of them.

SONG: Jesus loves the little children

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cg6W76q6a2E>

SONG: His banner over me is love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxgw6pbW59E>

DANCE: Salvation is here

https://youtu.be/euF_A2-0D7Q

SONG: Refuge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9BbT90NrXg>

CRAFT: Dove Badge

Prepare: White card paper, medium-sized safety pins.

Get kids to do this simple craft: <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mhandprintdove.htm>

Get kids to write on dove: "I am God's Beloved child"

Then stick the safety pin to the dove card so kids can wear it as a badge.

HOOK

GAME: The Lord Says

This game is almost like “Simon says”. Choose two children.

One is the “Lord”, i.e. the one who has the authority and power. What she/he says, the children must do. The other person is an ordinary person. Both will give orders.

Lord: Jump up and down

Other person: Stop

(Those who stop jumping are out of the game. They should obey “the Lord”, not the other person).

Lord: Turn round and round.

Other person: Stop

You can vary the actions. Those who obeyed the other person or did not obey the “lord” are out of the game.

STORY: JESUS DRIVES OUT THE IMPURE SPIRIT (Mark 1:21-28)

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw that when Jesus got baptized, heaven opened, the Holy Spirit came down like a dove, and a voice came from heaven said, *"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."* We learnt that Jesus is God's beloved son. Today we are going to learn that Jesus is Lord.

STORY

Calling of the first disciples

Jesus went to the Sea of Galilee and saw Simon (who was later called Peter by Jesus) and his brother, Andrew casting a net into the lake. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

These men were fishermen. But Jesus had greater plans for them. He wanted them to follow him and bring other people to know him. At once, they left their nets and followed him.

When He had gone a little farther, He saw James and his brother, John in a boat, preparing their nets. He called them, and they left their father in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

How many men followed Jesus so far? *Four.*

Who were they? *Peter, Andrew, James and John.*

What did they work as? *They were fishermen.*

You know, these men did not just follow him for one hour or half a day. They left their families, friends, everything they had ... and followed Jesus.

Song suggestion: I will make you fishers of men <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocApuO-YwJo>

Driving out the impure spirit

Jesus and his disciples went to a town called Capernaum. On a Sabbath day (the day which the Jews did not do any work), Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach God's word. The people were amazed at his teaching, because He taught them as one who had authority. He did not teach them like their teachers of the law.

The Gospel of

MARK

WHO IS JESUS?

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MARK: JESUS IS LORD

Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, "What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are — the Holy One of God!"

"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is happening here? This man is teaching something new, and he teaches with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him." News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

LESSON

Jesus is Lord

Jesus called Peter, Andrew, James and John to follow him, and they did. He had special plans for them. They saw that He was someone with power and authority. There was something special about Jesus that attracted them to him, and they were willing to give up their families and all that they had to follow him.

The impure or evil spirit recognized Jesus as God. It called Him “The Holy One of God” and asked, “Have you come to destroy us?” It knew that not only Jesus had authority over the all the impure/evil spirits and they had to obey what he said, but He also had the power to destroy them. When He told the impure spirit to get out of the man, it left. It had no choice but to obey.

He taught God’s word with authority. The people were surprised because they heard many of their teachers teach God’s word before, but none of them were like Jesus. As Jesus was God, even at that time, he could teach his word with authority and power because he understood it perfectly — it was given by him.

Let’s Follow Jesus

Jesus calls each one of us to follow him. When we recognize that Jesus is God, he is Lord, we too want to follow him. In Jeremiah 29:11, the Lord says, “ For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”. Like his first disciples, he has wonderful plans for us.

Jesus has power over impure/evil spirits. When we follow Jesus, he also gives us the same power over impure/evil spirits. We can drive out impure spirits using the name of Jesus. We don’t have to be afraid of them.

Today, when we have Jesus, we have the Holy Spirit who teaches us God’s word. When we understand God’s word and see him working in our lives, we can be used by God to speak his word to others. We saw how Peter, who was full of the Holy Spirit spoke God’s word at the day of Pentecost and about 3,000 people came to know Jesus as their savior.

Invitation

Ask the children whether there are any of them who hasn’t accepted Jesus yet and invite them to accept Jesus as their Savior. If any, pray with them to receive Jesus.

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

SONG: I will make you fishers of men

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ocApuO-YwJo>

SONG: King of kings and Lord of lords

<http://youtu.be/91r2ZVQyZkA>

SONG: He is Lord

<http://youtu.be/OTbhnTeF4yE>

SONG: I have decided to follow Jesus

<http://youtu.be/nXxQVIHpDrw>

CRAFT: Mothers' Day

<https://www.google.com/search?q=mother%27s+day+crafts&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi4kYfnlcPMAhXHHY4KHZ-9BN4QsAQIHA&biw=1920&bih=935>

HUDDLE TIME

Get the kids into small groups to share how they can share about Jesus to others around them. Pray and bless each one of them.

The Gospel of

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WHO IS JESUS?

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MARK: JESUS IS ABLE & WILLING

HOOK

GAME: THE UNTOUCHABLE

Have one kid wear a hat or something distinctive. This kid has to try to tag the other children.

All other children have to keep away from this kid.

Once they are tagged/touched by this kid, they have to go behind the kid and hold his/her shoulders.

The more children the kid touches, the longer the chain of children behind him/her.

Game ends when there are 10 or 15 kids in the chain.

(Play by ear, according to crowd and time; avoid over rowdiness)

STORY: JESUS HEALS THE LEPER (Mark 1:40-45)

INTRODUCTION

Act it out ideas: use baby powder to cover face, arms etc to depict leprosy; wipe off when "healed"

Who knows what leprosy is?

Leprosy is a disease that affects the skin, nerves, limbs and eyes. It can cause fingers and toes to be shortened and deformed. It's an infectious disease. In the Bible, leprosy can also refer to other infectious skin diseases.

Just like the game, if you are too close to the leper, you could get infected with leprosy yourself. So nobody liked to be near a leper. If they saw a leper coming, they would go far, far away.

These lepers were outcasts; they had to stay outside of town. When they come into town, they had to announce loudly, "Unclean, unclean" to warn others of their presence.

Can you imagine what it's like to live like that?

STORY

Get older kids to read through **Mark 1:40-45**.

One day, Jesus went to town and met a man with leprosy.

This leper must have been so tired of living this way. When he saw Jesus, he forgot all the rules of staying away from other people.

He fell face down to the ground and begged Jesus, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

This man must have heard of Jesus' miracles. He knew Jesus could heal him. But was Jesus willing? Maybe he wasn't good enough to be healed. Maybe Jesus couldn't be bothered about someone like him. Maybe Jesus didn't want to be contaminated by him.

How do you think Jesus reacted?

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. Isn't that amazing? Nobody wanted to be near lepers. Nobody touched him for years. And here was Jesus, touching him! Jesus could have just stood at a distance and healed the man, but He reached out and touched him, showing His love.

Then Jesus said, "I am willing. Be clean!" And immediately ... the leprosy left him! Praise the Lord!

LESSON

Jesus heals

Last week, we learnt that Jesus healed a man who had a demonic spirit.

After that, Jesus went on to heal many people.

One of them was Simon Peter's mother-in-law. She was in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she was able to serve dinner to the family and Jesus.

Later that evening, people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases.

The leper would have heard and known that Jesus is a healer.

Jesus is willing

But the leper was not sure if Jesus would heal ... a person like him. An untouchable. But Jesus didn't just heal him. He reached out to touch him, too.

Sometimes we know Jesus can heal us. But sometimes, we don't think He wants to.

We think that maybe He won't heal us because we've been naughty or we're not good enough. We think maybe He's got more important things to do. We think maybe He wants us to be sick so we can learn a lesson.

But the truth is that Jesus took all our sicknesses on the cross when He died. He is able to heal us. And more importantly, He is willing! He is reaching out to touch us with love and compassion!

If anyone of you are sick today, put your hand on the part of the body that's not feeling well. And pray this prayer: *"Thank you Jesus that when you died on the cross, You carried all my sins and sicknesses. Thank you Jesus that you are able to heal me. Thank you Jesus that you are willing to heal me. In Jesus' name, I receive my healing. Amen!"*

Memory Verse: *"He carried our sicknesses and our diseases."* **Isaiah 53:4**

Picture ideas: www.ebibleteacher.com/chalmers/leper.html, www.dltk-bible.com/t.asp?b=m&t=http://www.dltk-bible.com/crafts/bbs/healing_of_the_leper-storyboardprint.jpg

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

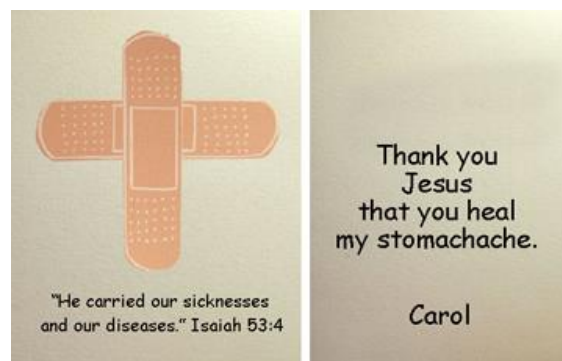
CRAFT:

Materials: Notecards and band aids

Have the kids sit in 3 small groups.

On one side of the notecard: Stick 2 band aids on it as a cross and write the memory verse on the card or ***"Jesus is Able & Willing to Heal"***.

On the other side of the notecard: Write a prayer of thanks for Jesus' healing for themselves or other people. "Thank you Jesus for healing me of _____" or "Thank you Jesus for healing my mummy of _____"



HUDDLE TIME:

Get the kids into small groups to pray for those who are sick. Get them to share and take turns speaking in faith for healing. Pray and bless each one of them.

STORY: JESUS HEALS THE PARALYTIC (Mark 2:1-12)

Get older kids to read through **Mark 2:1-12**.

One day Jesus was teaching in a house in Capernaum.

The house was very crowded. There was no room ... not even outside the door.

Some men, carrying a paralysed man on a mat, tried to take him into the house to see Jesus.

Who knows what "paralysed" means? (Someone who cannot move his body and limbs)

They had heard that Jesus was healing many people. So they wanted Him to heal their friend too.

But they couldn't get into the house! Oh no! What do you think they could do?

Suddenly, they had an idea. They would bring their friend up to the roof and lower him through the tiles!

So they carried their friend to the roof and started removing the tiles. Then they lowered him carefully, slowly, down, into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

Act it out (optional): Prepare a "mat" with a string tied to each corner of it. Place a small doll or object to depict the paralysed man. Choose 4 volunteers and get them to stand on chairs. Give them each one of the strings and have them lower the "mat" down slowly to the floor without dropping the doll.

Everybody must have been so surprised to see a man come down from the roof!

Jesus was pleased at the four friends' faith. Then He told the paralysed man, "*Son, your sins are forgiven.*"

Isn't that a strange thing to say? The paralysed man was waiting for Jesus to heal him, but Jesus just told him that his sins were forgiven.

The Pharisees and teachers of the law were not happy. They began thinking to themselves, "*Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?*"

Even though they didn't say it out, Jesus knew what they were thinking. He asked, "*Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.*"

The Gospel of

MARK

WHO IS JESUS?

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MARK: JESUS FORGIVES SIN

So Jesus said to the paralysed man, "Get up, take your mat and go home."

Immediately, the man stood up in front of them, took up his mat and went home, praising God.

Everyone was amazed and praised God. They said, "*We have never seen anything like this!*"

LESSON

Jesus forgives sin!

Last week, we learnt that Jesus had the power to heal. All who are sick can go to Him and He can make them whole.

This week, we see Jesus do another amazing miracle — He healed a paralysed man, someone who probably hadn't walked or moved in years!

But more importantly, Jesus forgave the man's sins.

You see ... God made the world and everything perfect. But when sin came into the world, sicknesses and diseases and all sorts of problems followed.

Illustration:

Get another 5 volunteers to represent: "MAN", "SIN", "GUILT", "SICKNESS", and "JESUS".

Because of sin, we have guilt/condemnation, which leads to sickness and problems.

Get "SIN" to put his/her hands on "MAN"'s shoulders. "GUILT" puts on "SIN"'s shoulders, and "SICKNESS" puts on "GUILT"'s shoulders.

Wherever "MAN" went, "SIN", "GUILT" and "SICKNESS" would follow him. He couldn't do anything to get rid of them by himself.

But when "JESUS" came, "JESUS" took "SIN", "GUILT" and "SICKNESS" on the cross.

(Get the 3 people to go behind "JESUS" now instead.)

When man's sin was forgiven, guilt and sickness left too!

Jesus is God!

The Pharisees and teachers of the law were upset that Jesus said He forgave the man's sins because only God could forgive sin.

So Jesus was actually saying that He was God. And He proved it by:

- Knowing what the Pharisees and teachers of the law were thinking, even though they didn't say anything aloud.
- Asking the man to get up, pick up his mat and walk.

If Jesus were not God, the man's sins would not have been forgiven, and he would still be paralysed. The Pharisees and teachers of the law were probably not happy about that. But everyone else was amazed, and they all praised God!

We are not paralysed anymore!

None of us here are paralysed physically. We all can run and jump and play. Thank God for that!

But we were all paralysed by sin before. It was a sickness that no one could cure, except God.

Praise the Lord that Jesus came to take away all our sins and sicknesses.

He tells us, "Your sins are forgiven!" And because of this forgiveness, we are now free to walk in the light of God! Hallelujah!

Memory Verse: "But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."
(Mark 2:10)

Pray: *Lord Jesus, thank you that You came to die for me. You took all my sins and sicknesses on the cross. Because of You, I am forgiven and can now walk in God's ways. Thank you for loving me. In Jesus' name, Amen!*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

We can bring others to Jesus, too!

The man's friends knew Jesus could help him. Even though it was difficult and heavy, they decided to bring him all the way to see Jesus. And they didn't give up when they saw so many people. They climbed up to the roof, removed the tiles and lowered him down.

We can all bring our friends to know Jesus too. Let's not give up praying for them to have a life-changing encounter with Jesus.

Get the kids into small groups to pray for friends and family who do not know Jesus yet. Bless and pray for each kid.

CRAFT: Mat

Prepare some A5 cards, color markers or stickers.

Get kids to decorate this "mat" and write the words "Jesus has power to forgive sins" or the memory verse Mark 2:10.

ACTIVITY SHEETS: Word Search or Crossword (see next page)

NAME: _____

MEMORY VERSE: MARK 2:10 _____

Down Through the Roof

R	C	N	S	F	S	H	J	P	D	N	X
U	O	P	A	D	S	Y	A	C	O	X	C
F	T	I	O	I	N	R	O	A	O	J	B
E	T	C	W	W	A	E	V	P	R	E	E
H	W	E	E	L	E	I	I	E	D	S	S
I	J	L	Y	M	B	R	X	R	M	U	R
S	O	T	R	O	P	E	S	N	F	S	E
H	I	E	S	U	O	H	R	A	F	P	D
C	S	I	N	S	T	W	T	U	O	L	A
Q	Y	J	I	F	C	T	A	M	O	B	E
N	E	V	I	G	R	O	F	L	R	F	L
V	C	M	W	Q	C	M	B	Q	K	Q	K

BED
FAITH
FRIENDS
JESUS
PARALYTIC
ROPES

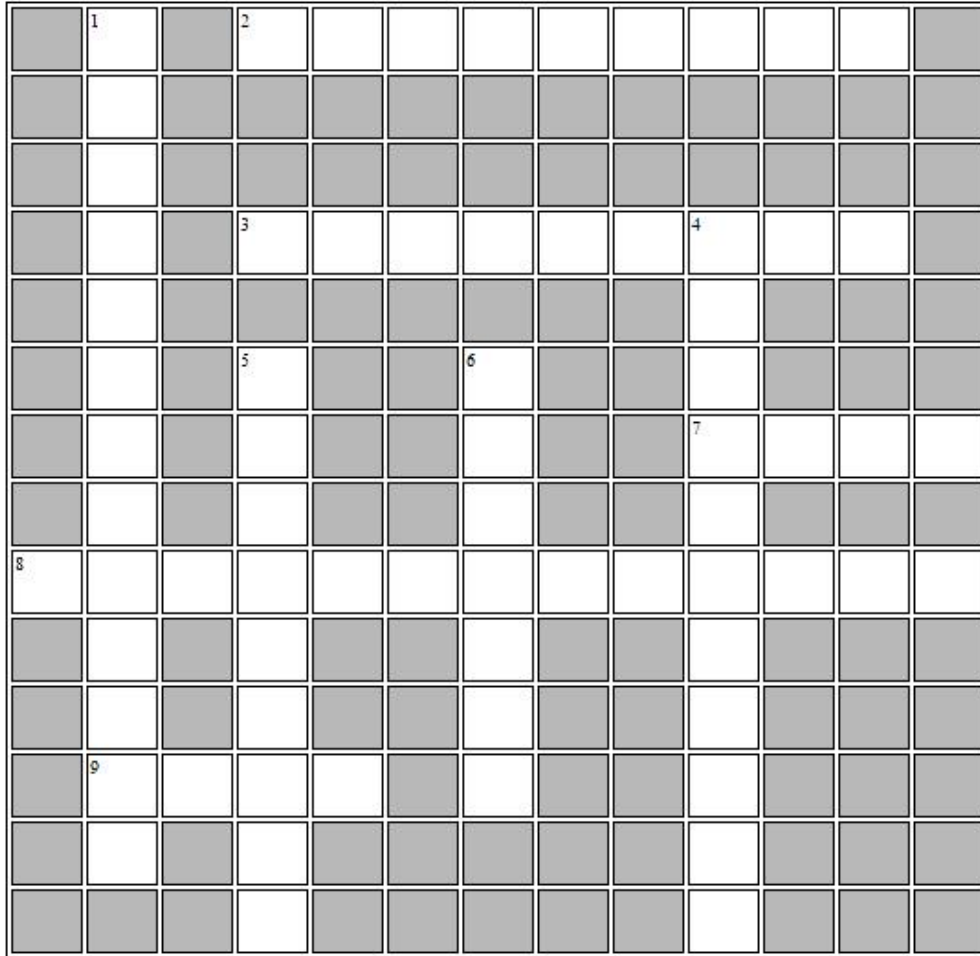
CAPERNAUM
FORGIVEN
HOLE
JEWISH
POWER
SINS

DOOR
HOUSE
LEADERS
ROOF
WALK

NAME: _____

Down Through the Roof

Read the Bible story at <http://gardenofpraise.com/bibl48s.htm>



Across

Down

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2. a person who is paralyzed and cannot move | 1. the enemies of Jesus |
| 3. Jesus was in the town of ____. | 4. Jesus said to the man, "Son, your sins ____". |
| 7. the number of friends who brought the man to Jesus | 5. The man's friends ____ in the roof. |
| 8. The harder saying would be, "____ and walk". | 6. The leaders were thinking, "____ can forgive sins". |
| 9. The men climbed up on the ____ with their friend. | |

MEMORY VERSE: MARK 2:10 _____

STORY: JESUS' WORD BEARS FRUIT (Mark 4:1-20)

The Parable of the Sower

Jesus told many stories, called parables. These stories would reveal lessons that God wanted the people to know.

One day, Jesus was teaching by the lake. The crowd was so big that He had to get into a boat and preach from it.

That day, He told them the Parable of "The Sower".

"Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed.

As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up.

Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain.

Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times."

Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

Later, the disciples asked Him what the parable meant. So Jesus explained to them.

The farmer sows the word.

Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them.

Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop — some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

LESSON

Later, Jesus' disciples asked him what the parable meant. Jesus explained:

The seed = word of God; The soil = our hearts

There were 4 types of soil in the story, which describes 4 types of hearts — Path, Rocky Ground, Thorns, Good Soil.

Path: Those who hear, but have the word taken away by the devil so that they do not believe in what Jesus says

Sometimes we hear the Word of God, one of Jesus' promises, and we do not believe it. Or we think we know it already, so we don't listen. Or we concentrate on our book or phone while the Word is preached, so we don't hear. Maybe we have been disappointed before, so we reject God's word. Then we don't give God's word a chance to work in our lives.

E.g. Jesus says He has authority over sicknesses. But you say, "Last time I prayed, but I didn't get healed. So it can't be true." Then when you are sick, you don't believe that Jesus can heal you.

Rocky ground: Those who hear and receive the word with joy, but they have no root. When time of testing comes, they fall away.

Sometimes we hear Jesus' word, about His love and His grace, but our heart is still hard — we still rely on ourselves, our efforts, our works. When challenges come, you decide that you want to follow your own way instead of relying on Jesus. So we miss out on seeing Jesus work in our lives.

E.g. Jesus says He will never leave you and He will be with you forever. But maybe you think that "Today I was very naughty, so Jesus won't want to be with me." So whenever you do something wrong, you hide from Jesus instead of going to Him.

Thorns: Those who hear, but as time goes by, they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and do not mature.

Sometimes we hear Jesus' word, but we let our fears overcome our faith. Or we rely on the things of this world instead of relying on Jesus. Then we get distracted by all these things that we think can give us security and happiness, and we forget that in Jesus, we have everything.

E.g. Jesus says He will provide everything for us. But we may think, "I have to provide for my own need. I've got to keep working and saving and storing up so that I have enough." Then as you grow older, you put all your time and energy into your career, you concentrate on making money, and you are so tired and don't have any time for God anymore.

Good soil: Those with good hearts, who hear the word, keep it in faith, and produce fruit a hundred fold.

We all can be the good soil — we can all hear Jesus' word and believe it. Believe in who He is. Believe what He says. Believe that He loves you. Believe that He is good. And as we receive the word of faith, we see it produce lots of fruit in our lives! We'll see His healing, His blessings, His love, His goodness overflow in our lives.

The seed is always good seed. God's word is always true.

The more we focus on Jesus and what He has done for us on the cross, we:

Don't let the devil take away His word from our hearts; we will believe what Jesus says and promised

Don't try to depend on our own goodness and abilities; we depend on Jesus and His finished work

Don't be overwhelmed by our fears or chase after other things to make us happy; we'll go straight to Jesus, our source

Will bear much, much fruit, one hundred times more!

We can all be good soil. We can all bear much fruit. So let's listen to Jesus' words, believe it, and let it grow in our hearts.

What if?

But my heart is hard! My heart is stony! My heart has thorns!

Remember ... Jesus has dealt with them all!

He wore the thorns on His head.

He rose from a tomb of stone in which He was buried.

He has given us a NEW heart!

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

We can listen and believe in Jesus' word.

Let's make every effort to listen to and believe in Jesus' words. Let's ask Jesus to make our hearts good soil, ready to receive His word and bear much fruit.

Get the kids into small groups to pray for Jesus to transform them and make them abundantly fruitful. Bless and pray for each kid.

CRAFT: Fruitful seed

Print out/draw pictures of a fruitful plant and get kids to stick seeds (e.g. soya beans, kidney beans etc — larger beans will be easier for younger children) at the root of the plant.

Or decorate the plant with the seeds.

Write around the plant: **"Jesus' word bears fruit in me"**



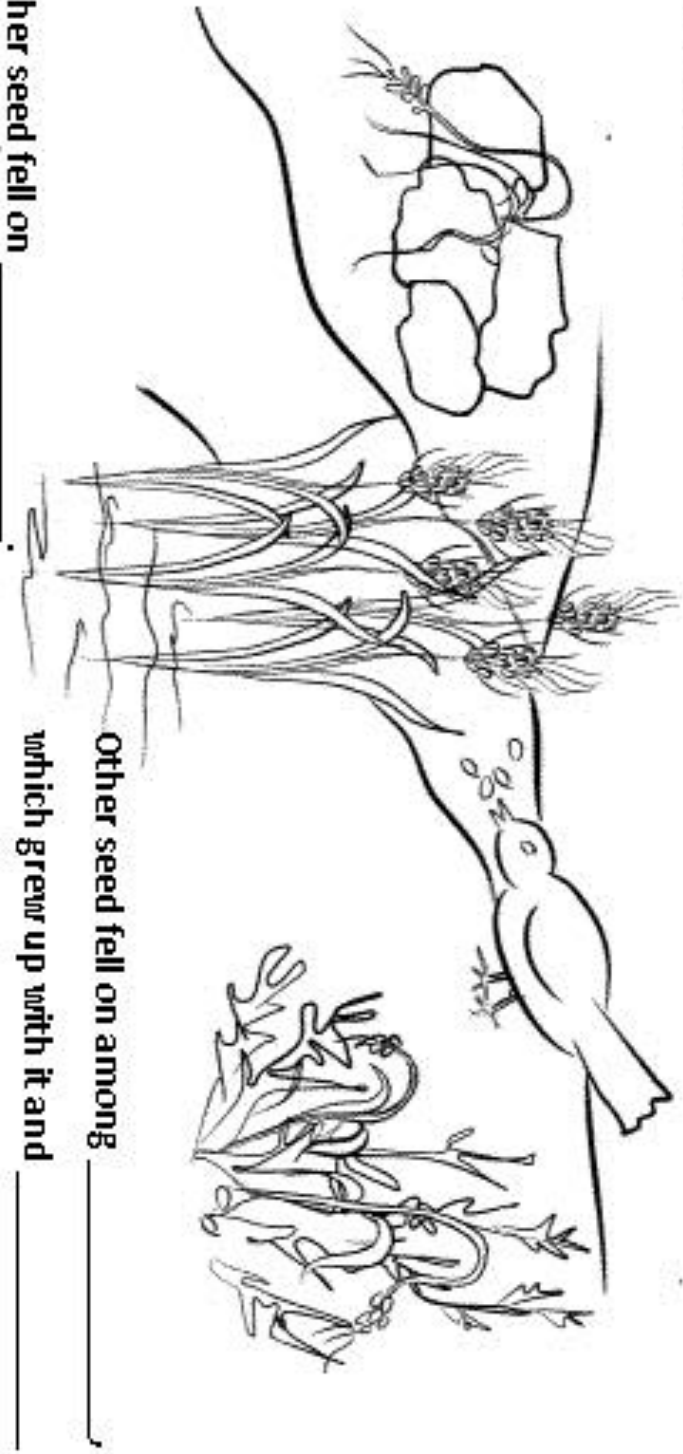
WORKSHEET: (see next page)

MARK: JESUS' WORD BEARS FRUIT

NAME: _____

Some fell on _____
The plants _____
because they had no _____.

Some fell on the _____
It was _____ on, and
the _____ it up.



Other seed fell on _____
It came up and yielded a _____
a _____ fold.

Other seed fell on among _____
which grew up with it and _____
the plants.

REVIEW

Last week, we learned that Jesus liked to tell stories to the people. What are these stories? *Parables.*

What parable did we learn? *The Parable of the Sower.*

Who can name the 4 types of soil the sower sowed in? *Pavement/Hard soil; Rocky soil; Thorny soil & Good soil.*

What happened to the seed that went into the Good soil? *Grew and bore fruit 30, 60, 100 fold.*

Which soil do we want to be? *Good soil.*

How do we become good soil? *Listen to Jesus' words and believe in it.*

STORY: JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER WINDS & WAVES (Mark 4:35-41)

Jesus was teaching the people these parables from a boat on the Lake of Galilee.

After a full day of teaching, Jesus told his disciples, *"Let us go over to the other side of the Lake of Galilee."*

So they took off in the boat.

As they sailed, Jesus fell asleep in the boat. He was lying down on a cushion.

Suddenly, there was a thunderstorm. The wind howled. The waves roared and crashed over the boat.

The disciples — many who were seasoned fishermen — were frightened as their boat began to fill with water. They thought they were going to sink!

They rushed to Jesus and woke Him up, *"Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"*

Jesus rose up. He scolded the wind and the waves, *"Quiet! Be Still."*

And do you know what happened? The wind stopped howling. The waves stopped roaring. And there was complete peace. Incredible!

Jesus turned to his disciples, *"Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"*

They were terrified and asked each other, *"Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"*

LESSON

Jesus has Authority

We've learned that Jesus has authority over sickness and death. Today we see that Jesus also has authority over nature — even the winds and the waves obey Him. Isn't Jesus powerful?

Jesus Cares

The disciples rushed to Jesus and woke Him up, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" These disciples had seen Jesus work His miracles. Yet when a storm came, they doubted Him.

We need to be the good soil — we need to be firmly rooted in the love of Jesus so we know, for sure, how much He loves us ... and we will not doubt His love every time problems and challenges come.

Jesus is in our Boat

Challenges and problems in life, they seem like the strong winds and big waves. It may seem like our boat is flooded, and that we're going to sink and drown.

Remember: Jesus is in the boat with us. And if He's in the boat, we will never sink. Nothing is too difficult for Him. All we have to do is to have faith in Him and trust Him.

If you are going through a difficult time now at home or at school, remember Jesus is there with you always. The winds and waves may be big, but Jesus is much, much bigger. We can speak with His authority into whatever situation we are in and see it calm down.

Jesus is our Peace

Another interesting thing to note: Jesus slept through the storm. He wouldn't have woken up if the disciples had not called him. He was in perfect peace.

Being a Christian doesn't mean our lives will never have problems. Jesus did tell us that in this world, we will have trouble. But when we have Him in our lives, we have His perfect peace.

And even if there's a huge storm, we can still rest in Him, knowing He will bring us through.

Let's pray: *Thank you Jesus that You are in the boat with me. I do not have to be afraid of the wind or waves. I can trust in You, and You will carry me through. In Your name, I pray, Amen.*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Jesus is powerful, and Jesus is in our Boat. We can rest in Him.

Get the kids into small groups to share about the storms they face in their lives. Pray for Jesus' peace to fill each of them.

SONG: With Christ in the Vessel, we can smile at the storm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MNdmzAlmls>

alternative: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=64B4iEfSGso>

WORSHIP: Still (Hide me now)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4F7rtez9iM>

WORSHIP: Refuge (with sign language)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9BbT90NrXg>

STORY: JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER EVIL SPIRITS (Mark 5:1-20)

Remember what we learnt last week? Jesus and his disciples were in a boat on the lake when there was a sudden large thunderstorm!

After Jesus calmed the storm, the boat reached the other side of the lake to the country of Gerasenes. *(Get them to try to pronounce word "Je-ra-scenes")*

When they went on shore, suddenly, a demon-possessed man came running up to them. *(Might want to play act it out by messing up your hair and looking like a mad person as you tell the story)*

This man was under the power of an evil spirit. The evil spirit would attack him and make him do things he didn't want to do. He was naked! He was dirty.

Even though the man was chained up on his hands and feet, with someone always watching him, the evil spirit would cause him to break the chains and go stay in the tombs — where dead people are placed.

Jesus commanded the evil spirit to leave the man.

The evil spirits recognised who Jesus was. They were afraid because they knew this was someone who had authority over them.

The man fell down before Jesus and cried out loudly, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" (This was the evil spirit speaking through the man)

Jesus asked, "What is your name?"

The evil spirit answered, "Legion", which meant many demons.

The evil spirits begged Jesus not to send them to the bottomless pit but into a herd of pigs nearby.

Jesus permitted them. The evil spirits went out of the man and entered the pigs, who ran violently off the cliff, into the lake, and drowned.

That must have been quite a scary sight —so many pigs just running off a cliff. Can you imagine how much torture the man was under by these spirits? Can you think of how much damage and hurt the spirits could have caused the man?

Those who saw what happened went to tell other people.

When they returned, this man was sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. What a transformation!

The people were afraid and asked Jesus to leave.

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MARK: JESUS HAS AUTHORITY OVER EVIL SPIRITS

The man who was delivered from the evil spirits wanted to follow Jesus.

But Jesus told him to: *“Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.”*

And the man went to tell the whole city what Jesus has done for him.

LESSON

Jesus has Authority

We've learned that Jesus has authority over sickness and death.

And that Jesus has authority over nature — even the winds and the waves obey Him.

Today we see how Jesus has authority over evil spirits. The evil spirits knew Jesus was the Son of God, and they are afraid of Him! Isn't Jesus powerful?

Jesus Transforms

Let have a look at how the man was before and after encountering Jesus.

Under the power of evil spirits	Under the power of Jesus
Naked	Clothed
Attacked & Tormented	In right mind
Stay in solitary places among the dead (tombs)	Returned to the city to tell people what Jesus has done for him

Jesus is in Us!

Because we have Jesus in us, we don't have to afraid of any evil spirits or ghosts or anything scary. We can command them to leave in Jesus' name.

And today, you and I have the Holy Spirit in us. We are under the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to do the right thing. The Holy Spirit clothes us in righteousness. The Holy Spirit gives us the mind of Christ. So we can all go and tell everyone what Jesus has done for us!

The man ran to Jesus and was set free. The people saw what Jesus did and asked Him to leave. Which response do we want to have today? Like the man? Or the people?

Let's pray: *Thank you Jesus that at Your name, demons and evil spirits will run away. I do not have to fear them. And I thank You that Your Holy Spirit lives in me forever. In Your name, I pray Amen.*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Jesus is powerful, and Jesus is in us. We don't have to fear ghosts or evil spirits.

Get the kids into small groups to share about their fears. Pray for Jesus' peace to fill each of them.

WORKSHEET: See next page

Jesus told the man to *"Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."*

Let's write in the "hearts" what Jesus has done for you, the grace and mercy and love He has shown you. And go home and tell someone about it.

SONG: With Christ in the Vessel, we can smile at the storm

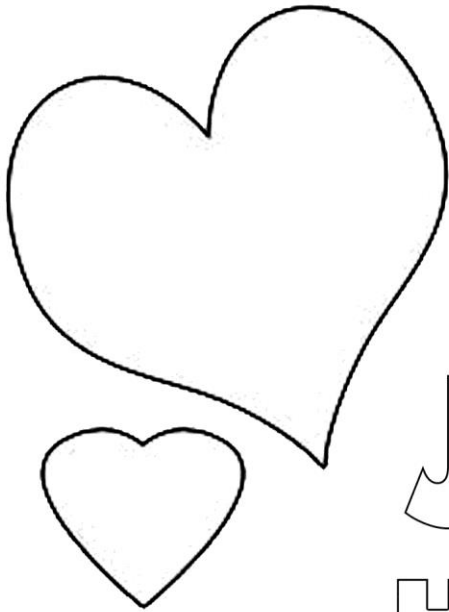
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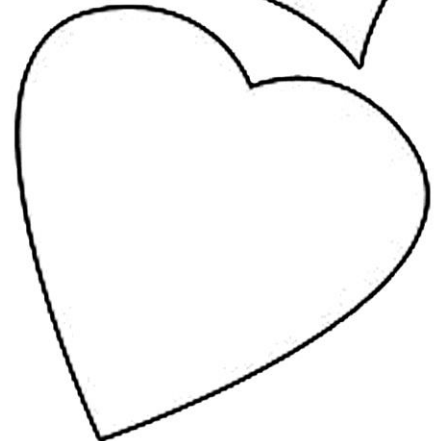
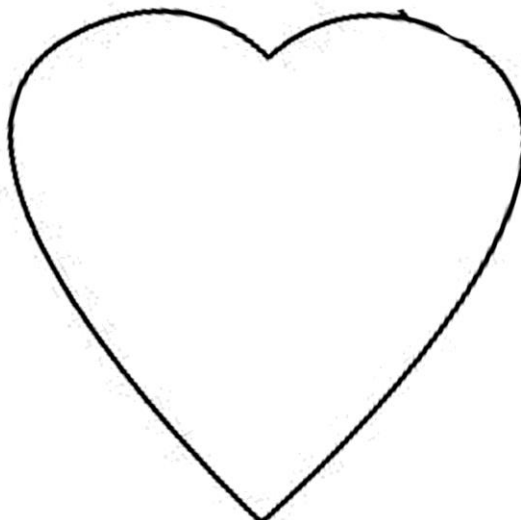
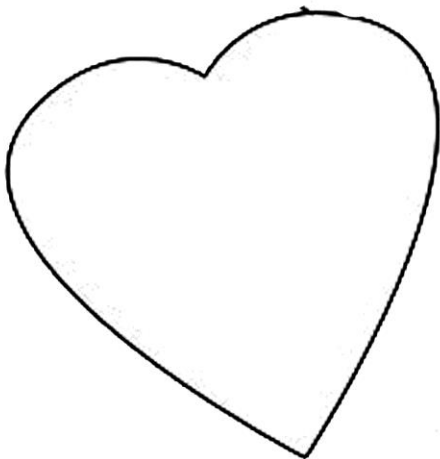
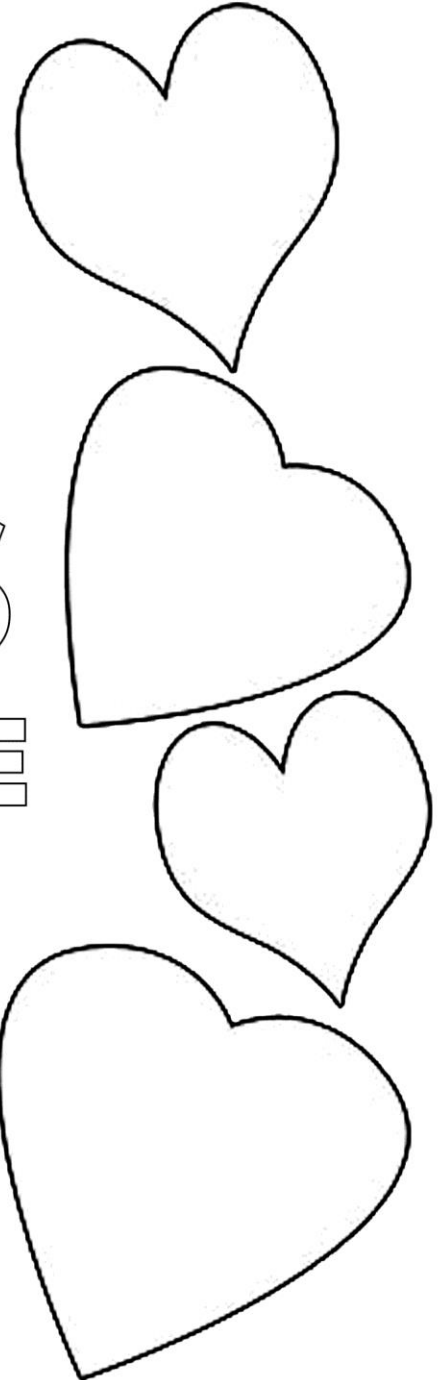
WORSHIP: Refuge (with sign language)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9BbT90NrXg>

NAME:



WHAT
JESUS
HAS DONE
FOR ME



HOOK

Who touched me?

Have the children sit in a circle. One person sits in the middle and is blindfolded. Children will take turns as the teacher quietly points to each one, to go to the child in the middle and TOUCH that children and quietly run back to the circle. Then the blindfold can be removed and the child can try to guess who TOUCHED him/her. If he guesses it correctly, then that child goes to the middle to be blindfolded, etc.

Touch the Teacher

Blindfold the teacher and let children take turns touching the teacher's back. The teacher will have to guess what part of the child's body touched the teacher's back — such as a finger, a nose, an elbow, a toe, an ear, etc!

The kids can also be the ones to guess who touched them.

STORY: A TOUCH OF JESUS HEALS (Mark 5:21-34)

Last lesson, we learnt about Jesus delivering the evil spirits out of a man in Gerasenes.

After Jesus left and came back to the other side of the lake, He was quickly summoned to heal a little girl who was dying.

A big crowd followed Jesus as He walked. In the crowd was a woman.

The Bible doesn't put her name, but we know that she had been bleeding for 12 years. How many of you are 12 years old? 12 years is a long time to be bleeding.

Besides the discomfort and pain she might have been going through, this woman had to keep away from society, as she was bleeding and considered "unclean".

Do you remember who else were considered "unclean" in Jewish society? *Lepers*

This woman went to many doctors. She spent a lot of money. But instead, she got worse! Nobody could heal her.

But she heard there was someone who could heal her — Jesus.

So even though she was not supposed to be out in public, she decided to go see Jesus. She thought to herself, "If I just touch His clothes, I will be healed!"

So she crept up behind Jesus and touched the edge of His long cloak.

Immediately, her bleeding stopped! And the woman knew that she had been completely healed.

Even though there were so many people around Him, Jesus also realised something had happened. He turned around and asked, "Who touched me? I know that power has gone out from me."

The woman knew she couldn't hide. She came and fell at Jesus' feet. And she told Him and everyone there what had happened to her. She testified how God had healed her.

Then Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

LESSON

Jesus is our Hope

When all hope is gone, this woman had faith that Jesus could heal her. She confessed it with her mouth, "If I just touch His clothes, I will be healed."

We, too, can exercise faith in what we say. Speaking out God's truth and promises, even when things may seem hopeless, builds up our faith to focus on Jesus, instead of our problems.

We, too, can reach out in faith and receive our healing and miracle.

Jesus Transforms

When we meet Jesus, we cannot remain the same. We will be transformed.

Healing takes place.

We are given a new identity — no longer just "woman" but "daughter".

We have His peace.

Like the woman, all that is left for us to do is to tell others what God has done for us.

Jesus Bled so We don't have to Bleed

On the Cross, Jesus died for us. His blood flowed down and washed away all our sins. Jesus bled and died ... so we, like the woman, don't have to bleed, and we can live forever with Him.

Let's pray: *Thank you Jesus that a touch from You is all we need. You have the power to heal us. You have the power to make us Your sons and daughters. Thank you for loving us and working in us. In Your name, I pray Amen.*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

We are Jesus' beloved children. We can reach out to touch Him in faith and receive His transforming power in our lives.

Get the kids into small groups to share about areas in which they need Jesus' touch. Speak forth God's blessings and power into their lives

WORKSHEETS:

Fill in the Blanks www.sermons4kids.com/power_in_a_touch_cloze.htm

Word Search www.sermons4kids.com/power_in_a_touch_wordsearch.htm

Crossword http://www.sermons4kids.com/power_in_a_touch_crossword.htm

CRAFT: Father's Day

Related craft.

STORY: JESUS GIVES LIFE (Mark 5:21-42)

Last lesson, we learned about a woman who had been bleeding for 12 years.

When she touched Jesus, He was actually on His way to see a little girl.

This little girl was 12 years old, and she was very sick.

Her father's name was Jairus. He was a synagogue leader — a ruler of the synagogue.

Even though he was an important man, when his daughter was sick, he knew that only Jesus could help.

So the moment Jesus got off the boat, Jairus fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him. "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

Jairus knew that Jesus had the power to heal his daughter, and he believed that she will be healed. This is called faith.

Jesus went with him. Along the way, He was "interrupted" by the woman who was bleeding for 12 years.

For Jairus, it must have an anxious time because Jesus stopped to talk to the woman while his daughter was dying.

But perhaps his faith was strengthened when he heard the woman's testimony.

But then some people came from Jairus house and said, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the teacher anymore?"

To these people, Jesus was just a "teacher".

Jesus assured Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

Jesus brought Peter, James and John with him to Jairus' house.

At the house, there were many people crying and wailing loudly.

Jesus said, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep."

But the people laughed at him.

Jesus put the people out of the house, leaving only his disciples and Jairus and his wife.

They went into the room where the girl was lying.

Taking her by the hand, Jesus said to her, "*Talitha Koum!*" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!")

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Immediately, the girl stood up and began to walk around.

Jesus told those present not to let anyone know about this and to give the girl something to eat.

LESSON

Speak out in Faith

When all hope was gone, this woman had faith that Jesus could heal her. She confessed it with her mouth, "If I just touch His clothes, I will be healed."

Like the woman who was bleeding for 12 years, Jairus also spoke out in faith when he said, "Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live."

When the woman who was bleeding interrupted Jesus, when the people from Jairus' house told him that his daughter was dead, when the wailers and mourners were crying in the house ... despite these circumstances, Jesus still called Jairus to believe in Him.

When all hope seems gone, no matter what we are going through, we can continue to speak in faith and believe in Jesus. We can hear what Jesus said, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

Jesus is Life. Jesus gives Life.

Jesus is Lord over everything, even death!

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. (John 14:6)

He took our death on the cross so that we can have His eternal life in all its abundance. (John 10:10)

Jesus' life is in us, and we are Jesus' boys and girls.

When we believe in Jesus, we can enjoy this eternal life with Jesus even now.

Death is not the end. Even when our physical bodies give way, we can still enjoy this life forevermore.

Let's pray: *Thank you Jesus that when we are faced with difficult situations, You are there with us. When things seem hopeless, You call us not to fear and to believe in You. Help us to learn to trust You more each day and to speak life and faith, according to Your promises. In Your name, I pray Amen.*

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

We are Jesus' beloved children. We can receive Jesus' life when we believe in Him.

Get the kids into small groups to share about areas in which they need Jesus' life. Speak forth God's blessings and power into their lives

WORKSHEETS:

Crossword http://www.sermons4kids.com/jairus_daughter_crossword.htm

Word Search http://www.sermons4kids.com/jairus_daughter_wordsearch.htm

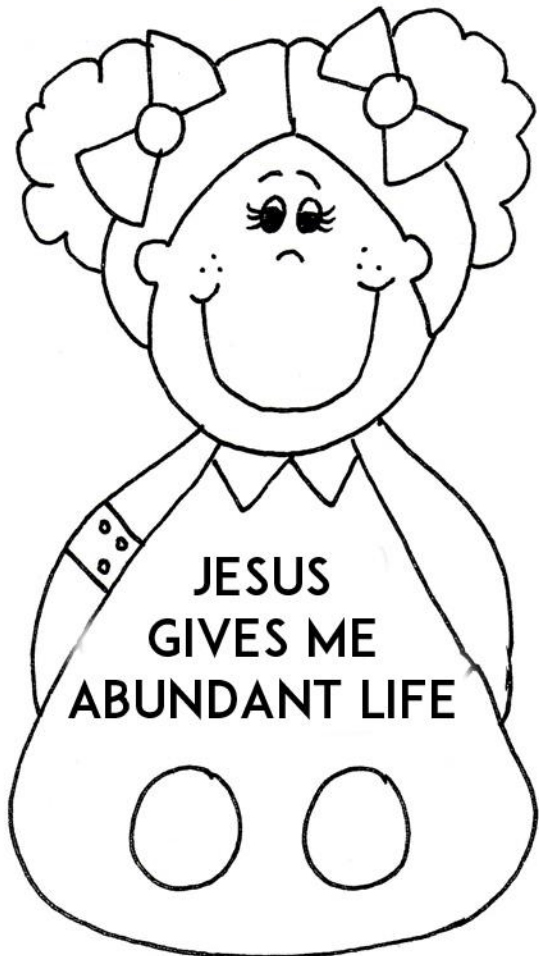
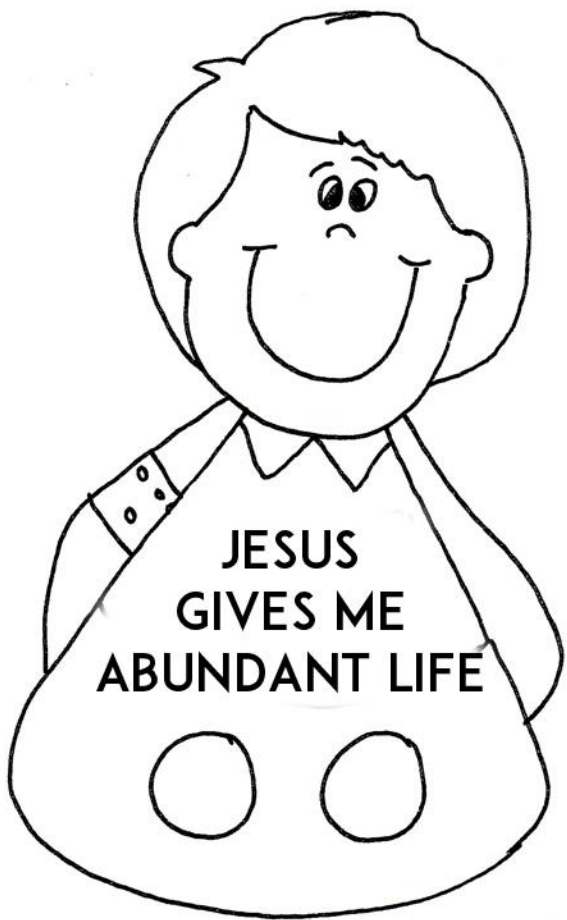
CRAFT: Girl Finger Puppet

Print out the pix below on card/paper. Get kids to colour. Help them to cut out the holes for the fingers to go through as the girl's legs.

Write the words: "Jesus came to give me abundant life (John 10:10)" on the dress.

SONG: For it is by Grace (Revision from Camp)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8



HOOK

Get ready 5 slips of paper and write/draw (big enough for the class to see):

- a type of food
- a glass of water
- a T-shirt
- Bible
- a pack of tissues.

Explain that these items represent our needs: food, water, clothes, God's word and comfort when we are sad (when we cry, people offer us tissues to wipe our eyes and nose).

Ask for a volunteer to pick one piece of paper and not show it to the class. Now ask the class to guess which one he/she picked. Then show it to the class. Repeat this.

Even though our friends may not know what we need, God always knows our needs.

STORY: JESUS FEEDS THE 5000 (Mark 6:30-44)

Last week, we learnt about how Jesus raised Jairus' daughter from the dead. Today we will hear about how Jesus fed a lot, a lot of people.

Jesus and his disciples were in a very busy place. There were so many people that he and his disciples did not even have time to eat. He said to them, "Come with me. We will go to a quiet place to be alone and get some rest."

So Jesus and his disciples in a boat to a place where no one lived. But many people saw them leave and recognized them. So people from every town ran to the place where they were going and got there before Jesus. As Jesus stepped out of the boat, he saw a large crowd waiting. He felt sorry (had compassion) for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd to care for them. So he taught the people many things.

It was now very late in the day. Jesus' disciples came to him and said, "No one lives around here, and it is already very late. So send the people away. They need to go to the farms and towns around here to buy some food to eat."

But Jesus answered, "You give them some food to eat."

They said to Jesus, "We can't buy enough bread to feed all these people. We would all have to work a month to earn enough to buy that much bread!"

Jesus asked them, "How many loaves of bread do you have now? Go and see."

They counted their loaves of bread. They came to Jesus and said, "We have five loaves of bread and two fish."

Then Jesus said to them, "Tell everyone to sit in groups on the grass." So all the people sat in groups. There were about 50 or 100 people in each group.

Jesus took the five loaves and two fish. He looked up to the sky and thanked God for the food. Then he broke the bread into pieces, which he gave to his disciples to distribute to the people. Then he divided the two fish among everyone there.

They all ate until they were full. After they finished eating, the disciples filled twelve baskets with the pieces of bread and fish that were left. There were about 5000 men there who ate.

Jesus performed a miracle! It was not possible to feed 5000 men with the food prepared for one boy. From five loaves and two fish, Jesus provided enough food for 5000 men. Do you know there were women and children there. If they were counted as well, Jesus fed more than 5000 people and there were 12 baskets of leftovers!

LESSON

What does it mean for us?

Jesus is our provider

Jesus knows what we need. Even though the people didn't ask, Jesus saw that the people needed God's word so He taught them many things. When it was getting late and the people were hungry, instead of sending them off to buy their own food, He provided food for all of them and everyone ate until they were full.

No one asked or expected him to provided food for them. The Bible says in Matthew 6:8 *"...your Father knows what you need before you ask him"*.

Jesus provides more than enough

Even with more than 5000 people, Jesus provided so much food that there were 12 baskets of leftovers. Remember that we have a loving, generous Father who hears our prayers and he can do much, much more than anything we can ask or think of. (Ephesians 3:20)

Jesus is our bread, our provision

God knows that all of us need food, water and clothing. But most of all, God knew that we needed a Savior.

God provided Jesus to die for us on the cross so that we can have life to the full, a good life. In John 6:35, Jesus said *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty"*. Whoever who put his trust in Jesus has all that he needs because he has Jesus. Psalm 23:1 *"The LORD is my shepherd. I have everything I need"*.

Invitation

Ask the children whether there are any of them who hasn't accepted Jesus yet and invite them to accept Jesus as their Savior. If any, pray with them to receive Jesus.

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MARK: JESUS IS OUR PROVIDER

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Get the kids into small groups. Ask them to share their needs and pray with them, reminding that God is able to provide for their needs.

ACTIVITIES:

[http://sermons4kids.com/feeding the five thousand group activities.htm](http://sermons4kids.com/feeding_the_five_thousand_group_activities.htm)

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WHO IS JESUS?

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MARK: JESUS IS ALWAYS NEAR

HOOK

Float vs Sink

Put the bucket of water on the table. Prepare several different items that can either float or sink in water.

As each item is put into the bucket of water, ask the children whether it will float or sink.

Have the children take turns putting the items into the water to see if they will float.

Ask them if we can float on the water (on our backs?)

What about walking on water? Can we do it? Why or why not?

Today we are going to read about the time when Jesus walked on water.

STORY: JESUS IS ALWAYS NEAR (Mark 6:45-52)

Jesus Walks on the Sea

⁴⁵ Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. ⁴⁶ After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray.

⁴⁷ Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. ⁴⁸ He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them.

Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, ⁴⁹ but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, ⁵⁰ because they all saw him and were terrified.

Immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

⁵¹ Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, ⁵² for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

LESSON

Jesus always sees us

"He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them."

It was dark, but Jesus was able to look out at the sea and see the disciples rowing their boat.

Just as the disciples were not out of Jesus' sight, we are also never out of His sight.

Jesus is always near

"Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake."

Jesus and the disciples were separated by land and sea. But it was not too far for Jesus. He just walked on the water to them.

Jesus is the one who made the heavens and the oceans. He stills the wind and the waves. We are never out of His reach.

Jesus always cares

"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

When the disciples were in the storm, they might have thought that Jesus had forgotten about them. The last time, Jesus was sleeping in the boat. Now He wasn't even in the boat. But Jesus didn't forget. He went to them and reassured them and told them not to be afraid.

When we are in a tough spot, we have to trust that Jesus loves and cares for us, even when we may not see Him working immediately the way we expect Him to.

We are NEVER out of Jesus' sight, reach and care.

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Get the kids into small groups. Ask them to share their needs and pray with them, reminding them that Jesus is always near, and Jesus cares for them.

ACTIVITIES:

Related craft with the words, *"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."* (Mark 4:50)



SONG: For it is by Grace (Revision from Camp)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8

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WHO IS JESUS?

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MARK: JESUS QUALIFIES US

HOOK

Pick up the Crumbs

Scatter bread crumbs (small pieces of bread) around the class.

Divide class into 2 relay groups.

Each relay group sends one person out to collect a crumb and put into a container.

At the end of 1 minute, the group with the most crumbs wins.

STORY: JESUS QUALIFIES US (Mark 7:24-30)

BACKGROUND

Long time ago, God called Abraham out to be the father of God's special people. Remember God's promise? That Abraham will have so many descendants, like the stars in the skies and the sands on the earth.

These special people were called Jews. And they were called to follow God's laws and be separate from all the other people in the lands who do not follow the same God.

So Jews do not normally mix with non-Jews (called Gentiles). Some Jews call the Gentiles "dogs".

Jesus was a descendant of Abraham. He was a Jew. God sent Him as a Jew to show the Jews the way back to God.

When Jesus came to earth, he came to preach and teach first to the Jews. That does not mean that He didn't love the other people of the world, but the first priority in his ministry on earth was to bring God's chosen ones to repentance.

Do you know you and I are not Jews? We are also Gentiles.

STORY

One day, Jesus went to an area called Tyre.

Tyre is an area where many Gentiles (non-Jews).

Jesus entered a house and did not want anyone to know it. However, he could not keep his presence secret.

There was a Greek woman (non-Jew) who heard about him.

This woman had a little daughter who was possessed by an impure spirit.

She was desperate for the daughter to be healed.

She came to the house and fell at Jesus' feet, begging Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

But Jesus was sent to the Jews. And this woman was a Gentile.

Jesus explained to the woman that his first mission on earth was to preach to the people of Israel.

"First let the children eat all they want," he told her, "for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs."

The Gospel of

MARK

WHO IS JESUS?

TNCC
CHILDREN'S
CHURCH

MARK: JESUS QUALIFIES US

The woman could have been insulted at Jesus' answer, but she wasn't. She knew she did not qualify for healing, but she knew Jesus could heal.

She told Jesus, *"Lord, that's true, but even dogs get the crumbs that fall from their owner's table."*

Jesus was so touched by the faith of that woman that He told her, *"For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter."*

The woman went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Immediately, the girl stood up and began to walk around.

LESSON

The woman had faith in Jesus

The woman knew she was not qualified.

She was a Gentile (not a Jew).

She was a woman (women were not considered high ranking in Jewish society).

She had a demon-possessed daughter.

On her own, she did not deserve Jesus' healing.

But she knew Jesus' heart, and she knew Jesus could heal. Even just a little crumb of His healing was enough for her. So she was not ashamed to ask His help.

Jesus saw her faith, and Jesus healed her daughter.

Jesus is our Broken Bread

Jesus has said that He is the Bread of Life. (John 6:35)

The crumbs that fall from the table to the floor is a picture of Jesus dying on the cross for us.

His body was broken and crushed for our healing.

Although the Gentile woman didn't understand it then, what she said was prophetic — Jesus would die on the cross, and His body would be broken, so that even the "dogs" (which means all of us who are not Jews) can eat of it and receive His life.

Jesus seats us at His table

Because of Jesus, we can now become children of God. There is no more division between Jews and Gentiles — we are all one family.

And Jesus prepares a table for us to feast with Him (Psalm 23:5). We don't have to gather the crumbs under the table. We can come boldly to ask Him for whatever we need, and receive it, because Jesus paid for it on the cross.

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ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Because Jesus came to die for us, we are now part of God's family. We can receive Jesus' life and He will hear our prayers.

Get the kids into small groups to share prayer items and pray for each other.

Let's pray: *Thank you Jesus that even though we don't deserve it, You came to die for us and to make us your children. Thank you for making us part of your family and hearing our prayers to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

SONG: For it is by Grace (Revision from Camp)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8

HOOK

GAME: Silent Hunt

Choose two children. One partner is the Searcher and the other is the Friend.

Ask the Searcher to close their eyes or leave the room, while the Friend hides a piece of candy or object.

After hiding the candy/object, the Friend stand in the middle of the room.

Without speaking or moving from the spot, the Friend has to direct the Searcher to the hidden candy/object.

GAME: Blindfold Hunt

Similar as above except that the Searcher is blindfolded, and the Friend can only direct using voice commands.

STORY: JESUS OPENS EARS/MOUTHS/EYES (Mark 7-8)

Jesus Heals a Deaf and Mute Man

Mark 7:31-37 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. 32 There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. 34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!"). 35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. 37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Jesus Heals a Blind Man at Bethsaida

Mark 8:22-25 They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. 23 He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. When he had spit on the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?"

24 He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around."

25 Once more Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26 Jesus sent him home, saying, "Don't even go into the village."

LESSON

We can be friends who bring people to Jesus

For the deaf/mute man and the blind man, it was their friends who brought them to Jesus.

In this world, there are many people who need to meet Jesus.

They may be physically ill.

But they may also be deaf or blind to God's love for them.

We can be the friends who bring them to receive a touch from Jesus.

Jesus heals in different ways

Jesus doesn't heal in one set way, or through a series of magic phrases.

For the deaf/mute man, He put his fingers in his ears and spat and touched his tongue.

For the blind man, Jesus spat on the man's eyes and put his hands on them.

Each time, it's based on what the Holy Spirit leads Him to do.

Our only action is to come to Him and receive from Him, not to follow a set formula to receive His healing.

Whatever way He uses, it is good. As the people said, *"He has done everything well."*

Let us allow Jesus to open our ears, eyes and hearts

We may not be blind or mute or deaf. But we all need Jesus.

And to receive from Him and be blessed, let's allow Him to touch us and open our ears, eyes and hearts.

And with our mouths, we can praise and give thanks to Jesus.

If you would like to receive Jesus, let's pray together now.

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME:

Get the kids into small groups to share prayer items (healing or otherwise) and pray for each other.

GAME: Memory Verse Balloon Pass or Thanksgiving Balloon Pass

"He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." **Mark 7:37**

Prepare an inflated balloon. Children stand in a large circle. They take turns to throw the balloon to each other. The person who receives the balloon has to say a word of the memory verse (Mark 7:37) until the verse is complete.

Alternative: Children take turns to say something they are thankful to God for when they receive the balloon.

SONG: For it is by Grace (Revision from Camp)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8

HOOK

GAME: Guess Who

Prepare some descriptions of occupations, e.g. doctor, teacher, contractor etc.

E.g. I help sick people get better. I prescribe medicine. I usually wear a white coat. Who am I?

Get the kids to guess the occupation.

<or>

GAME: Describe Myself

Hand out small pieces of paper and get each kid to describe him/herself without putting their name.

E.g. I am 8 years old. I like to play Pokemon Go. I attend BJJ class after church service.

The teacher reads out the description, and the other kids get to guess who the person is.

STORY: JESUS THE MESSIAH (Mark 8-9)

Peter Declares That Jesus Is the Messiah

Mark 8:27-30

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

The Transfiguration

Mark 9:2-10

2 After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. 3 His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. 4 And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

5 Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 6 (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

7 Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

8 Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. 10 They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

LESSON

Jesus the Messiah

Jesus had been going around performing many miracles. He healed the sick. He fed the thousands. He delivered people from demon possession.

Many people had their own ideas about who He was. Was he a prophet like John the Baptist? Or Elijah?

Earlier, some people had hoped Jesus would be the one who would overthrow the Roman Empire and be their king.

But they all didn't know who He really was or what He was sent to do.

But the Holy Spirit revealed the truth to Peter.

When Jesus asked Peter, *"Who do you say I am?"*

Peter answered, *"You are the Messiah."*

Messiah means Saviour. Jesus was sent to the world so that He would suffer all the punishments and the death that we deserved. And He would rise from the dead after three days. And through His death and resurrection, He would save the world from sin and punishment.

Jesus is the Messiah of the World.

Jesus is God's Beloved Son

Jesus and His disciples went up to a high mountain. And there, He was transformed into a dazzling white being, together with Elijah and Moses.

And God spoke through a cloud. *"This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"*

This is the second time when God spoke these words. The first time was when Jesus had just been baptised and was coming out from the Jordan river. The heavens opened, the dove came down, and God's voice was heard.

In both instances, God wanted to tell those around that Jesus was His beloved Son whom He sent to earth to save the world.

Do you know that because of Jesus coming to save the world, you and I can become God's beloved children?

Who do you say Jesus is?

We all may have heard of Jesus or read many things about Him.

People outside have their own different opinions about Jesus.

Some think He is a myth/fake. Some think He is just a good man. Some say a teacher. Some say a prophet. Some think He is crazy.

But today, Jesus is asking you and me the same important question. *"Who do you say I am?"*

Do you really know who Jesus is?

Let me share with you my Jesus story — how I came to know who Jesus is and who He is to me.

<Share your Personal Testimony>

Highlight when Jesus became real in your own life and what His salvation means to you. Make sure to keep it age-appropriate.

Who do you say Jesus is?

If you would like to accept Jesus into your life as your Saviour/Messiah, pray along with me.

Thank you Jesus that You came down to suffer my punishment and die for me. Because of you, I can become a beloved child of God. I want You to be my Messiah. I want to be in God's family. I receive You into my heart today. Thank you for loving us always. In Your name, I pray Amen.

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MARK: JESUS THE MESSIAH

ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

MY JESUS STORY: WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Prepare some paper and pencils. Get the kids to write out their Jesus Story — Who Jesus is to them, and What He has done for them. Get the kids to share their story with each other. Close in prayer.

CRAFT: WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Related craft with the words “Jesus is the Messiah”.

SONG: For it is by Grace (Revision from Camp)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8