

# **God is Compassionate – The Ten Lepers**

Luke 17

**God Statement: God is Provider** 

**KEY VERSE:** "My God will meet all your needs. He will meet them in keeping His wonderful riches. These riches come to you because you belong to Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19, NIRV)

# **CHECK-IN**

Classroom Teacher

(Until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

# **EXPLORE ACTIVITY**

Classroom Teacher (15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

## **DISCUSS: God is Provider!**

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is Provider!

#### SAY:

Who remembers the new God Statement we learned last week? *Let kids answer - God is Provider.* Last week, we learned that provider means to make available or supply something. Can you think of an example of someone providing? *Let kids respond.* 

Have you ever been really sick before? What did it feel like? Did a grown-up help take care of you or make you feel better? *Let kids respond.* When a grown-up shows love to

you or helps take care of you when we can't that's called compassion. Just like grownups can show compassion towards us, God shows compassion to us too!

Today, we are going to hear a story in the Bible about when people were really sick, and God was Compassionate towards them. God is Compassionate and God is our provider! Let's say God is compassionate together – ready? God is compassionate! Before we jump into our lesson, let's do an activity.

#### MAKE:

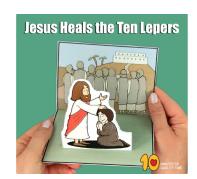
To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

#### **Lepers Activity Page!**

**Supplies:** Activity scene page, Jesus healing paper people, glue sticks, crayons and markers

**Directions:** Pass out one scene page and Jesus heling page per child. Have them color the page. When finished, help them glue the bottom rectangle to their activity page.

**Say:** Jesus heals! I wonder who He is going to heal in our story today. Let's make a craft and see if we can find out more about the lesson.



# **LARGE GROUP**

# (25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

#### **WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS**

#### Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

#### **Expectations Slide**

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

\*\*\* After Expectations, transition the power point to the "Worship" slide. \*\*\*

#### **KEY VERSE**

#### Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God's Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.

"My God will meet all your needs. He will meet them in keeping His wonderful riches. These riches come to you because you belong to Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 4:19, NIRV)

\*\*\* After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.\*\*\*

#### **OPENING WORSHIP**

## **Worship Leader**

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it's not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:**

- Help Me Live in Step
- Child of Love
- Closing: Battle Belongs

\*\*\* After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.\*\*\*

#### **BIBLE STORY**

## **Lesson Video**

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

#### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: God is Compassionate – The Ten Lepers

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

\*\*\*After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.\*\*\*

#### **WORSHIP RESPONSE**

#### Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

**Supplies:** heart die cuts, markers/pens

God is compassionate! What does it mean to have compassion? *Let kids respond – to see someone's needs and offer to help in someway.* How did we see Jesus show compassion in our story today? *Let kids respond.* Just like Jesus was compassionate to the men who had leprosy, God is compassionate to us! He sees our hurt, sadness, pain, and fear, and He comforts and walks alongside us. God truly is compassionate! Do you remember what question Miss Sarah asked at the very end of the lesson? *Let kids respond.* She asked – How can YOU show compassion this week?

#### **COMPASSIONATE HEARTS ACTIVITY:**

Let's take a moment to think about that question. How can I show compassion this week? Who can I show compassion to? Is there someone I've seen in need that I can offer to help?

Have teachers pass out heart die cuts and writing utensil to each kid. Turn on soft worship music.

As you look at that heart, think about the love and compassion God shows you. Then, think about who you can show compassion to this week. Write the name of the person on one side and the way you can show compassion on the other. Then, when you're ready, pin your heart up on the wire/twine stations around the room. As you do that, ask God to help you show compassion to that person this week!

Let kids reflect and respond quietly and individually for a few minutes. Then, gather everyone back together and say:

God is compassionate! He loves us so much and He wants to help us when we are in need. Not only that, but He wants us to share that love and compassion with others! Let's close our time in prayer thanking God for His love and compassion!

Close time in prayer.

\*\*\*After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.\*\*\*

#### **CLOSING WORSHIP**

## **Worship Leader**

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

\*\*\*After Worship or Bible Story, transition the power point to the "Compassion International" slide.\*\*\*

#### **COMPASSION & OFFERING**

#### Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to highlight and discuss each campus' Compassion sponsor child. Explain a little about the Compassion child's life and the impact their offering has for this child (info should be provided on cards in classroom). Then remind kids that if anyone brought offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering and their Compassion child.

\*\*\*After Compassion & Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.\*\*\*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Praying for Schools Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the PowerPoint to display important announcements.

#### **Praying for Schools**

**SAY:** Do you remember the first thing you noticed about your classroom on the first day of school? Was it the colors? Maybe the cool decorations? Or the big welcome you received from your teacher when you walked through the door? *Pause for a moment*. Or maybe how your parents made your home extra special for the start of homeschool?

What you may not have known or thought about as you were preparing to return to school for the new school year, is how hard your teachers worked to make sure that you could have the greatest experience possible. From decorating classrooms to planning and creating the best routines to ensure you learn and have fun; teachers do a great deal, and they do it all with YOU in mind!

Have you ever thought about how you can help your teachers? Your school? Or anyone who ensures you are prepared for and able to thrive throughout the school year? *Pause for a moment.* That's right!... Prayer! We have created a monthly prayer guide to help you and your families pray for our ACTS School Partners throughout the 2023-24 school year.

As we pray over this next month for schools, let's focus on 4 main groups:

- 1. Students
- 2. Teachers
- 3. Admin/Staff
- 4. Partners

Are you excited to join us in prayer?!?

Invite someone to come up and pray for teachers!

\*\*\*After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.\*\*\*

#### **BLESSING**

#### Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

May you know that God is compassionate towards those in need, and that means you too! God loves you! May you take that love and compassion and share it with someone else this week!



## (10 minutes)

#### **Younger Kids:**

This time is optional for younger kids, depending on if you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well.

- 1) What did you learn about God from our story today?
- 2) Read/ Recap today's story: Luke 17: 11-17 (The Ten Lepers)
  - a. How many men cried out to Jesus? (10)
  - b. Who did Jesus tell the men to show themselves to? (The priests)
  - c. Once they were healed, how many men went back to Jesus? (Only one, a Samaritan)
- 3) Are you good at showing gratitude when someone helps you or does something kind for you? Scratch your head and really think about it for a minute. Our God is so merciful and helpful. Do you show gratitude to God for his mercy, love, and kindness? What are some ways you can show gratitude, or thankfulness, to your family and friends? (Pause for a few responses. Say "thank you", do something nice for them, pay it forward and be kind and helpful to others, etc.) What are some ways you can show your gratitude to God? (Pause for a few responses- thank Him in prayer, worship, by being a light to others, etc.)

**Close small group in prayer.** Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!

#### **Older Kids:**

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

- 1) What did you learn about God from our story today?
- 2) Read scripture: Luke 17: 11-17
  - a. How many men cried out to Jesus? (10)
  - b. Who did Jesus tell the men to show themselves to? (The priests) Why? (The ancient law of Moses required healed lepers to show themselves to a priest. If the priest declared them healed, they would be welcomed back to their groups and could live with their families again.)
  - c. Of the ten men who called out to Jesus, how many men went back to thank Him? (only one) Why was this man special? (He was actually an outcast in two ways; he was a leper and he was a Samaritan.)

- 3) Are you good at showing gratitude when someone helps you or does something kind for you? Scratch your head and really think about it for a minute. Our God is so merciful and helpful. Do you show gratitude to God for his mercy, love, and kindness? What are some ways you can show gratitude, or thankfulness, to your family and friends? (Pause for a few responses. Say "thank you", do something nice for them, pay it forward and be kind and helpful to others, etc.) What are some ways you can show your gratitude to God? (Pause for a few responses- thank Him in prayer, worship, by being a light to others, etc.)
- 4) We're going to turn and talk to our neighbors for a couple minutes. I want you to think about these couple questions. How would it feel to be outcast like the lepers and the Samaritans? Have you ever felt left out or excluded? If you noticed someone looking or feeling isolated or left out, what could you do or say that would show them love and kindness? (Let the kids discuss for a couple minutes and then ask one or two friends to share responses quickly. God helped those who were sick and outcast and we can find ways to do the same thing.)

**Close small group in prayer.** Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!

## (10 minutes)

#### **DISCUSS:**

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

**PLAY: Sin Toss** 

Supplies: half sheet of paper (one per child), masking tape

**Directions:** put a line of masking tape down the center of the room. Split the children into two teams and hand each child a piece of paper. Have them crumple up the paper and hold it in their hands. Each paper represents sin. Have the children throw their ball of paper to the other side of the tape line. They continue to toss the "sins" away back and forth. After a minute or two, see who has the most or least on each side.

**Say:** Friends this is a sin battlefield. Did you know that God knows about our sin? That He knows the choices we are going to make before we even make them? God redeems us and forgives us of our sins. He is merciful! Today we are going to play a game to remind us of our lesson.

# **CHECK-OUT**

# Classroom Teacher (end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.