

Spring Lesson 4

Bible Passage: Matthew 8:1–4; 9:18–26; Mark 5:21–43
(Healing of the Leper, Jairus's Daughter, Sick Woman)

God Is Help

REMEMBER VERSE

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

Schedule

1. DISCOVER : Big God Story
2. RESPOND : Worship Response, Small Group Questions and Optional Activity
3. BLESS : Speaking God's Truth over your child

Supplies

- Paper
- Pencils or pens
- Markers
- Band-aids
- Index cards (or small paper)



DISCOVER // Big God Story

Divide your family into 3 groups. Lead your family in a prayer to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet your hearts and minds.

As we hear the story about the healing of the leper, I will need your help. Group one, you will represent the leper. Group two, you will represent Jairus. Group three, you will represent the sick woman. When I point to your group, you will shout, “Jesus, help!” Practice a few times. Jesus responded to all of these people when they called for help. He is our help.

The leper was a man with a terrible skin disease called leprosy. In Bible times, if someone suffered from a disease, people sometimes believed that person deserved it because that person was sinful. Sick people were considered unclean. Religious leaders and Jews were taught to stay away from unclean people so they themselves wouldn’t become unclean! That’s why people with leprosy were forced to live outside the city.

As Jesus traveled around preaching, healing, casting out demons, and demonstrating God’s love, He came upon this man with leprosy. Point to group one and prompt them to shout, “Jesus, help!” Great job! Let’s all turn to Matthew 8:2 in our Bibles. The leper knelt before Jesus and said (get on knees and beg), “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean” (Matthew 8:2). The leper had faith that Jesus could heal him and make him clean. But no religious person would go near an unclean leper, let alone touch him. Even so, “Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. ‘I am willing,’ he said. ‘Be clean!’” (v. 3).

Another man named Jairus, a leader in the synagogue, had a 12-year-old daughter who was dying. Point to group two and prompt them to shout, “Jesus, help!” Then invite your child to turn to Mark 5:23. Jairus pleaded with Jesus (fold your hands and beg), “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live” (v. 23). Jesus started walking to Jairus’s house to heal the girl, but crowds pressed in all around him. A lot of people wanted to hear and see Jesus. (Pause and ask your family these questions), Has our family ever been in a large crowd with a lot of people all around us? What was that like for us? Do you remember?

One person in the crowd was a woman who had been sick for 12 years. The Bible says she had gone to many doctors and spent all her money but had only gotten worse! The woman was desperate for healing. Point to group three and prompt them to shout, “Jesus, help!” Then invite your children to follow along in Mark 5:27–28. The



woman thought (get on knees and reach out hand as if touching someone), **“If I just touch [Jesus’] clothes, I will be healed”** (v. 28). **When the woman touched the hem of Jesus’ robe, she was shown immediately that she had been healed.**

In verse 30, the Bible says, **“At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, ‘Who touched my clothes?’”** The woman was **“trembling with fear”** (v. 33). She, a woman who had been unclean, had touched this religious teacher! She came forward and explained what had happened. Jesus replied, **“Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering”** (v. 34). Jesus responded to her cry by healing her.

While Jesus was talking to the woman, some men came from Jairus’s house and told him his daughter was dead. Point to group two and prompt them to shout, **“Jesus, help!”** **Jairus must have been very upset, but Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe”** (v. 36).

When Jesus got to Jairus’s house, people were already crying. But Jesus said to them “Why all this ... wailing? The child is not dead but asleep” (v. 39). **The people thought Jesus was crazy. They didn’t know Jesus was God and could do anything. Jesus took the girl by the hand and said, “Little girl ... get up!”** (v. 41). **Immediately the girl stood up and walked around** (v. 42). **Wow! Everyone in the house was completely amazed.**

All three of these people—the leper, Jairus, and the sick woman—cried out to Jesus for help. Point to all three groups and prompt them to shout, **“Jesus, help!”** **Jesus responded with healing.**

When we call out to God for help, He responds to us too. Sometimes He heals us, sometimes He sends people to help carry our burdens, sometimes He uses His Holy Spirit to bring comfort and strength while we wait for healing—but He always responds. When you call out to God, He will respond to you because He loves you. Ask your family to share a time God responded to your cries for help.

RESPOND // Worship as Response

This time allows kids to respond to God, through prayer and various ways of reflection.

There are four Worship Responses – Curriculum will change weekly; Mission, Gratitude and Identity, will repeat weekly. Your family can go through all of them or one of them. You could even spread them out throughout the week. You can choose how to go about



these different “stations”, whether you do them all as a family, or individually, allowing everyone to respond in their own way. We strongly encourage parents and guardians to take part in the worship response (whether with your kid or on your own) to be an example for your kid(s).

At church, we like to play soft worship music during Worship Response. If you would like to do the same, we’ve created a playlist for you to use at home! Click here to access our [Worship Response playlist](#).

Curriculum – God Is Help

SUPPLIES

- Band-aids (1 per person)
- Markers (1 per person)
- Large piece of paper (1 for the group)

SETUP

On the large piece of paper, in big letters, write “GOD HEALS”. Place band-aids and markers nearby.

RELATE

The leper, Jairus, and the sick woman all approached Jesus with radical faith. Jesus responded to their cries for help by healing them. Even though we live thousands of years after these people, God still responds to our cries for help, and we can ask Him to heal us and make us clean.

Some of you may be feeling desperate for God to heal your relationships and wash away the harsh words that were said to you. You might feel scared at school or at home because of bullies or hard situations. You might also feel like you need comfort. Today, if you want God to hear you or to cleanse your heart of any unforgiveness toward those who have wronged you, cry out to the God who responds to our cries for help.

Give children an opportunity to pray silently. Encourage them to pick up a band-aid and a marker, then write or draw a picture of what they would like God to heal... could be a friend, a family member, a relationship, a pet, or something in their own hearts. During this prayer time, each person can stick their band-aid to the sign that says “God Heals”.

Mission

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL – Each campus has their own Compassion



friend that we pray for and support. Ask your Elementary child to share what they know about their Compassion kid and spend time praying for them as a family. *You can also pray for different missions at Woodmen, in Colorado Springs and around the world!*

FEEDING FAMILIES – Through ACTS Ministry, we collect non-perishable food items to give to people in our very own city. During this time of isolation, we do have bins set up at Rockrimmon and Woodmen Heights, so people can continue to drop off food for ACTS Ministry.

For these last two worship response “stations”, give each child a notebook, so they can respond by writing or drawing their thoughts. If you do not have notebooks available, with supplies around your house, let your kid(s) create their own notebook.

Gratitude

What am I grateful for this week / today?

Identity

1. What is one fact I know to be true about God?
2. What does God think of me? Who does He say I am?

// Small Group Questions

This time allows kids to open their Bibles, read the suggested passages and recap what they've learned in today's lesson.

Questions for Younger Kids

- **What is a leper?** Matthew 8:2
- **Why was it so amazing that Jesus touched the leper?** Leviticus 13:9, 11
- **Why did the woman touch Jesus' clothes?** Mark 5:28
- **Have you ever cried out to God for help before? How did you see Him respond?**
- **Is there anything for which you need God's help today?**

Questions for Older Kids

- **Who were the three people whom Jesus healed?** Matthew 8:2; Mark 5:22–23, 25
- **Why was it so amazing that Jesus touched the leper?** Leviticus 13:9, 11



- **Why do you think God wants us to have faith in Him?** Ephesians 2:8; Hebrews 11:1, 6; 1 John 5:4
- **Have you ever cried out to God for help before? How did you see Him respond?**
- **Is there anything for which you need God's help today?**

// Optional Activity

Children reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through creative activities and games.

Hear-and-Draw Telephone

SUPPLIES

- Index cards or paper (1 per person)
- Pencils or pens

RELATE

Every time we cry out to God, He responds. Even though others may not hear us, God always hears us and responds to our cries for help. Because God loves us, is good, and knows everything, He responds with what is best for us.

Have your family sit in a circle. Give an index card or paper and pencil or pen to every other person. Explain that you're going to play a version of the Telephone Game. Choose a person without an index card and writing utensil to start. This child will think of a sentence and whisper it into the ear of the person to his right. This person will draw a picture of what she heard the person say. She can't use any words, letters, or symbols. Then she'll pass the index card to the person on her right. That person will look at the picture, decide what sentence the picture may be describing, and whisper that sentence to the next person, who will draw it, and so on. This speak-draw- speak pattern will repeat until the message gets to the last person. That person will say, aloud, what she thinks the sentence is. Compare the ending sentence with the beginning sentence. Play again. This time give the person who drew an opportunity to speak and the kids who spoke the chance to draw. Pray as a family thanking God for who He is and how He is always there to help us in our time of need. He always hears us.



BLESS //

Children receive a blessing from you. A blessing may be prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

RELATE

As you bless your kids, tell them they have the opportunity to be a blessing to others. Encourage them to freely share the joy and love they have received from God.

Read Psalm 103:1–5 to your children.

“Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things.”

Optional: Encourage your kids to respond by saying, “Yes, praise the Lord” after every sentence of blessing from the passage.