

LIFE OF CHRIST

VOLUME 2

PLEASE NOTE!

The visuals for this series can be purchased from most CEF offices and online shops. For a list of CEF offices and online shops in Europe, please visit www.teachkids.eu and click on "Locations".

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Introduction

There is no higher task for the teacher than presenting the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ to children. He is the only Way to God. He is the great theme and key to the Scriptures. Did He not say, “The Scriptures ... testify of Me” (John 5:39)?

In this second volume on the life of Christ we want to share some of the events and teaching in the early part of Christ’s public ministry. As you present our glorious Saviour to the boys and girls in your group, you have a twofold prayer - that those who are yet unsaved will be led to put their trust in Him, and that those who are already saved will grow in His grace and knowledge and become more conformed to His likeness.

Teaching Bible truths

We fall short of our responsibility as teachers if we only tell children Bible stories. It is essential that children learn the truths those stories were written down to teach us, and that we then take them a step further to show what that truth means to them in their daily lives. Of course, we cannot in one lesson cover all the teaching any particular story would provide, so in each of these lessons one central truth has been chosen. The teaching of the central truth has been woven throughout the narrative, but to help you in your preparation the teaching sections have been marked “CT”. These are also marked out in the lesson plan.

You will notice that the central truths are marked with a “U” or an “S” to show the kind of children the truth is applied to - unsaved or saved. This is also made clear in the text by using phrases such as, “If you have not trusted the Lord Jesus to forgive your sin ...” or, “Christian, you ...”.

The application of the truth has been highlighted with a line beside the text. You may feel it necessary to adapt the applications to better suit the children you teach. For example, the application may use a boy’s name, yet you have only girls present. It could be that the application given is more applicable to older children, while yours are very young. Make the changes you feel are necessary. The important thing is that the Word of God is applied to their lives.

Make yourself available for counselling

When you present the Gospel message, there will be children who will respond to it independently. They may or may not at a later date tell you that they have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. There will, however, be others who would like some help. They may have questions to ask; they may need help or encouragement in knowing what to say.

As you teach the saved children, there may be times when they would like advice in a difficult situation; they may need clarification on how a particular lesson applies to their daily lives; they may find themselves in a situation where they do not know what the Bible says they should do; they may want to share a difficulty so that you can pray for them, especially if you are the only Christian support they have.

For these reasons it is important that the children know you are available to talk. It is also important that they know when and where to go when they want to talk to you. Finally, it is essential that unsaved children do not confuse coming to the Lord Jesus with coming to you.

In all cases you should not make yourself available at the same time as giving the Gospel invitation, so that the children never get the impression that they cannot come to Christ without coming through you, or that they are saved simply by waiting to speak to you.

An example for use with the unsaved child

“Do you really want to live for the Lord Jesus, but don’t know how to come to Him? I will be glad to explain it from the Bible; come and see me. I’ll be standing by that tree when the meeting is over. Remember, I can’t take away your sin - only the Lord Jesus can do that - but I will be glad to help you understand better how you can come to Him. Just come and sit with me under that tree.”

An example for use with the saved child

“If you have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour and you have never told me about it, please let me know. I’ll be standing beside the piano after the meeting is finished. I would like to know if you too have trusted the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, so that I can pray for you and perhaps help you.”

Practise placing the flannelgraph figures

Practise using the visuals and changing the scenes before you go to teach. Become thoroughly familiar with all the figures and know when you need to use them in the lesson. Scenic backgrounds can be purchased to use with these lessons. We give suggestions before each scene, but they are by no means essential. All your teaching can be done on one plain flannel.

Extra visual aids

On a piece of card print out the words of the central truth for each lesson; back it with pieces of flocked paper. (Use lower case letters, so that even the younger ones can read the words easily.) Put this card on the board at the beginning of the class or when you first teach the central truth in the lesson.

Additional helps

Along the left and right margins additional helps are provided, giving background information and optional ideas on how to add interest to your lesson.

These ideas are designed to incorporate different learning styles. For effective learning,

some children need to see or write, others need to hear or speak, others need to touch or handle, and still others need active participation.

You can use these ideas in your club as time allows.

Review questions

For each lesson some review questions are given. These can be used after the lesson or the following week, before teaching the new lesson.

Review time, if conducted in an orderly way, can be an ideal opportunity to reinforce what you have taught, while still being fun for the children. You can use this time ...

- 1 to find out how much the children are understanding and remembering.
- 2 to help you as a teacher to know what you need to emphasise more so that the children will remember better.
- 3 to provide a time of fun in the class. The children like competition and look forward to this part of the programme. But it is more than just a game: it is a time of learning.

In this textbook only questions on the lesson are included. It would be profitable to include questions also on the songs, verse and whatever else you teach. In this way the children realise that every part of the programme is important.

Overview

Lesson	Central truth	Application	Memory verse
Miracle at a wedding John 2:1-11	The Lord Jesus is all-powerful	Unsaved: Trust Him to save you Saved: Trust Him with all your problems	“And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross” Philippians 2:8
A new beginning to life John 2:13-16,23 John 3:1-16 John 7:44-52 John 19:39-42 Numbers 21:5-10	You must be born again	Unsaved: Ask God to make you a new person and to bring you into His family	“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name” Philippians 2:9
A woman in Samaria John 4:3-30,39-42	Eternal life is a gift from God through the Lord Jesus Christ	Unsaved: The only way you can have eternal life is by coming to Jesus Christ Saved: If you are a Christian you can be sure of having eternal life	Continue learning Philippians 2:9
The Lord heals a boy, but is rejected in His home town John 4:45-54 Luke 4:16-32	Without faith it is impossible to please God	Unsaved: You must trust Christ alone to save you Saved: You must continue to trust Christ and His Word every day	“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth” Philippians 2:10
Blind Bartimaeus is made to see (A special evangelistic lesson) Mark 10:46-52 Luke 18:35-43	Special emphasis: The Lord Jesus is the only One Who can take away the darkness of sin	Unsaved: Trust Him to do this for you	Continue learning Philippians 2:10
A woman is healed and a girl raised to life Mark 5:21-43 Luke 8:40-56	The Lord Jesus loves individuals	Unsaved: You can be sure that if you come to Him He will save you Saved: He loved you and died for you, and will always love you and care for you, so tell Him all your problems	“And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” Philippians 2:11

Lesson 1

Miracle at a wedding

Scripture for teachers

John 2:1-11

Central truth

The Lord Jesus is all-powerful

Application

Unsaved: Trust Him to save you

Saved: Trust Him with all your problems

Memory verse

“And being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled Himself and became obedient to the
point of death, even the death of the cross”

Philippians 2:8

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5 and 1-6

Or

◆ Figures: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and you also may wish to
use additional figures for wedding guests

◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor scene and
indoor scene

Carry-over activity

◆ Paper and marker

Note for teacher

As you teach, you might wish to avoid raising the
question of why wine was used at the wedding. It
could take away from your main teaching. If
children have questions about this, you would deal
with them on an individual basis. Possibly the wine
was a weak wine with little alcohol content. Wine
was drunk, and still is, in many lands because of
the impurity of the water supply.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Excitement in Cana

Progression of events

- 1 Wedding preparations made
- 2 The Lord Jesus and disciples invited CT
- 3 The guests arrive
- 4 The wine runs out CTU
- 5 Mary tells the Lord Jesus about the problem
- 6 Jesus rebukes Mary CTS
- 7 Mary tells the servants to do what Jesus says
- 8 Jesus commands the servants to fill the jars
with water CTS
- 9 Servants obey and water turns to wine
CTU

Climax

The manager tells the groom, “This is the best
wine of all”

Conclusion

The disciples put their trust in Christ
CTS, CTU

Short object lesson

Only one

Hold up your Bible.

Numbers are very important in God's Word, the Bible. God gives us numbers of days and people and animals. What are some Bible numbers you know?

Briefly discuss.

Out of all the numbers in the Bible, this one's my favourite!

Hold up the gold number one.

The Bible says, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one" (Deuteronomy 6:4). God is the One Who made this world and everything in it, including you! God is powerful and He is holy (perfect). God watches over you and knows everything you think about and everything you do. God wants you to be His child and someday live forever with Him in Heaven.

But there is one big problem that keeps you from God.

In your other hand hold up the dark one. Keep hands far apart.

That problem is sin. Sin is anything you think, say or do that breaks God's laws. When you tell a lie, say swear words, disobey your parents or think mean thoughts about someone, you sin. Everyone in this room has sinned against God. How do I know? The Bible says, "There is none who does good, no, not one" (Psalm 14:3). Not even one person is good enough to go to Heaven. Your sin keeps you apart from God and if you die without having your sin forgiven, you will be separated from Him forever in a place of punishment called Hell.

So how can you have your sin forgiven?

Set aside the gold and dark ones. Show the red one.

There is only one way. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). Jesus is the perfect (sinless) Son of God. He has never done anything wrong and never will. But you have done wrong and Jesus came to Earth to take the punishment you deserved.

Open the red one to form a cross.

Jesus let men nail Him to a cross, where He suffered, bled and died.

Pick up the dark one and hold it in front of the cross.

Jesus took the punishment for all your sin. After Jesus died He was buried. Three days later He came back to life and today He's in Heaven. Jesus provided the only way for your sin to be forgiven.

Set aside the red cross. Show the clean side of the dark number one then hold the gold one near it.

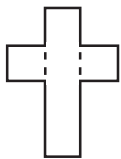
Present this using three coloured number ones: a gold (or yellow) one, a double-sided one which is dark (or black) on one side and clean (or white) on the other and a red one that folds out to a cross.



gold



dark (side 1)
clean (side 2)



red cross
(fold back
side tabs)

Preschool Gospel activity

Share the Gospel using a Wordless Book. Instructions and Wordless Books are available from CEF Press® or your local CEF® office.

Preschool song

Sing "Good News".

When you believe on Jesus as your Saviour, God forgives your sin. He changes you on the inside so you can know Him and go to Heaven someday. Have you believed on Jesus? Listen carefully during our lesson as we talk more about that.

Show preschoolers a veil and have one try it on. Preschoolers would also enjoy pretending to walk to Cana.

Let children locate Cana on a map. Following Jesus' baptism and temptation, He had been in the area of Bethany when He called His first six disciples (Andrew, John, Peter, James, Philip and Nathanael) to follow Him. This event took place about three days after Jesus called Nathanael.

Flashcard 1-1

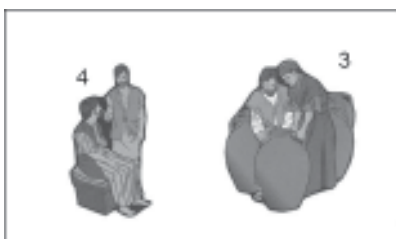
Since the Bible does not mention Joseph at this time, it is possible that he was no longer living.

CT



Flashcard 1-2

Flashcard 1-3



Lesson

What excitement there was in Cana! There was going to be a wedding. I'm sure plans were being made for weeks before the wedding day in the homes of both the bride and the groom. There was sewing of wedding clothes. There were plans for the wedding meal. How much food would they need? How much wine would they require? Who should be invited to the wedding?

Scene 1

Optional background: Outdoor scene.

At last the day arrived. All the arrangements were made and everything was ready. The guests were on their way.

Place Jesus (1) and disciples (2).

Jesus and His disciples were invited. Perhaps the wedding family were relatives of the Lord Jesus' family, because His mother, Mary, was to be a guest too.

As Jesus and His followers made their way along the dusty road, they must have been looking forward to a lovely day. Had you been watching that group of men walking along, you would not have thought that One was very different from the others. Which One was different?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, the Lord Jesus Christ, of course! He didn't look different - He was a young man like the others. But He was also God - God's only Son - for He did not stop being God when He became a man. At that moment, His disciples didn't realise that they were walking beside the One Who had made the world, the sun, the stars and the planets. The One they were following is the all-powerful One, the Almighty Son of God, Who can do whatever He pleases. The disciples didn't understand this yet, but they knew there was something special about Jesus Christ and they were happy to be going with Him to the wedding.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Indoor scene.

As all the guests arrived, they stopped by the big water jars.

Place servants (3) and guests (4).

Because the streets and roads were dusty and people wore sandals, their feet were dusty and dirty. A servant was there by the water jars to wash their feet. There was a rule in that country about washing their hands, so each person had to let the servant pour water over his hands, even if his hands were not dirty. The servants needed big jars filled with water to take care of all that washing.

Excitement was rising. At last the meal was ready to be served. Trays filled with special foods were passed from person to person. Wine glasses were filled from big pitchers. More and more people were arriving.

Place additional figures if desired.

Weddings in that country were very different from our weddings. There was a wedding procession through the streets, as the bride was taken to the home of the groom where the feast was held. Many friends and neighbours were invited and sometimes the feast would last for days. A lot of food and drink was needed and the servants were kept busy, making sure everyone was served. Again and again pitchers were filled.

A servant returned with his empty pitcher to get a refill.

“Sorry, there is no more wine,” he was told.

No more wine! What a disaster! The whole wedding feast would be ruined! The word was whispered from one person to another, “There is no more wine.”

Mary, the mother of the Lord Jesus, heard the words. “What could be done?” she thought.

Remove all figures.

She could not do anything, but surely her Son could. She knew He was the Son of God, He could do anything.

Mary was right.

Place Jesus (1).

The Lord Jesus was the only One in that house Who could prevent this problem from spoiling the wedding feast. Can you remember why He could help?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, He was not just an ordinary man like all the other men in the house. He is God - God the Son; He is all-powerful. “All-powerful” means that there is no limit to His power. You and I can never understand how much power and might He has. He has power to solve problems that no-one else can solve. He can do things that no-one else can do.

If you have never trusted the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, then your greatest problem is your sin. You are born with a desire to do wrong things. Don’t you always want to blame someone else for something you have done that is wrong? Maybe you came home one hour later than you were supposed to and you lied and said Joanne’s mother wanted you to stay and play with Joanne. You know it was not true and it got you out of trouble at home, but you disobeyed God. He tells you not to lie. Your sin is very serious, for it separates you from

Let children sample juice and sponge cakes. Preschoolers would especially enjoy this activity.

Wine was often used (and still is in many countries) because of the impurity of the water supply. Many commentators believe that the wine was strongly diluted with water leaving little alcohol content. Don’t let this issue distract from the main point - the glory of God the Son in His first miracle.



Flashcard 1-2

CTU



Flashcard 1-4

You might wish to have a child read this. Arrange with the child before the Club begins.

Jesus was not showing disrespect or lack of love for Mary when He addressed her as "woman". Jesus used the same word as He

CTS hung on the cross and committed her care to John (John 19:26). Mary may have been expecting a miracle and full manifestation of Jesus' glory, but Jesus reminded her that His authority was not hers to command. He was working by a divine timetable and was subject only to the will of the Father.

God and you are in danger of being cut off from Him for ever. Isn't that an impossible problem?

You can't help yourself, I can't solve your problem and no person on earth can. But remember that we said that the Lord Jesus Christ is all-powerful. Nothing is too hard for Him. The Bible tells us that He can take away your sin and make your life right before God. He died on the cross and took God's punishment for sin. He's alive today, still the all-powerful One, the only One Who can make you right with God. He can do things which nobody else can do and Mary understood that in some little way.

She hurried over to her Son and said, "Jesus, they have no wine left."

Place Mary (5).

The answer of the Lord Jesus to Mary sounds strange to us until we understand what it means. Let us read what He answered. The Bible says in John 2:4, "Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come."

Mary was trying to tell the Lord Jesus to do something about the wine. He was not rude to her, but He told her firmly that she could not tell Him when He could use His power. He was God's Son, and God the Father alone was leading His Son in what to do. This was a lesson Mary would have to learn. The Lord Jesus would use His power, not because Mary asked, but because God, His Father, wanted Him to do so. He would act only according to His Father's will.

Do you ever try to tell the Lord Jesus what to do? Sometimes Christian boys and girls do. Maybe there is some problem you have and you know what you want the Lord to do about it. For example, your teacher in school does not believe on the Lord Jesus and says that the Bible is not true. Perhaps you have been tempted to pray, "Lord, give me another teacher." Often you have prayed and told the Lord Jesus what to do for you, but still the problem is there. What should you do? Which is the correct answer?

- (a) Stop praying and wait for Him to do something.
- (b) Keep on praying and keep telling Him what He should do for you.
- (c) Keep praying and telling Him about your problem, but ask Him to solve it the way He wants and when He wants.

Allow the children to answer.

The best answer is the third one. Keep bringing your problem to Him, for He is the almighty, all-powerful One. He knows the right answer to your problem and He will answer when the time is right. Actually, at this wedding feast, the time was right for Jesus to show how powerful He was.

Mary knew He was the all-powerful Son of God, so she turned to the servants saying, "Whatever He says to you, do it" (John 2:5). She meant, "If you do what He says, He can solve your problem."

The servants looked at Him. What would He say?

Jesus looked at the six big stone waterpots that had been used to hold the water for washing the guests. In John 2:7 we read what He said - "Fill the waterpots with water."

Remove Mary (5). Place servants (3).

The servants must have thought, "It would be very strange to fill the jars now. Why should we fill the jars with water? The guests are all here, everyone has been washed - and it's wine we need, not water! Does He not care about our problem?"

The Lord Jesus did care and He was going to use His great power to help. Christian boy and girl, isn't it wonderful to know that the Lord Jesus is interested in every problem you have - He cares about you. He will use His power to help you. Perhaps your family does not believe on the Lord Jesus and nobody seems to understand what you believe. The all-powerful Lord Jesus Christ is interested in your problem and He will help. There is no problem too difficult for Him. Keep telling Him about your problems. Pray to Him every day and ask Him to help. Sometimes when you have a problem, it is good to have someone else to pray with you. I want you to know that if you have a problem, I would be glad to pray for it too. We could pray together. Always feel free to come and tell me, and both of us can ask the Lord about it and trust Him to solve it. The Lord Jesus has promised to answer the prayers of His children. He does not promise that everything will be easy for Christians, but He does promise to help them. Perhaps soon He will save someone else in your family. He will use His power to keep you faithful to Him. He will help you to live a Christian life at home. He wants to help you, just as He wanted to help at the wedding feast. That is why He said to fill the jars with water.

Even though the servants must have thought it strange, they took Mary's advice and did what Jesus said. They filled every jar. It took a lot of water, for they held up to 95 litres (25 gallons) each.

When every one was filled to the brim, Jesus said, "Now, take some out and serve it to the manager of the feast" (from John 2:8).

The servants must have hesitated, wondering why they should serve water to the manager, but again they obeyed. They filled their pitchers from the large jars of water and could not believe what they saw. It was wine! They had put water into the jars and it came out as wine! It was a miracle! Jesus had changed water into wine in a moment. Why could He do that?

Allow the children to answer.

Perhaps a child could read the verse from your Bible.

Mary's instructions show her faith in Jesus.

Read (or have a child read) the verse from your Bible.

Flashcard 1-5

Children would enjoy role-playing this scene and the one that follows. Choose several who can play the parts of Mary, the servants, Jesus and the disciples. Print the dialogue on cards for them to read.

CTS



It's interesting that Jesus chose to use these purification jars for His miracle. The custom of purification by water was instituted by Jewish law, but Jesus had come to show a new way to bring a new covenant through His blood.

The manager would be like the headwaiter, or the man in charge.

Flashcard 1-6

CTU

Yes, because He is God, He is all-powerful. Nothing is too difficult for Him. He can do anything. He can forgive and save even the greatest sinner in the world. He can save you.

If you have never asked Christ to save you and you see that you need to do that, you can ask Him now right where you are sitting, or at your bedside when you go home. However, if you would like to talk to me about it, I would love to help you and show you how you can be saved today. After the others have left, come up to the front row. I'll sit down and explain to you more about how to be saved.

Perhaps you know that your sin is keeping you apart from God and you want to be right with Him. In your heart tell the Lord Jesus about that now. You might use words like this, "Lord Jesus, I'm a sinner. I can't take away my sin; but I believe You can. Please do that for me now." The Bible says that, "He is ... able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him" (Hebrews 7:25). That means He will save you completely, no matter how bad you are. If you truly trust Him, He will take away all your sin and you will be right with God for ever. That is a much greater miracle than what had happened at the wedding.

The wedding manager, having tested the wine and knowing nothing about where it came from, hurried off to find the groom.

"Where did you get this?" he asked. "I've never known anyone to serve the best wine last. At every other wedding the best wine is served first; this is the best wine of all."

No wonder! It was created by the Lord Jesus Himself, Who had made all things at the creation of the world (John 1:3).

Many of those who knew about the water being made wine would remember that miracle for the rest of their lives. They had seen something that only God could do. Jesus Christ is the all-powerful Son of God. The disciples especially saw Who He was and trusted Him even more.

CTS

Christian boy and girl, aren't you glad that your Saviour is all-powerful? When you know that He can do anything, you are encouraged to trust Him more and more. He will help you through your problems and do things for you that no-one else can do.

CTU

Perhaps you don't know Him as your Saviour. You have never asked Him to save you from the greatest problem of all - the problem of your sin. Will you not come to Him today and trust Him to take your sin away? If you trust Him, you too will have an all-powerful Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. "He is ... able to save to the uttermost [completely] those who come to God through Him" (Hebrews 7:25). Will you come?

Review questions

- 1 Where did the Lord Jesus work His first miracle? (At a wedding in Cana.)
- 2 Who were some others who were at the wedding, besides the Lord Jesus? (His mother and the disciples.)
- 3 Why were the big water jars placed there for the guests? (So that they could wash their hands and dusty feet when they arrived.)
- 4 What big problem happened at the wedding feast? (They had no more wine.)
- 5 To whom did Mary go and to whom should we go with our problems? (To the Lord Jesus Christ.)
- 6 Mary tried to tell the Lord Jesus to do something about the wine, but He told her it was not up to her. Why? (Jesus acted only according to His Father's will.)
- 7 What did the Lord Jesus tell the servants to do? (To fill the water jars with water.)
- 8 What happened when they went to fill their pitchers? (The water had been changed to wine - it was a miracle.)
- 9 Why was the Lord Jesus Christ able to change the water into wine? (He is God, He is all-powerful.)
- 10 What miracle is the Lord able to do in the lives of boys and girls, men and women today? (He is able to take away our sin and make our lives right with Him.)

Preschool review questions

- 1 At the wedding who told Jesus that the wine was gone? (His mother, Mary.)
- 2 When they were out of wine, what did Jesus tell the servants to do? (Fill the large stone jars with water.)
- 3 What did Jesus do to the water in the jars? (He turned it to wine.)
- 4 Who can help you with your problems? (Jesus.)

Carry-over activity

Use paper and a marker to list the answers so that all can see. Some suggested answers are given, but your list will be more complete.

- 1 What are other problems that the all-powerful Lord Jesus can help you with?

Answers could be:

He can help you with ...

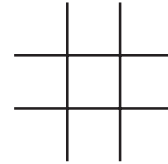
- (a) difficult homework.
- (b) school exams.

Review game

Human

Tic-Tac-Toe

Set up the playing area with nine chairs or create a grid (see diagram below) on the floor using rope or tape.



Divide the class into two groups - the X's and the O's. Have the teams take turns answering questions.

When a child answers correctly, he may stand or sit in the square he chooses.

The first team to get three of its members in a row vertically, horizontally or diagonally wins.

If desired, this game can also be played using a large sheet of paper and a marker.

Preschool review game

Tic-Tac-Toe

Play the games as directed above but use five game pieces of one colour or shape and five of another. No need to divide into teams.

Let a preschooler answer a question and place a game piece in a tic-tac-toe grid formed with yarn on a flannelboard or drawn with ink on poster board.

The next preschooler uses the other shape.

Preschoolers will enjoy placing the pieces and clapping when three of the same are aligned.

- (c) sickness.
- (d) lonelines.
- (e) being bullied.

2 How can the Lord Jesus help Christians with their homework?

Answers could be:

He can help you ...

- (a) to study well.
- (b) to concentrate on what you have to do.
- (c) to rest in His will.

3 How can He help Christians when they are sick?

Answers could be:

He can help you ...

- (a) to get better quickly, if that is His will.
- (b) to be patient during the illness.

Lesson 2

A new beginning to life

Scripture for teachers

John 2:13-16,23

John 3:1-16

John 7:44-52

John 19:39-42

Numbers 21:5-10

Central truth

You must be born again

Application

Unsaved: Ask God to make you a new person and to bring you into His family

Memory verse

“Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name”
Philippians 2:9

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 2-1, 2-2, 2-4, 2-5 and 2-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): Temple scene

And

- ◆ There are few visuals available to keep the children’s interest during the conversation between Christ and Nicodemus. We suggest you use “speech balloons” on the flannelboard using the words given on page 57. Make them large enough for the words to be read easily in your meeting.
- ◆ You will find an additional visual of the serpent of brass (with the cross in the background) on page 58.

Carry-over activity

- ◆ Copy and cut out the cards on page 59.

Lesson outline

Introduction

“He is such a good man” CTU

Progression of events

1 Christ cleanses the temple CTU

2 Nicodemus comes to Jesus

3 “You are a teacher come from God”

4 “Unless one is born again” CT

5 “How?”

6 “By God, the Holy Spirit” CTU

7 “How?”

8 Story of Moses

9 “The Son of Man must be lifted up” CTU

Climax

One day Nicodemus is born again

Conclusion

Nicodemus’ life is changed CTS, CTU

Flashcard 2-1



Lesson

Scene 1

Optional background: Plain background. Place Nicodemus (6).

“He is such a good man.”

I’m sure many people said this about Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a Pharisee. The Pharisees were a group of men who lived at the time the Lord Jesus was on the earth. They were very religious. They often prayed long prayers in the temple. They gave ten percent of their money to the temple and also gave much to the poor. They had many strict laws which they tried very hard to obey. Indeed, they looked as if they were men who really loved God and wanted to please Him. Nicodemus was not only a Pharisee, but one of their leaders.

To other people, Nicodemus looked like a good person, because of all his good actions. Yet God could see what he was really like. God could see what went on in his mind and heart. Just like each one of us, Nicodemus was born with a sinful nature. He did not love God with all his heart. He liked to do things his own way, instead of always doing what God wanted. No matter how religious he was, he could never change that sinful nature of his and it is just the same for you and me.

CTU

Perhaps you try every day to be good; perhaps you go regularly to church and say prayers, but doing all of that does not change the real you. It does not stop you thinking angry thoughts, or being selfish, or being jealous when your mother spends time with the new baby in your home. Why are you like that? It is because you have a sinful nature - you were born that way. There is nothing you can do to change that. Nobody else in the whole world can change you. Only God can make you different. Only He can make you a new person. You can never change yourself, to become good enough to please God.

Nicodemus lived in the city of Jerusalem. Almost certainly he would have heard about the Lord Jesus, but he had not yet met Jesus.

Remove Nicodemus (6).

Scene 2

Optional background: Plain background. Place Jesus (7).

The time of year for the Passover arrived and the Lord Jesus came to Jerusalem. The Passover was a feast the Jews held every year. It was held to remind themselves of how God had delivered them from Egypt hundreds of years before. Thousands of people travelled to Jerusalem to take part in the celebrations. The streets were filled with Jews from all over the country. People met and talked with friends they had not seen since the year before. They had much to talk about. Perhaps many were talking about Jesus and the miracles He had



been doing, and the words He had been teaching. As Jesus passed through the crowds, some people may have pointed Him out to their friends. Jesus was going up to the temple.

Remove Jesus (7).

The temple area was especially busy. There were people everywhere. The money changers were sitting at their tables. They had plenty of customers. There was a rule that only certain coins could be used in the temple, so the money changers exchanged the regular money for temple money. Often these money changers cheated to make more money for themselves. People today are greedy as well and want to get more for themselves by cheating others. The Bible says, "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Timothy 6:10). Do you find yourself being greedy and selfish? That is why you need the Lord to change you.

CTU

Scene 3

Optional background: Temple scene or plain background.

Lambs, bulls and doves were on sale at the temple. The Jews bought these animals for their sacrifices. Many times the prices charged for these animals were unfair. All of this business caused much shouting and arguing. When the Lord Jesus arrived in the middle of all the confusion, He took charge right away. He was angry because of the wrong things they were doing in God's house.

He made a whip-rope from small cords lying there and snapped it in the air.

"Take these things out of here," He ordered. "Don't use my Father's house for a market."

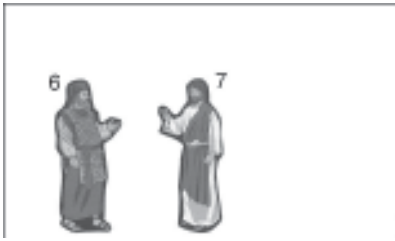
Money tables were overturned. Coins were scattered on to the floor. Sheep and bulls were driven out. Men grabbed cages filled with doves and ducked out of the way. Can't you just imagine what people thought?

"Who is He anyhow? What did He mean by 'My Father's house'? Does He have the right to do that?" Most of the people could not understand why He did it. But we know, don't we? Why could Jesus act like that? Doesn't last week's lesson help us to understand? That's right. Jesus Christ is the all-powerful Son of God. That's why He had the authority and the power to act as He did. He had the power to do miracles also and He did some there in Jerusalem.

Obviously Nicodemus saw or heard all that had happened. It made him more and more curious about the Lord Jesus. He wondered how he could meet the Lord. It would never do if the other Pharisees saw him with Jesus. They did not like to hear what Jesus taught, because He showed how sinful they were, despite their good works.

"I'll go at night," he thought.

Flashcard 2-2



Nicodemus may have come to Jesus at night to avoid the ever-present crowds, but most likely he did it to avoid the disapproval of other Sanhedrin members and to ensure a private conversation.

Scene 4

Optional background: Plain background. Place Nicodemus (6) and Jesus (7).

And that is just what he did. While most other people were asleep, Nicodemus came to where Jesus was staying. Perhaps they talked together under the black starlit sky.

“Rabbi [or teacher],” said Nicodemus, “we know you are a teacher who has come from God; for no-one could do the miracles you do unless God is with him.”

Was the Lord Jesus a teacher? Did He come from God? But was He even more than a teacher from God? Yes, of course He was. He was God - God the Son.

The Lord Jesus spoke to Nicodemus.

Place wordstrip from John 3:3 - “Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God”.

Let us read what He said (it is written in the Bible) - “Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3).

All read the verse together.

Wasn't that a strange thing for the Lord Jesus to say? Do you know why He said it? The Lord Jesus knew Nicodemus and He knew what was really on Nicodemus's mind. Nicodemus wanted to be in God's kingdom. He wanted to belong to God and live with God for ever. Being religious, saying prayers, going to the temple, didn't make him belong to God. The real Nicodemus was still sinful and displeasing to God. It's the same with you and me. Nicodemus, and you and I, were all born with sinful hearts.

CT

Place child with dark heart (8).

To be in God's family we have to be born again. If you had been there, what question would you have asked next?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, that's what Nicodemus asked.

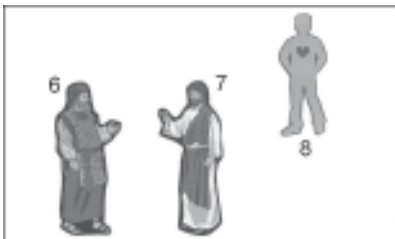
Place wordstrip - “How?”

He said, “How can an old man be born over again? How can he go back to being a new-born baby?” Nicodemus was very puzzled.

CTU

Jesus explained to him that there were two different births. One birth is when a baby is born - when a new human being begins to live his life in this world. Each baby is born like all other human beings with flesh and bones, skin and blood - and with a sinful nature. The other birth that Jesus talked about is being born into God's family and becoming a new person. It does not mean getting a new body, but the one who lives in the body is changed so much that the Bible calls that person a “new creation” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Place child with clean heart (9).



The one who is born again looks the same on the outside, but his sin is gone and God has given him a new nature. He has the power and the desire to live to please God. Only God can do this. Jesus said to Nicodemus, that it is God, the Holy Spirit, who makes people new.

Place wordstrip - "By God, the Holy Spirit".

You have heard that you must turn from your sin and trust the Lord Jesus as your Saviour, but your sinful heart does not want to do that. You have no power of your own to do it. You need God the Holy Spirit to work in your heart, to show you your sinfulness. Only then can you be sorry for your sin and trust the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are ever to be in God's family, the Holy Spirit must make you a new person.

The Lord Jesus said once more to Nicodemus, "You must be born again" (John 3:7).

Place wordstrip - "You must be born again".

Nicodemus was still not sure what Jesus was talking about. "How can these things be?" he asked the Son of God.

Place wordstrip - "How?"

Then the Lord Jesus reminded him of something which had happened to the children of Israel long ago. Nicodemus knew the story well.

Remove child with dark heart (8) and child with clean heart (9). Place Israelites and snakes (10).

Hundreds of years before, the Jewish people were travelling from Egypt to the land God had promised to give them. They grumbled and complained and were angry with their leader, Moses. God was displeased because they had sinned in that way and sent poisonous snakes among the people. Many people died from the snake bites and many others were on the point of dying.

"Moses," they cried, "we have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Ask God to take the snakes away" (from Numbers 21:7).

Moses prayed for the people. God listened to his prayer and made a way for those who were bitten, to be healed. He told Moses to make a snake out of brass and lift it up high on a pole.

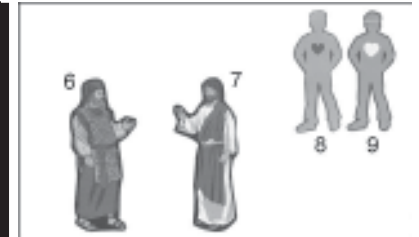
Place serpent on pole (11).

"Whoever looks at the snake of brass will be healed," God said.

And they were healed immediately. Listen to the words of the Lord to Nicodemus.

"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:14-15).

Remove Israelites and snakes (10). Place Jesus on cross (12) and wordstrip - "Even so must the Son of Man be lifted up".



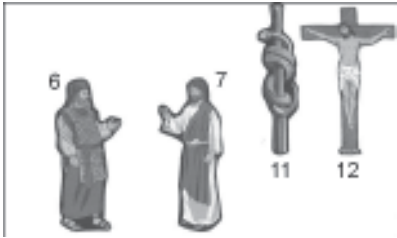
Flashcard 2-4

See Numbers 21:4-9.



CTU

Flashcard 2-5

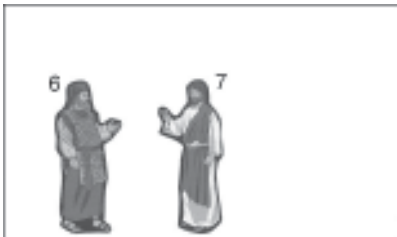


What did He mean? The Lord Jesus was explaining how it is possible for people to be born again. He came to be punished for all our sin and to die on the cross, so that boys and girls and men and women could be made new people. If He had not died in our place, no-one could ever be in God's kingdom. What a great price the Lord Jesus paid so that we could be born again! Perhaps you really long to be sure that you belong to God. How can you be sure you are born again? What did the people in the wilderness have to do to be healed?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, they looked at the brass snake and immediately were better. They believed God's Word when He said that a look would heal them. The Lord Jesus was lifted up on a cross. He is not on the cross today. He is in Heaven, and if you believe in Him, you will be forgiven. It is a bit like "looking to Him", as the Jews looked to the brass snake. If you want to believe in the Lord Jesus, you might tell Him so by saying something like this, "Dear Lord Jesus, I want to belong to God. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sin. Please take away my sin and take charge of my life." If you truly "look to Him", then you can know for sure that you are born again by God the Holy Spirit.

Remove snake on pole (11) and Jesus on cross (12).



Jesus wanted Nicodemus to be sure that the only way to God was to believe on Him. He said these lovely words to him. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

"Nicodemus, you need to believe in Me," said the Saviour.

Place wordstrip - "Believe".

The Bible does not tell us what happened next. We don't know if Nicodemus went home that night to think about all he had learned.

Remove all figures.

CTU

Although Scripture does not specifically say Nicodemus was born again, many commentators believe his life indicates this change. At first he came to Jesus secretly, but later he spoke up for Jesus and helped bury His body. See John 7:45-52 and 19:38-42.

Perhaps he trusted the Saviour before he left. You don't have to be anywhere special to trust the Saviour. You could bow your head just now and quietly ask Him to save you. You could trust Him in your own bedroom when you go home, because you don't need to have anyone with you. Sometimes boys and girls have questions about trusting Christ and would like help from someone. If you are one of those, I will be very happy to wait after the Club is over and try to answer your questions. Please come and tell me if you have a question. You can come and sit on one of these chairs on the front row. In that way I will know you have a question about how to trust Christ and that you want to do it today.

Nicodemus' questions were over. He went away, but we know the Holy Spirit made him a new person.

Place Nicodemus (13).

Nobody saw the Holy Spirit making him a new person, because nobody can see God the Holy Spirit. But people saw the changes which He made in Nicodemus's life. One day, when other Pharisees would have wanted Jesus killed, Nicodemus stood up for Him. It took courage, but God gave him that courage. The last time we hear of Nicodemus in the Bible was on the evening when Jesus died. All of Jesus's disciples had run away, because they were afraid of the Pharisees and others who had crucified the Lord. It was Nicodemus who brought spices. With his friend Joseph, he wrapped the body of the Lord Jesus in linen and buried it in the tomb. Can you imagine how excited Nicodemus was after Jesus rose again from the dead? Everybody could see that Nicodemus was changed.

When you are born again, your life will be changed. You will be more obedient and helpful at home. You will want to help with keeping your room tidy and you will be glad to run to the shop, if your mother asks. Other people will see that you are a new person.

Are you born again? I'm not asking if you go to church or say prayers or are good and kind. Nicodemus was like that, but he needed to be born again. The Lord Jesus says to you too, "You must be born again". Believe on the Lord Jesus today. Ask Him to make you a new person and bring you into His family.

Review questions

- 1 What kind of people were the Pharisees? (They were very religious, said long prayers and looked like they loved God.)
- 2 What was the name of the Pharisee who wanted to talk with the Lord Jesus? (Nicodemus.)
- 3 In which city did Nicodemus come at night to meet the Lord Jesus? (Jerusalem.)
- 4 What did the Lord Jesus Christ find in the temple area which made Him angry? (The people changing money and selling animals and charging unfair prices.)
- 5 What did the Lord Jesus do? (He chased out the money-changers, the animals and those who sold them.)
- 6 When Nicodemus met Jesus at night, who did he think Jesus was? (A teacher come from God.)
- 7 What did the Lord Jesus say needed to happen in the life of Nicodemus? (He needed to be born again.)
- 8 What does it mean to be born again? (To become a new person through God the Holy Spirit working a miracle in us.)



Flashcard 2-6

Children would appreciate smelling and passing around spices to remind them of the spices Nicodemus used.

CTS

CTU

Review game

Giant steps

Write a number beside each question.

Have all the children line up facing you. (If you have a large group, divide into teams and have each team gather together.)

When a child answers a question correctly he may take as many giant steps forward as the number written beside the question. (If playing in teams have the next child take his giant steps beginning where the first child left off.)

The first person (or team) to cross the finish line wins.

If playing in a small area, you might want to use two flannelgraph figures to represent the teams. Let the teams move their figures across the flannelboard to a yarn finish line.

Preschool review game

Giant steps

Follow the instructions given above but do not divide into teams.

- 9 What story did the Lord Jesus use to show that to be saved everyone needs to put their trust in Him? (The story of the people being bitten by poisonous snakes, but looking to the snake of brass to be healed.)
- 10 How could Nicodemus be born again and how can we be born again? (By trusting alone in Jesus Christ Who was crucified and Who rose again for us.)

Preschool review questions

- 1 What strange thing did Jesus tell Nicodemus? (He needed to be born again.)
- 2 In the story about the people being bitten by snakes, what did they have to do to be healed? (Look up at the brass snake.)
- 3 What did Jesus do so we could belong to God's family? (He died on the cross for our sin.)
- 4 When you are born again whose family do you belong to? (God's family.)

Carry-over activity

New life charades

Photocopy and cut out the situations (see page 59) and fan in your hand.

Let one child at a time draw one and silently act it out as others try to guess what action is being portrayed.

Discuss each situation after it is guessed correctly. Help the children view these and other situations as opportunities to show their new life in Christ.

Lesson 3

A woman in Samaria

Scripture for teachers

John 4:3-30,39-42

Central truth

Eternal life is a gift from God through the Lord Jesus Christ

Application

Unsaved: The only way you can have eternal life is by coming to Jesus Christ

Saved: If you are a Christian, you can be sure of having eternal life

Memory verse

Continue learning Philippians 2:9

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 3-1, 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-5 and 3-6

Or

◆ Figures: 1, 2, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21

◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor scene

And

◆ This can be a difficult lesson to teach, because there is little action and a lot of conversation and symbolism (“water of life”, spiritual “thirst”, etc). To help keep the children’s attention, you could show a glass of water during the introduction and refer to it when contrasting “spiritual thirst” and “the water of life”, as well as “receiving the gift of God”.

◆ Photocopy the wordstrips on page 60.

Carry-over activity

◆ A tract for each child

Making yourself available

This lesson tells how the Lord Jesus explained the way of salvation to a lady from Samaria. Before teaching the lesson, tell the children that you are ready to explain the way of salvation to any of them who need help. Tell them where and when to come to you to get this help. It is not enough for them to know how the lady in today’s lesson came

to trust in Christ. They need to come to trust in Him too. Let them know that you can explain how to do that - individually to anyone who wants to know.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Tired, thirsty and hungry

Progression of events

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Samaritan woman comes for water | CT |
| 2 | Conversation with Christ | |
| 3 | “Will you give me a drink?” | |
| 4 | “I’m a Samaritan” | |
| 5 | “I can give living water” | CT |
| 6 | “Give me this water” | |
| 7 | “Go, call your husband” | |
| 8 | “I have no husband” | CTU |
| 9 | “Where should we worship?” | |
| 10 | “Worship in spirit and in truth” | CT |
| 11 | “I know the Christ is coming” | |
| 12 | “I am He” | CTS |
| 13 | Disciples return | |
| 14 | Woman leaves the well | |

Climax

“Come and see a man”

Conclusion

Jesus invited to stay

Many believe

CTU

Preschoolers can pretend to walk with Jesus and the disciples, getting tired and hungry along the way.



You may wish to show the map of Palestine and

Flashcard 3-1

help the children to locate Judea, Galilee and Samaria. Point out the direct route through Samaria, as well as the route around Samaria that most Jews took.

Preschoolers would enjoy shaping wells out of play dough.

Preschoolers would enjoy pretending to fill a water jar and carry it on their shoulder the way a Samaritan woman would have.

CT



Flashcard 3-2

Lesson

Scene 1

Optional background: Outdoor scene.

Oh, it was so hot! They had walked a long way together and they were tired, thirsty and hungry. They still had a long way to go.

Place Jesus (1) and disciples (2).

The Lord Jesus and His disciples were walking the dusty road that ran from Judea to Galilee. Galilee was the region where Jesus grew up. The shortest road to Galilee led through Samaria. The group of 13 men had just crossed into Samaria and were coming close to a city called Sychar.

This would be a good place to stop, for the Lord Jesus was tired. Even though He was God the Son, He was also truly man and, like other men, He grew tired and needed rest and food. Don't you enjoy a glass of water when you are thirsty, or something to eat when you are hungry? The disciples went ahead into the city to find something to eat.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place woman (15).

About the same time a woman was leaving the city, carrying a waterpot. It was around noon. She was going to the well to get water to drink. It was an unusual time of the day for a woman to be going to the well. Perhaps she did not want to be there at the same time as the other women. She lived a very sinful life and perhaps had few real friends. She probably enjoyed her sinful life, but she didn't know that she could have another kind of life - eternal life. She was "dead in sins" - as the Bible calls those people who were without Christ (from Ephesians 2:5). The Bible says that sin makes us all dead towards God. It means that we are cut off from God, separated from Him, because He is holy and we are sinful. We need eternal life from God. Without it we are separated from Him for ever. This woman with all her sinful life, had never heard that she could have eternal life. She hurried to the well.

Place Jesus at well (14).

How surprised she was when she reached it! She was not going to be alone. There was a man there. She would just get the water and pay no attention to Him, she thought. Perhaps she tried to look the other way as she placed the waterpot on the well.

At that moment the stranger spoke to her. "Will you give me a drink, please?" said Jesus.

He was not only thirsty, but was using a common way of being friendly.

The woman turned and looked at Him. He was a Jew! A Jew speaking like that to her, a Samaritan woman! Jews would hardly ever speak in such a friendly way to a Samaritan.

She asked Him, "How is it that you, being a Jew, would ask me for a drink? I'm a Samaritan."

"If you knew the gift of God," He replied, "and if you had known Who I am, you would have asked Me for a drink and I would have given you living water" (from John 4:10).

The woman answered, "Sir, you have nothing with which to lift the water out of the well and the water is a long way down. How can you then get that living water? Do you think you are greater than Jacob who gave us this famous well?"

Place symbol for water (18).

She did not know Who Jesus was and she could not understand what He was talking about. What was this "living water"?

Jesus was talking to her about eternal life. Water is essential for us to live on this earth, but living water or eternal life is what we need to live with God. When someone has eternal life, he is no longer dead towards God. He knows God and loves God and will go one day to live with God forever.

Place symbol for eternal life (19).

But how can you have eternal life? Are any of these ways right?

Place wordstrips as you talk about each.

- You can have it if your family are Christians and you go to church.
- You can have it as a reward if you live a good life.
- You can have it if you say enough prayers every day.

Do you think any of these might be right?

Allow the children to answer.

No, none are right. Here is how you can have eternal life:

- It is a gift from God.

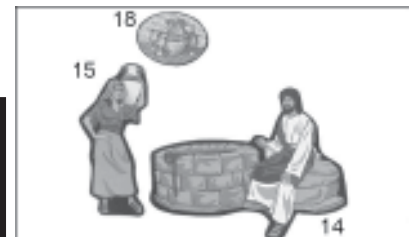
A gift is something offered by someone and must be taken if it is to be yours. The Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the only One Who can give eternal life. Eternal life is the life of God in us, so that we can begin to live for God. The Lord Jesus offers it to sinners. He wanted this sinful woman to know that He is the only One Who could give her living water.

Race makes no difference to God. He loves all people!

Flashcard 3-3

You may want to ask two children ahead of time to role-play this conversation. Print the dialogue on cards for them to read.

We are told that the well was about 30 metres (100 feet) deep.



CT



Samaritans were a "mixed race" of people who intermarried with Gentile nations. Many of them also practised a "mixed religion" combining worship of God with idolatry. The Jews of Jesus' day considered the Samaritans "unclean" and wanted nothing to do with them.

He said to her, "Everyone who drinks of the water from this well will get thirsty again."

She understood that. She knew she needed water every day.

Jesus went on, "Anyone who drinks of the living water that I give will never thirst. It will be like a spring of water inside him, that bubbles up into everlasting life" (from John 4:14).

"Give me this water," she said, "so that I will never get thirsty again. I will never have to come back here for water."

She still did not understand, but the Lord had not finished explaining to her. He said a strange thing to her, "Go and call your husband, and come back here." She must have gasped when she heard those words.

She said, "I have no husband."

"I know," the Lord Jesus replied. "You have had five husbands and you are not married to the man you now live with" (from John 4:17-18).

CTU

Jesus knew everything about her. How? He knew, because He is God. He knew about the sinful life she lived. She was dead in sins and separated from God. She had broken God's laws, just like every one of us. The Bible says there is no-one who does not sin (Romans 3:12). This shows in your life. You are much more interested in your toys, your TV programmes and your playtimes than you are in hearing about God. Yet God's law says, "You shall have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20:3). Nothing else should be more important in your life than God. Do you ever get angry with your brother and say, "I hate him"? The Lord Jesus said that to hate someone is to break the commandment which says, "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13 and Matthew 5:21-22). Your life is sinful. Perhaps you think there are worse sinners than you. Even one sin cuts you off from God. If you go on in your sin, you will never have eternal life; you will never know God or live with Him for ever. However, if you are willing to turn from all you know to be wrong in your life and trust in Jesus Christ, you will receive God's free gift of eternal life, the same gift as Jesus was offering the Samaritan woman.

Flashcard 3-4

By now she was really puzzled. How did this man know so much about her? How did He know about her sin? She thought He might be a prophet sent by God. She started to talk about worshipping God.

Remove symbol for water (18) and symbol for eternal life (19).

"We worship in this mountain," she said, pointing to the mountain nearby, "but you Jews say people should worship in Jerusalem."

The Lord Jesus spoke so kindly to her. "The important thing about worshipping God is not where we worship Him, but how we worship

Him. We must worship Him in spirit and truth” (from John 4:21-24).

The Lord wanted the woman to understand that only those whose hearts and lives are right with God can worship Him. Those who have received His great gift of eternal life can come to Him and talk to Him, for their sin no longer separates them from Him. They know Him and love Him. That is what it means to worship “in spirit and truth” (John 4:24). You cannot pretend to be right with God, even if everyone who sees you in church thinks you are worshipping Him. Many people in many churches seem to worship God, but if they have never received God’s gift of eternal life, it is not true worship. This woman didn’t know the true God - she was not worshipping Him.

She said, “I know that God has promised to send One, called Christ. When He comes, He will tell us everything.”

“I am He,” said the Lord Jesus Christ. “The One you are talking to is the One God has sent” (from John 4:26).

The Lord Jesus is the Special One, sometimes called the Messiah or the Christ, Whom God had promised for centuries. He, the Son of God, came to give eternal life. He came to die. He came to pay completely for sin, so that all who trust in Him alone to take away their sin, can have eternal life. He is not dead today, for if He were, there could be no eternal life. He is alive and will live for ever. Every person who is trusting in Him can be sure that when they die, they will live forever with Him.

The Bible says, “He who has the Son has life” (1 John 5:12). That is God’s promise to you who are saved. The devil will try to make you doubt. Sometimes he will say to you, “You are not a very good Christian. Look what you did. Maybe you are not saved at all.”

Remember what God says, “He who has the Son has life” (1 John 5:12). If you know that the Lord Jesus is your Saviour, you can be sure you have eternal life right now and for ever. If you are trusting in Christ, be sure to thank the Lord for giving you eternal life. Perhaps it was at that very moment the woman trusted the Lord Jesus to give eternal life. He could save her from her sin and give her eternal life. She would never be the same again.

Scene 3

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place disciples (2).

At the same moment the Lord’s disciples returned. They were amazed that He talked with the woman, but every one of them was afraid to ask why He talked with her. The woman turned round and hurried off towards the city.

Replace woman (15) with figure 20 and place water pot (17).

CT

CTS



Flashcard 3-5



Children would enjoy role-playing this exciting part of the story. Preschoolers could pretend to be the woman calling out, "Come, see Jesus!"

Flashcard 3-6



CTU

Review game

Ruler in the ring

Divide into two teams and let each choose its ruler.

Have each team sit in a circle with its ruler in the middle. (For smaller groups create a rope circle for the ruler to sit in while his team sits outside it.)

Ask questions alternately between the teams.

Why did she leave so suddenly? She even left her waterpot behind. Why? Was she planning to come back to the well? The disciples didn't know, but the woman knew exactly what she was doing. She hurried into the city and spoke to the men she found there.

Remove woman (20).

"Come and see a man who is able to tell everything I have done in my life. Could He be the Messiah that God promised to send?" (from John 4:29).

The men were curious and followed her quickly out of the city, and back to the well.

Scene 4

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place Samaritans (21).

They were anxious to meet the Man they had heard about. They invited the Lord Jesus to come to their city. He was glad to accept their invitation and He and His disciples spent two days there - two days when He was able to talk to many in the city of their need of eternal life.

As a result of that woman telling about Jesus, many people there trusted in Him. They heard about Him, they met Him and listened to Him and trusted in Him. They received eternal life. It is not enough to know about Jesus and to know that He can give eternal life. It is not enough to know that you need eternal life. Sinners must come to the Lord Jesus and ask Him to forgive their sin and give them this great gift.

Have you ever trusted Jesus Christ? Remember God's Word says that those who trust Him will "not perish [not be cut off from God] but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). If you have never trusted Him, don't go on being dead in sin. Tell the Lord that you want to be rid of your sin and you want His free gift of eternal life. Tell Him today. Trust Him as your Saviour and, like those people in Samaria, you can have eternal life.

Review questions

- 1 Where did the Lord Jesus and the disciples stop for rest and food on their way from Judea to Galilee? (Near Sychar, in Samaria.)
- 2 Why did the Lord Jesus sit down at the well? (Because He was tired.)
- 3 Who came about noon to get water to drink? (A woman from Samaria.)
- 4 Why was the woman surprised when the Lord Jesus asked her to give Him a drink of water? (She did not expect Him to speak to her, because He was a Jew; the Jews did not like the people of Samaria.)

- 5 What did the Lord Jesus say He would give to the lady, if she asked for it? (Living water, eternal life.)
- 6 How did the Lord Jesus know everything about her? (Because He is God.)
- 7 Who did the Lord Jesus say He was? (The Christ, the promised Saviour.)
- 8 Why did the woman hurry off to the city leaving her waterpot behind? (She wanted to tell others about the Lord Jesus - "Could He be the promised Messiah?")
- 9 What happened when the Lord Jesus stayed two days in Sychar to talk to the people? (Many more trusted in Him as their Saviour.)
- 10 What do you need to do to have eternal life? (I don't have to do anything by myself to get eternal life; I simply trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to do that for me.)

Preschool review questions

- 1 What did Jesus ask the Samaritan woman to give Him? (A drink of water.)
- 2 What was the woman's problem? (Sin.)
- 3 What kind of water did Jesus say He could give her? (Living water.)
- 4 When the woman believed in Jesus, what did she do? (She told others.)

Carry-over activity

What to say

Discuss with the children how to share the Gospel with others.

Ask what they would tell someone about sin, God's love, Who Jesus is and what He did, what someone needs to do to be saved. You may want to record their answers on a dry erase board.

You may also want to give each child a tract to take home and share. Be sure to explain how to use the tract and practise during the class hour.

If time allows, two children could role-play a witnessing situation you describe.

As long as a team answers correctly, its ruler stays in the middle. If a team gives a wrong answer, its ruler must step out and sit with his team. The team then goes without a ruler until it answers another question correctly and chooses a new ruler to sit in the middle. The team having the fewest changes in leadership wins.

Preschool review game

Ruler in the ring

Have all the preschoolers sit in a circle. When a child answers a question, he may sit in the center of the circle. Then another child may answer a question and take his place. Use preschool questions from lessons 1-3 and continue as interest and time allow. To give each child more time to sit in the circle you may want to have all the children repeat the memory verse before the next child answers a question.

Lesson 4

The Lord heals a boy, but is rejected in His home town

Scripture for teachers

John 4:45-54

Luke 4:16-32

Central truth

Without faith it is impossible to please God

Application

Unsaved: You must trust Christ alone to save you

Saved: You must continue to trust Christ and His Word every day

Memory verse

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth” Philippians 2:10

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5 and 4-6

Or

◆ Figures: 2, 7, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26

◆ Backgrounds (optional): House interior scene, outdoor scene and temple scene

Carry-over activity

◆ Photocopy and cut out the cards on page 61.

Making yourself available

As you teach the verse you can make yourself available for counselling for any child who wants to “bow the knee” to the Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him as their Saviour and Lord.

Lesson outline

Introduction

“Everyone in the house was sad”

Progression of events

- 1 Boy is very ill
- 2 Parents hear that the Lord is in Cana
- 3 Father goes to Cana CTU
- 4 Father asks the Lord to come CTU
- 5 “Come before my child dies”
- 6 “Your son lives” CTU
- 7 Family believe CTS
- 8 Lord Jesus in synagogue
- 9 People do not believe CTU

Climax

People try to kill Jesus

Conclusion

Jesus leaves Nazareth CTU

Having the children pronounce names of cities and people in the lesson will help them remember them.

Flashcard 4-1

This man was probably an official of Herod Antipas. It's unclear whether he was a Gentile or Jew, but most commentators believe he was a Jew.



Children will appreciate locating Cana on a map. You may want to let children briefly review the events from lessons 1 and 3. Jesus' warm reception in Galilee had quickly turned to rejection, revealing that the people's acclaim for miracles did not translate

Flashcard 4-2

into faith in Him as the Son of God.

CTU

Preschoolers could pretend to walk with the nobleman and search for Jesus. Post a sign saying "Cana" at one end of the room and a sign saying "Capernaum" at the other.



Lesson

The house was probably the best one in all of the city of Capernaum. The man who owned it had a very important job, for he was an officer of the king. He was called a nobleman. But everyone in the house was sad.

Scene 1

Optional background: House interior scene or plain background. Place nobleman (22).

The nobleman's son was sick. He had a very high fever and was so ill he was going to die. They had no cure for him. The doctors could not help.

Place nobleman's wife (23).

Can you imagine how that family must have felt? All hope seemed to be gone. Perhaps it was just then that a servant hurried into the room.

"Jesus is in Cana."

"Jesus? Ah, yes! The One who turned the water into wine."

No doubt the news of Jesus' miracle had reached Capernaum for it was only about 30 kilometres (18 miles) from Cana. They knew about the Lord Jesus and they knew He had power to do miracles.

"Would Jesus come and heal our son?" they must have questioned.

"I'll go and ask Him," the nobleman said.

Remove all figures.

Scene 2

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place nobleman (22).

The journey to Cana had never seemed so long. Every minute counted, for the little boy was dying. As the nobleman hurried along he must have thought about Jesus. He was so glad he had heard about Him. If nobody had ever told him, what hope would he have now? It is very important to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ. No-one can ever trust Him or have faith in Him, unless they hear about Him. In Good News Club® you have heard about Him. You know Who He is and what He has done. Can you tell me some of the things you have heard?

Allow the children to participate.

We know all these things are true because we read about them in the Bible. We know the Lord Jesus can do anything. We know He always keeps His promises. We know He can forgive sins and give eternal life. It is very important to know about the Lord Jesus, but there is something even more important. It is important to trust Him as your Saviour. We might know all about Him, but if we do not trust Him, we cannot please God. God says in His Word, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him [God]" (Hebrews 11:6).

How important it is to please God, to honour the One Who is the King of kings and Lord of lords - our Creator and only Saviour! The first step in pleasing the Lord is to put your faith in Him and to receive Him as your personal Lord and Saviour. Aren't you glad you have heard about Jesus, just like the nobleman had?

Finally he arrived in the town of Cana and immediately began looking for the Lord Jesus.

Replace nobleman (22) with figure 24. Place Jesus (7) and disciples (2).

As soon as he found the Lord, the boy's father began to beg and plead with the Lord Jesus, "Please come to my house immediately and heal my son, for he is dying."

The father knew in his heart that the Lord Jesus could heal his son. Are you sure in your heart that the Lord can forgive you all your sin? Do you really believe He can give you eternal life? It is important to know about Him, like the nobleman did; it is important to be sure that He can forgive you; but knowing all that is not enough to please God. You must trust Him to take away all your sin. If you were sick and had been given a bottle of medicine, what would you need to do? Would it do any good sitting on the table beside your bed? Would it do any good if the doctor said it was the best medicine in the world? Of course not. You need to take it. No matter how much you know about the Lord Jesus, or how much you believe He can do, that will not make any difference to your life, until you trust Him to take away your sin. That is what faith is.

"Sir, please come before my child dies," repeated the man.

"You may go home and stop worrying. Your son will live," said the Lord Jesus (from John 4:50).

He did not offer to go with the father to see his son, and the father did not ask again. Why?

Allow the children to answer.

Yes, the father believed the word of the Lord Jesus. He had faith in the Lord and he turned round and walked away.

Remove nobleman (24).

Faith is trusting Jesus to do what He says He will do. He promises to give eternal life to all who trust Him. "Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). You can trust Him today and have everlasting life. You can say to Him something like this, "Dear Lord Jesus, I know that You are the only One who can give me eternal life. I believe You died on the cross for my sin. Please take away my sin and give me eternal life. Please take charge of me and be my Lord and Saviour." Unless you truly trust Him alone to make you right with God, your life will never, never please God. Will you not trust Him today like the nobleman did?

Remove all figures.

Flashcard 4-3



CTU

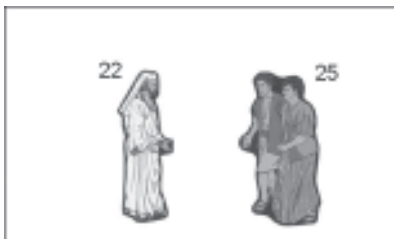
Flashcard 4-4

Children would enjoy role-playing this conversation.

CTU

Preschoolers can tell the happy message to the nobleman, "Your son is alive!"

Flashcard 4-5

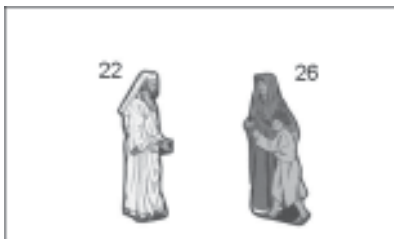


Hold up a clock. According to Jewish time the "seventh hour" would have been one in the afternoon; in Roman time it would have been seven

Flashcard 4-6

in the evening. But the point is that the miracle occurred at the exact time Jesus spoke the words!

CTS



Scene 3

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place nobleman (22).

He left the Lord Jesus and for some reason did not go directly home that day. It was early afternoon and Capernaum was about 30 kilometres (18 miles) away. Maybe he was so worn out that he could not journey home - at least before night came. Maybe he had such faith in the Lord Jesus that he knew his son was well and so he stayed overnight, with real peace in his heart about it.

The next day, as he walked towards his hometown, he recognised some men coming towards him. They were his servants.

Place servants (25).

When they came closer he saw their smiles and heard them saying, "Your son is alive and well."

What Jesus had said was absolutely true.

"When did he begin to feel better?" the father asked.

"Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock the fever left him," replied the servants.

How thrilled the man was to realise that that was exactly the time he had been talking to Jesus.

Remove servants (25).

He hurried home and was delighted to meet his son and his wife.

Place nobleman's wife and son (26).

Can you imagine what a happy home that was? But it became even happier as the father told all about the Lord Jesus. That day, everyone in the house trusted in the Lord Jesus. Perhaps you have trusted the Lord Jesus to make you right in God's sight. You are a Christian. You know that He has forgiven your sin and given you eternal life. But that is not the end of trusting. God wants you to keep trusting every day. Trust Him when He says in the Bible, "Lo, I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). Trust Him to be with you at school, at home, when you are alone, even when you are asleep. Every time you read a promise in the Bible, you can be sure that it is true. Ask God to do for you what He promises. That is having faith and trusting Him, as the nobleman's family did.

Remove all figures.

But not everyone in Galilee trusted Him. Near to Cana was the town of Nazareth where Jesus had grown up.

Scene 4

Optional background: Temple scene.

On the day of worship, called the Sabbath day, Jesus went to the place of worship, called the synagogue.

It was a bit like us going to church. Since the leaders in the synagogue knew He was a teacher, they asked Him to take part in the service. He had taught in many other synagogues in Galilee and everyone talked about how great He was. They handed him a scroll to read.

Explain and, if possible, visualise a scroll.

It was part of our Bible called the book of Isaiah.

Place Jesus (7).

The Lord Jesus opened the scroll to what we call Isaiah 61 and began to read at verse 1.

Read Isaiah 61:1-2a from your Bible.

He handed the scroll back and sat down. The crowd in the synagogue listened to hear what He had to say.

“This very day this Scripture which I have read is coming true, right here and now,” He said (from Luke 4:21).

He meant that He was the person about whom Isaiah had written, almost 700 years before that day. He had read from the Scriptures about Himself. As He went on speaking, the people were amazed at His words.

“Is this not Joseph’s son?” they asked.

They wondered how Joseph’s son could talk about such things. To them, Jesus was the son of the carpenter from Nazareth. They did not believe that He was the Son of the Living God. They trusted in saying prayers, going to the temple, doing good and keeping rules. They would not believe that Jesus was the only Saviour. Weren’t they foolish? Yes, they were, but so are many boys and girls - perhaps even some of you. You have heard many times about the Lord Jesus. You have heard from the Bible that you must trust Him to make you right with God, but have you ever trusted Him? If you have not, you can never please God, no matter how good you try to be or how often you come to church or Good News Club. You must trust Him as your Saviour. I always think it is very sad when people know so much about Jesus and yet do not believe on Him. The people in Nazareth knew Him so well. Some had lived in the same street as He lived in. Some must have played with Him when He was a boy, but almost everybody refused to believe on Him as their Saviour.

Remove Jesus (7).

In fact, they got angry at His words. He had told them that God saved people who were not Jews. They were very proud of their nationality. They thought God loved nobody except Jews. They angrily jumped up and pushed Jesus out of the synagogue into the street.

They crowded round and shoved Him out of the town to the edge of a cliff. The Bible says they planned to throw Him over. They



It was the custom in the synagogue to stand up to read and to sit down to speak.

CTU

CTU

wanted Him dead. This would be easy with so many pushing Him. But, as they got to the edge, an amazing thing happened. Despite all their pushing, He walked through the crowd, away from the cliff edge, to safety. It was a miracle. He walked away from them as if they had no more strength than a fly, and headed back to Capernaum. It was not yet time for the Lord Jesus to die. When everything was fulfilled, He was going to be nailed to the cross for our sin and rise again for us. What a wonderful Saviour He is! He left behind in Nazareth those who would not trust in Him.

Are you like those people? You have never tried to kill Jesus, but the Bible says that because you do not want Christ in your life, you are as guilty and sinful as the people of Nazareth. You are not pleasing God because you are still a sinner. Will you not trust Him today, as the nobleman did in Capernaum? Will you not ask Him to be your Lord and Saviour because “without faith it is impossible to please Him [God]” (Hebrews 11:6).

Review game

Come over

Divide the children into two teams and have them form two lines facing each other.

Ask questions of the teams alternately.

When a team answers correctly, a child from the other team joins it by moving from the front of his line to the back of the other team's line. The team with the most members after all questions have been asked wins.

(This game can also be played sitting in groups. The child giving the correct answer could draw a coloured slip of paper or a sweet with coloured paper wrapping out of a bag. Children on the other team wearing that colour then come to his team.)

Review questions

- 1 To which city did the nobleman have to go to find the Lord Jesus? (Cana.)
- 2 Why did the man want to talk to the Lord Jesus? (His little boy was sick.)
- 3 What did the Lord Jesus tell the man? (“Go home. Your son will live.”)
- 4 What did the man do when he heard these words? (He believed the words of the Lord Jesus.)
- 5 What news did the servants bring to the nobleman as he was on the way home the next day? (That his son had been healed at exactly the time the Lord Jesus had spoken to him.)
- 6 What happened when the father came home? (Everyone put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.)
- 7 What did the people of Nazareth do, when they heard the Lord Jesus speak in their synagogue? (They refused to believe in Him.)
- 8 What did their unbelief lead them to do? (They tried to push Him over a cliff.)
- 9 Why were the people not able to throw the Lord Jesus down? (His power was greater than them all and He walked right through the crowd to safety.)
- 10 What is absolutely necessary, if we are to begin to live to please God? (We must trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.)

Preschool review questions

- 1 What did the nobleman ask Jesus to do? (Heal his son.)
- 2 When the nobleman got home what had happened to his son? (He had been healed.)

- 3 What does faith mean? (To believe or trust.)
- 4 What happened to everyone in the nobleman's house? (They all believed in Jesus as Saviour.)

Carry-over activity

Faith in God's promises

Photocopy and cut out the verse references (page 61) and place facedown on a table.

Let one child at a time choose a reference and try to find the verse in a Bible. Guide the child in finding the verse or, if he knows how, let him tell the other children what he's doing to find it.

Have the child read the verse aloud and state the Bible promise.

(If the children you teach are experienced at locating verses, you may want to have a sword drill to see who can find each verse first. Be sure to have one Bible per child or have the children pair up in teams of two.)

Discuss the promise and have the children think of a situation in which they would need to trust that promise.

Continue as interest and time allow.

Preschool review game

Pick a figure

Spread flocked figures from the lesson on a table near your flannelboard.

When a child answers a question, he may choose a figure, tell something about it and place it on the board.

You may want to use just the preschool questions from this lesson or also include questions and figures from the previous 3 lessons.

Continue as interest and time allow.

Lesson 5

Blind Bartimaeus is made to see

(A special evangelistic lesson)

Scripture for teachers

Mark 10:46-52

Luke 18:35-43

Special emphasis

The Lord Jesus is the only One Who can take away the darkness of sin

Application

Unsaved: Trust Him to do this for you

Memory verse

Continue learning Philippians 2:10

Visual aids

◆ Flashcards: 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4 and 5-5

Or

◆ Figures: 2, 7, 21, 27, 28, 29 and 30

◆ Backgrounds (optional): Outdoor scene

Making yourself available

This lesson gives you an excellent opportunity to present the message of the Gospel in a clear and easily understood way. However, there may be children who still wish to ask questions about salvation as a result of hearing the lesson.

We suggest that somewhere in the middle of your meeting you sing together “Blind eyes Jesus made to see” (Salvation Songs 1, number 20).

Tell the children, “In today’s lesson we will meet someone who came to Jesus and was healed. But your sinful heart is more serious than any sickness. You need to come to Jesus to have your sin taken away. The lesson will tell you how, but if you still have questions about coming to the Lord, come at the end of the meeting (*specify place*) and tell me. I will be very happy to show you the answers from the Bible. It is very important that you come to Jesus to have your sin forgiven. Now let us sing the chorus again.”

Note for teacher

If you have a class that is difficult to control, it might be better not to use this introduction, but to start at scene 1.

Lesson outline

Introduction

Close your eyes

Progression of events

- 1 Blind man begging Sin against God
- 2 Nobody can cure his blindness
 Sin - you can't take it away
- 3 Bartimaeus hears of Jesus Christ
 Jesus - death
- 4 Jesus comes to Jericho
- 5 Bartimaeus calls to Jesus
 Cost of following
- 6 Jesus Christ calls for Bartimaeus
 Love of Christ
- 7 “What do you want me to do?” Salvation

Climax

Bartimaeus could see

Conclusion

Bartimaeus was changed Salvation

Lesson

Close your eyes, everyone, until I count to ten.

Count slowly.

What could you see with your eyes tightly shut? Nothing. Do you think you could have found your way to me with your eyes closed? You probably could have done that, because you knew where I was standing.

Choose one child.

Jimmy, may I put this blindfold on you?

Blindfold the child and take him to the other side of the room.

Now, Jimmy, I'm going to walk away from you. I will not talk. I will move quietly and I want you to find me. I will signal to the others to tell you when I am ready.

Give the child a few moments to try to find you. Obviously it is almost impossible for him, because you can always move away from him. Stop him and keep his blindfold on.

What does Jimmy need to do to help him to find me? Yes, he needs his blindfold removed.

Remove it from Jimmy.

Now Jimmy can see. He is no longer in darkness. It is difficult to really imagine what it must be like to be always in darkness. But this man knew what it was like.

Scene 1

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place Bartimaeus (27).

He sat at the side of the road, outside the city of Jericho. It was a beautiful city, but the man could not see the tall palm trees swaying in the breeze. He could not see the rose gardens and other flowers that bloomed throughout the city. He could smell the fragrance of the balsam plants and of those beautiful flowers growing nearby, but he could not see them. He was blind. He was not only blind, but also very poor. Blind men could not work in those days.

Today there are many things a blind person can do. He can learn to read. How does a blind person read? He reads by feeling little bumps on a page. It is called Braille writing.

It would be good if you could show some Braille writing to the children.

A blind person can learn to type or to do many things with his hands. But in the time when this man lived, there was usually only one thing a blind man could do. He could beg. The Bible tells us that this blind beggar was called Bartimaeus.

Did you know that the Bible also says that if you are not saved, you are like Bartimaeus - your life is in darkness? I know what you are thinking - that you are not in darkness, you can see. Of course you



Flashcard 5-1

Children will enjoy locating this city on a map.

Have preschoolers close their eyes, then let them touch and smell a flower. Help them to realize that the blind can feel and smell things around them, even though they can't see.

Bartimaeus' name is not included in the account of Mark 10:46-52. Have children repeat his name with you to help them remember.

can, but the darkness I'm telling you about is sin, disobeying God's commands. Your sin greatly displeases God. Do you remember when you were losing that snooker game and you used God's name as a swear word, because you missed the pot? God commands you, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" (Exodus 20:7).

Or you know how you don't like that boy in your class, because he has a better bike than you? God says, "You shall not covet" (Exodus 20:17), but you really wish you had that fancy bike rather than your own ordinary one. When you disobey these or any of God's commands, you are sinning and God says sin is like darkness. God can never allow sin to be where He is, for He says in the Bible, "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5). God is pure and sinless. So if your life is full of the darkness of sin, you are far away from God and can never live in Heaven with Him. That is very serious, for you have a darkness much worse than any blindness.

Blindness is a great handicap. Life is very different for blind people. Bartimaeus' life might have been like this. Day after day he sat by the road that went into the city. The name of the city was Jericho. It was a busy road with many travellers, for the road led eventually to Jerusalem. Day after day he sat and called out as loudly as he could, "Bakshish! Bakshish!" That means "Please, a gift. Please give me something."

Place crowd (21).

Many people passed by. From time to time someone would kindly give him a little coin to help him. When he was given enough, he could buy some food. He was glad that some people helped him to get food to eat, but nobody could help with his darkness. Nobody could make him see. It's the same with the darkness of sin. You can't take away your own darkness. Some people try. They think they can do something to help take their sin away. They think that if they are good as they can be, or say prayers every day, or go to church, their sin will be taken away. Even doing these good things doesn't take away sin. Unless God does something to take away the darkness of sin, your life will always be full of sin. You will always be controlled by sin. You can never help yourself, and neither could Bartimaeus. All he could do was sit and listen to the crowds passing by.

Scene 2

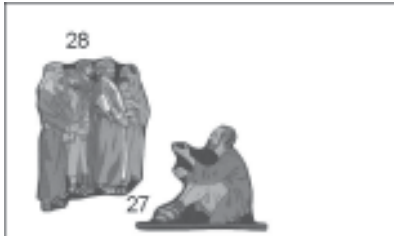
Optional background: Outdoor scene.

Bartimaeus learned to recognise the footsteps and voices of many who passed along the road. Some travelled that way regularly. They must have often heard the call of the blind beggar. What was it he called?

Flashcard 5-2



Flashcard 5-3



Passover is the yearly Jewish celebration marking their deliverance from Egypt the night the death angel passed over the houses marked with the blood of a lamb.

Have preschoolers walk in a line as if they are going to Jerusalem for the feast.



Have preschoolers repeat the words, "Jesus of Nazareth is coming!"

Allow the children to answer.

Some became like friends and not only gave him a "bakshish" but also stopped for a few moments to talk. Perhaps they would tell him the latest news from Jericho or Jerusalem.

Replace crowd (21) with figure 28.

It may have been one of these friends who first told him of the Lord Jesus. Bartimaeus may have wanted to hear everything - about the miracles, about the water being turned to wine and people being healed. He must have asked many questions like, "Who is this Lord Jesus? Is He the One God promised to send?" Bartimaeus must have begun to realise that Jesus of Nazareth was the only One Who could help him. If he was ever going to see, the Lord Jesus would have to take away the darkness from his eyes.

Do you know that the same Lord Jesus Christ is the only One Who can take away the darkness of sin? He called Himself the "light of the world" (John 8:12). What did He mean by that? He meant that He is pure and sinless and when He comes into your life, the darkness of sin goes at that moment - forever. You are no longer ruled by sin. Your sin is forgiven. Jesus takes it away completely. How can He do that? He can do it because He, the only Son of God, died on the cross to take away sin. He was punished as if His life was full of the darkness of sin. His life was actually pure and sinless, but He died and was punished by God for sin. On the cross He died in our place. He rose again and is alive for ever. This is why He, and He alone, can take away the darkness of sin. You need the Lord Jesus Christ, and so did Bartimaeus. From that day Bartimaeus desperately wanted to meet Jesus.

"If only I could meet Him," he thought, "I know He could make me see."

But time went past. Bartimaeus was still blind and still poor. Perhaps he looked forward to the next few days. It was nearly time for the Feast of the Passover. Every year at this time hundreds of people travelled to Jerusalem. There were many people on the road. They passed where he sat and he could get more money than usual.

Scene 3

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Place Jesus (7) and disciples (2).

As he begged he realised that something was different. The noise? There was more excitement than usual. A large crowd seemed to be coming down the road out of Jericho. What was going on? He must find out. Eventually he caught someone's attention and was told, "Jesus of Nazareth is coming."

Jesus of Nazareth? Jesus, Son of David? The One God promised to send? The One Who could take away his blindness? This was the moment for which Bartimaeus had waited.

“Jesus!” he shouted. “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me.”

“Bartimaeus, keep quiet!” Those close to him were disgusted with him and spoke sharply to him. “Keep quiet, stop shouting.”

Perhaps they thought Jesus was not interested in blind beggars, so they tried to put him off. Maybe your friends will try to do something similar to you. If they know that you would want Jesus Christ to take away your sin they might say, “Don’t believe that - it’s all wrong,” or, “You’re a Christian already - you go to church.” They may even say to you, “If you believe that, you can’t be our friend any more.” What should you do? You must listen to what God says and ignore what others say.

Bartimaeus ignored those who tried to keep him quiet. He shouted even louder, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

The Lord Jesus heard him. He stopped. He stood still. “Call that man,” He said. “Tell him to come to Me.”

The Lord cared about Bartimaeus. He loved him and He loves you too. You and I don’t deserve to be loved by Him. He is the Light of the world - He is so perfect and pure, but we are full of the darkness of sin. Wouldn’t you wonder that He could ever love us? But He does. The Bible tells us that over and over again. He invites us to come to Him. Is He calling you today? If you realise that you need to come to Him, then that is Him calling you. He is showing you that He loves you and wants to take away your sin. Will you come to Him? Bartimaeus did.

Scene 4

Optional background: Outdoor scene. Replace Bartimaeus (27) with figure 29.

He had never been so excited. He threw off his coat and jumped to his feet. Someone guided him through the crowd to the Lord Jesus. The One Who could cure his blindness stood before him.

“What do you want me to do for you?” the Lord Jesus asked.

What answer would Bartimaeus give? Would he ask for “bakshish”? Would he ask for enough money, so he would never ever have to beg again? No! More than anything else, Bartimaeus wanted to see. He wanted the darkness taken away.

“O Lord, I want to see,” he said.

If Jesus asked you today what you want, what answer would you give? Do you want more than anything else, to have your sin forgiven? Do you want to live a life that is completely changed - a life that is no longer ruled by sin? If you ask Jesus Christ to forgive you and change you, you will not be disappointed. Bartimaeus was not disappointed.

Jesus said to him, “Your faith has made you see. You trust in Me, so I am taking away Your blindness.”

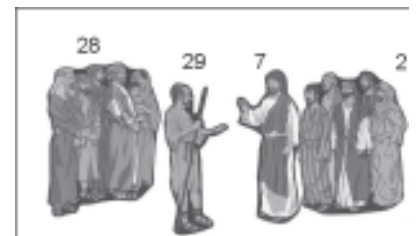
Dramatically speak the words of Bartimaeus or have a child prepared to do so.

Have preschoolers put a finger to their lips and say, “Shh.”

Flashcard 5-4

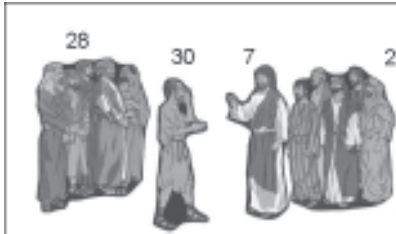
Help children understand that God loves them personally.

When Jesus called him, Bartimaeus also threw aside his beggar’s coat (Mark 10:50) - an act of great faith!



Flashcard 5-5

Have preschoolers close their eyes and cover them with their hands. Then have them pull their hands away and open their eyes.

**Review game*****Blind vote***

Divide the group into two teams.

Call on any child to answer a question, then have all the children close their eyes and vote on whether they think the answer is correct. Thumbs up means correct, thumbs down means incorrect.

Count the number of children who vote correctly on each team. The team with the most correct votes wins that round.

Continue until all questions have been answered.

Replace Bartimaeus (29) with figure 30.

His eyes suddenly worked like other people's. He could see! He could see the Lord Jesus, the crowd, the sky, everything - he could see! It was wonderful - the most wonderful day of his life.

If you ask the Lord Jesus to take away your sin today, this will be the most wonderful day of your life. He promises that those who ask Him to take away their sin "shall not walk in darkness" anymore (John 8:12) - you will not be living under the control of sin. You will be sure that your sin is gone and that you are ready for Heaven when you die. The Bible says, "Whoever believes in Him will receive remission [forgiveness] of sins" (Acts 10:43). Will you ask the Lord Jesus to save you today? Don't put it off. Don't allow others to stop you. It is more important than anything in the world. Tell Him, "Dear Lord Jesus, there is the darkness of sin in my life. Please take it away." He will, and you will never be the same again. Bartimaeus was never the same again. Life was different. He no longer needed to beg but followed Jesus. Life will be different for you, when Jesus takes away your darkness. You won't enjoy sinful things any more. You will want to be different from sinners. You will want to please God. Your life will be changed. Jesus Christ will be with you for ever. Will you not come to Him just now? Come and ask Him to take away your darkness. Remember, "Whoever believes in Him will receive remission [forgiveness] of sins" (Acts 10:43).

Review questions

- 1 Who was healed of his blindness outside the city of Jericho? (Bartimaeus.)
- 2 If anyone does not have the Lord Jesus in his life, why is he or she like Bartimaeus? (His or her life is full of the darkness of sin.)
- 3 What did Bartimaeus do to get money to buy food? (He was a beggar.)
- 4 Why is the Lord Jesus Christ alone able to take away our sin? (He, the Son of God, died on the cross for our sin and rose again.)
- 5 What special event of the year was coming soon, which brought many people along that road towards Jerusalem? (It was nearly time for the Feast of the Passover.)
- 6 What did Bartimaeus do when he learned that the Lord Jesus was passing by? (He shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me.")
- 7 How did the people react to that? (They told him to be quiet.)
- 8 When the Lord Jesus heard him, what did He do? (He said that Bartimaeus was to come to Him.)

- 9 The Lord Jesus asked Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?" What was his answer? ("Lord, I want to see.")
- 10 What is the most important thing anyone can ask the Lord to do for them? (To have their sins forgiven by the Lord Jesus.)

Preschool review questions

- 1 Why did Bartimaeus call out to Jesus? (He was blind and wanted Jesus to heal him.)
- 2 What kind of darkness do you have in your heart? (Sin.)
- 3 What did Jesus do so you could be forgiven and be in the light? (He died for your sins.)
- 4 What two things happened to Bartimaeus after he met Jesus? (He could see and his sins were forgiven.)

Carry-over activity

Good things

Pair up the children and have them share with each other one good thing the Lord has done for them.

When it looks like all groups are ready, bring the children back into the large group.

Have each group stand one at a time and each partner in the group share what God has done for the other partner. (For larger groups have only a few children share.)

After all have shared, say a prayer, praising God for the good things He has done.

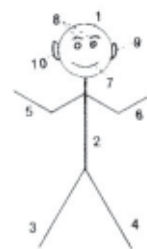
Review game for lesson 6

To prepare for Lesson 6, ask children what game they would like to play next week.

Preschool review game

Stick man

When a child answers a question, draw one part of a stick man (eg head, body, arm, ear, eye) on a sheet of paper.



Use preschool questions from lessons 1-4 and continue until your stick man is drawn.

Lesson 6

A woman is healed and a girl raised to life

Scripture for teachers

Mark 5:21-43

Luke 8:40-56

Central truth

The Lord Jesus loves individuals

Application

Unsaved: You can be sure that if you come to Him
He will save you

Saved: He loved you and died for you, and will
always love you and care for you, so tell
Him all your problems

Memory verse

“And that every tongue should confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”
Philippians 2:11

Visual aids

- ◆ Flashcards: 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, 6-5 and 6-6

Or

- ◆ Figures: 7, 21, 25, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37
and 38
- ◆ Backgrounds (optional): Lakeside scene and
indoor scene

Carry-over activity

- ◆ Paper and pencils

Lesson outline

Introduction

Excitement in the town

Progression of events

- 1 The sick woman - would Jesus care?
- 2 The sick girl - would Jesus care? CT
- 3 Jairus and woman look for Jesus CTS
- 4 Jairus meets the Lord
- 5 Sick woman is healed
- 6 Jesus talks to woman CTU
- 7 News of little girl's death
- 8 “Your daughter will live” CTS
- 9 Lord goes into the girl's room CTU
- 10 “Little girl, arise”

Climax

Rejoicing in the home

Conclusion

“Give her to eat” CTS, CTU

Lesson

Scene 1

Optional background: Lakeside scene.

There was great excitement in the little town on the northern shore of the lake. Many people had already left their homes and were standing on the beach.

Place crowd (21 and 28).

They were waiting for Someone, Someone special. News had travelled quickly. The news was that the Lord Jesus was crossing the lake towards their town. From one person to another the words were spoken, "Jesus is coming."

A frail woman heard the message. Slowly she left her house. She was so weak. It was hard for her to walk. She had been sick for twelve long years. She had gone to doctor after doctor. She had spent much money, but still she was sick. Slowly she struggled alone towards the lake. Nobody seemed to care about her. Everyone hurried past, pushing through the crowd to get a good view.

"Will Jesus care?" she must have thought.

At the same time in another house in this little town called Capernaum, a father and mother were greatly worried.

On a small board held in the hand, place Jairus and his wife (36).

Their only child, a daughter of twelve years old, was very sick. She was so ill that she was going to die. No wonder they were so troubled. Then they also heard the news - "Jesus is coming." Perhaps they too asked the question, "Will Jesus care?"

Do you think Jesus cared about their problems? Yes, of course He did. The Lord Jesus loves people. Didn't He show His love to the woman at the well in Samaria? Didn't He love Bartimaeus when others tried to keep him quiet? The Lord Jesus had left Heaven to live in this world and to die on the cross, because He loved people. He was coming to Capernaum that day because He loved people. There were people in Capernaum who needed Him, people like the sick woman and the sick girl.

When the father of the little girl heard that Jesus was coming, he hurried out of the house.

Remove the small board.

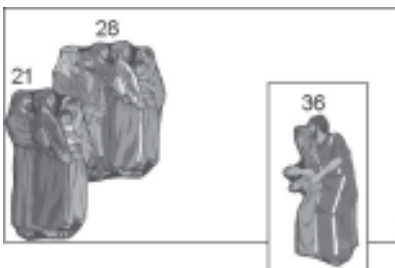
By this time Jesus had arrived and was out of the boat among the crowds who were waiting.

Place Jesus (7) and disciples (31).

What a crowd to get through! So many people wanted to be close to the Lord Jesus. Would he ever be able to get to the Lord Jesus in time? Would Jesus care about his problem?



This woman's illness may have been a menstrual disorder or hemorrhage. Her ritual uncleanness kept her out of social contact (see Leviticus 15:25-27). It's interesting to note that the length of her illness is the same as the age of Jairus' daughter.



CT

Children will enjoy locating Capernaum on a map. If time allows, you may want to review a previous miracle Jesus did in Capernaum - healing the nobleman's son. This story takes place about a year later.

Preschoolers would enjoy pretending to rush to the shore and shade

Flashcard 6-1

their eyes as they look for Jesus and His disciples.

Somewhere among that mass of pushing people was the frail, sick woman. She didn't have the strength to push through the crowd. Was it possible that Jesus would pass right through the town without knowing about her? Did Jesus care? Of course He did. Jesus, the Son of God, loves people. He not only loves big, big crowds of people - He loves individual people. He loves each one. If He is your Saviour, He loves you in a very special way. He loves you so much that He died for you. He has made you part of God's family and He is interested in everything about you. Your problems may not seem very important to other people, but Jesus Christ is interested in every problem you have. What are the problems you face in your life? Is it a problem with your friends at school? Is it a health problem? What is your problem?

Give time for the children to share.

He wants you to come to Him and tell Him your problems. He will help you to know what to do. The Bible says, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). When you are a Christian, you don't have to be anxious about your own problems. The little girl's father had a problem and he believed Jesus could help.

Place Jairus (32).

He pushed anxiously through the crowd. People's heads turned to see who was pushing. They must have been surprised to see who it was. They knew him. He was Jairus. He was one of the rulers in their synagogue - a bit like a leader in a church. Most of the leaders at the synagogue had no time for the Lord Jesus. They did not believe that He was the Son of God, but Jairus seemed anxious to see Him. Perhaps some people moved aside to let him through. As Jairus reached the Lord Jesus, he bowed low before Him.

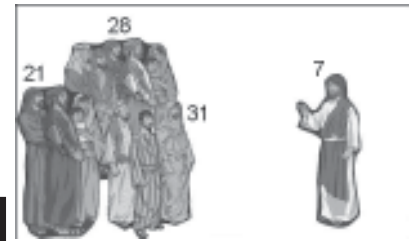
Replace Jairus (32) with figure 33.

"My daughter is about to die," he said. "Come, lay Your hands on her so that she may get well and not die."

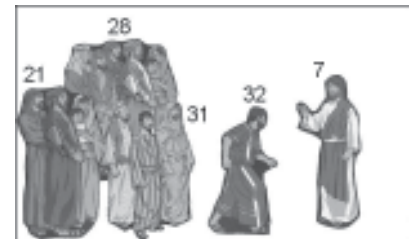
Jairus earnestly begged the Lord Jesus to help. The Lord did not hesitate. He immediately went with Jairus towards his home.

Replace Jesus (7) with figure 34 and Jairus (33) with figure 32.

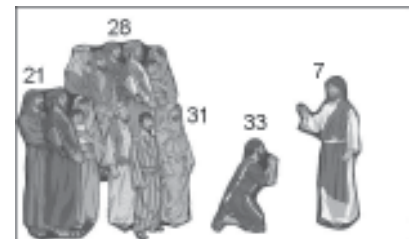
But the crowd came as well. They were pushing in on every side. Somewhere in that crowd was the poor sick woman. All the time she was thinking, "How can I ever get to Him? If only I can get close enough to touch His robe, I believe I will be healed." She felt the crowd move in a new direction away from the side of the lake. They were heading towards the town. She moved where the crowd moved and suddenly she was close to the Lord. For a moment there was a space and very quickly she reached out her hand and touched the fringe of His robe. Instantly she was healed! She knew her sickness



CTS

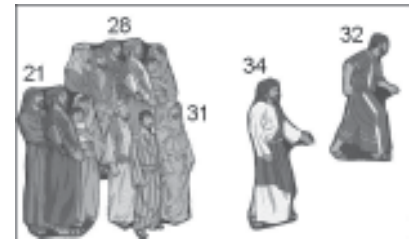


Flashcard 6-2



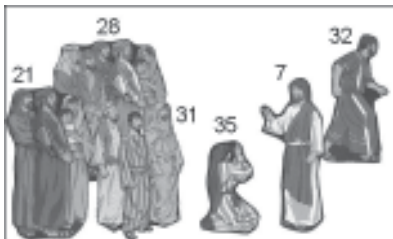
The girl may have been Jairus' only child.

Flashcard 6-3



Gesture to show how the woman would have stretched out her arm.

Children will enjoy role-playing these exciting events. Write the dialogue on cards for them to read.



Flashcard 6-4

This term of endearment must have been especially precious to this woman, who had been a social outcast for so long because of her illness.

CTU

was gone. What joy filled her heart! After twelve years of sickness she was completely better.

Suddenly the Lord Jesus stopped and looked around. "Who touched Me?" He asked.

Replace Jesus (34) with figure 7.

"What a strange question," thought the disciples. Jairus must have thought the same.

He was worried about his daughter and wanted Jesus to hurry, but Jesus had stopped.

The disciples said, "Master, the crowds are pushing and shoving You, and You ask, 'Who touched Me?' There are people everywhere. Dozens of people must be touching You."

The Lord Jesus explained that He meant another kind of touch - not an accidental push. He said, "I felt power pass from Me and I know someone touched Me and received help."

Do you think the Lord Jesus knew who touched Him? Yes, He certainly did. How did He know? That's right. He is God and He knows everything and everyone. Perhaps even as He asked the question, "Who touched Me?" His eye was on the woman. Then, why did He ask the question?

You may wish to allow the children to suggest why.

Possibly He wanted the woman to show publicly that she believed on Him. He must also have wanted the crowd to see that He was interested in the need of one woman. She had been healed and Jesus wanted the crowd to know.

The woman could keep quiet no longer. She knew that she could not hide from Jesus. Very nervously she came forward and knelt at His feet.

Place woman (35) in front of Jesus (7).

"I am the one who touched You," she said. There, in front of the whole crowd from her town, she told her story.

The Lord Jesus said to her, "Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace" (Luke 8:48).

She had believed that Jesus could heal her and He had done just that. Jesus was interested in her and He is interested in you. He is deeply concerned that many people will not believe on Him. Are you one of them? He knows the kind of person you are. He knows about the angry thoughts you have or the selfish attitudes you show to others. Do you remember when you got that new football and you became angry and would not let the others play with it? What about the time you got a big box of chocolates and you kept it all for yourself, without sharing it? The Lord knows you are a sinner,

that you have broken God's law, yet He loves sinners - He loves you. He died to take the punishment for your sin. He wants you to turn away from your sin and come to Him for salvation. Perhaps you are afraid to come. Perhaps you think, "If I come, will He take me? Am I too unimportant or am I too bad?" In the Bible He says, "the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out" (John 6:37). He will not turn you away, if you ask Him to save you. If you come to Him, you can know that He loves you in this special way; you can know the special love that He has for His own children. Come to Him today; don't wait any longer! The greatest miracle which can happen to you is that the Lord Jesus should save you from your sin.

If you really want to be saved from sin, but are not sure how, I will be glad to talk to you after the meeting. Just come and sit in one of the seats in the front row after the others leave. In that way I will see you want to know more about how to trust Christ and have new life. If you come and sit here, I will show you from the Bible what you need to do, and what the Lord says He will do.

All this time, Jairus could only stand and wait. He must have been wondering how his daughter was. He must have wished that Jesus would hurry. Suddenly, while Jesus was speaking, someone came pushing through the crowd, someone from Jairus' house.

Remove woman (35). Replace Jesus (7) with figure 34. Place servants (25).

Jairus' heart seemed to stop. He was afraid to hear the message.

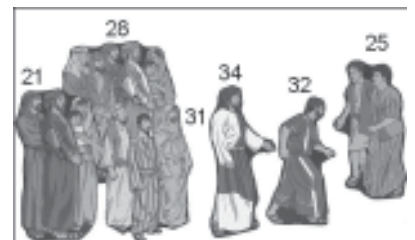
"Your daughter is dead. You need not trouble the Master anymore."

Poor Jairus! How sad he looked. How disappointed he was as he turned slowly to go home. "It is too late now," he must have thought. "Perhaps if Jesus had not stopped with the woman, we would have been in time."

Then the Lord Jesus spoke to Jairus. "Don't be afraid," He said, "Just trust Me and she will be well."

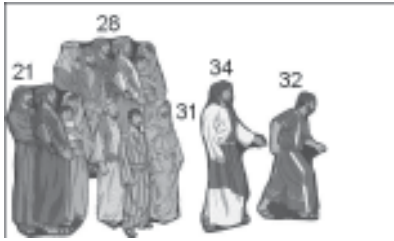
Jesus loved Jairus and He loved Jairus' daughter who was now dead. Jesus had not forgotten about the girl when He stopped with the woman. Jesus never forgets about anything, although that's what we do. Sometimes you forget to put away your toys, even though you promised to do it. Maybe Mummy forgot to do what she promised she would do for you. Even though we love someone very much, we can often forget things, but the Lord Jesus never forgets those who belong to Him. Every minute of every day, and every minute of every night, He is interested in you. He is always with you; He never forgets about your problems. Even if He doesn't answer your prayer at once, He has not forgotten. He is always doing what is the very, very best for you, because He loves you. He was doing what was best for Jairus, even though it was difficult for Jairus to be patient. Could

Flashcard 6-5

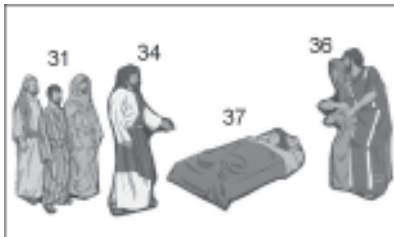


Have preschoolers pretend to tell Jairus, "Nothing is too hard for God!"

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Many of these mourners may not have even known the child. It was common for the family to hire mourners to weep and wail in grief, showing respect for the dead relative.



CTU

Flashcard 6-6

Jairus trust Jesus? “Trust Me and she will be well,” the Lord Jesus had said. Jairus turned and led the way to his home.

Remove servants (25).

The Lord Jesus followed. The crowd followed too. Everyone was anxious to see what would happen.

Remove all figures.

When they reached the house, they found it filled with people. What a noise they were making! There was weeping and wailing. People were groaning and crying loudly.

“Stop all the fuss,” Jesus said. “She is only sleeping.”

Everyone knew the girl was dead. How could Jesus say, “She is not dead, she is sleeping”? They laughed in Jesus’ face. Whatever did Jesus mean? He meant that He could waken her out of death, as if she had been asleep. Of course most of the people did not believe that. He sent all of them out of the house, except Jairus and his wife and three of His disciples - Peter, James and John. The five of them went with Jesus into the quiet room where the young girl lay.

Scene 2

Optional background: Indoor scene. Place Jesus (34), disciples (31), Jairus and his wife (36) and child (37).

No longer were her cheeks red with the high fever. She was white and still and cold. Jesus looked down upon her. He loved her.

Isn’t it wonderful that the Bible tells us that the Lord Jesus loves children! He is really concerned about children. Sometimes children get the feeling that grown-ups don’t notice them. Sometimes grown-ups act as if children are not important. One day even the twelve disciples thought that children were not important, but Jesus sternly reminded them that He loves children. He said, “Let the little children come to Me” (Mark 10:14). You may not be very big or very old, but the Lord Jesus wants to save you. He wants you to come to Him and ask Him to take away your sin. If you do that, you will know that He will love you for ever.

The loving Lord Jesus reached out His hand and took the white, cold lifeless hand of the little girl.

“Little girl, get up,” He said.

Jairus watched. His wife watched. The three disciples watched as well. The little girl’s eyes opened and blinked! She looked around just as if she had wakened out of sleep. She sat up in bed! She put her feet on the floor and stood up! She walked (perhaps she even ran) to her Mother and Father.

As you tell this, replace child (37) with figure 38.

Jairus and his wife had never been so surprised or thrilled or happy. “Give her something to eat,” said the Lord Jesus.

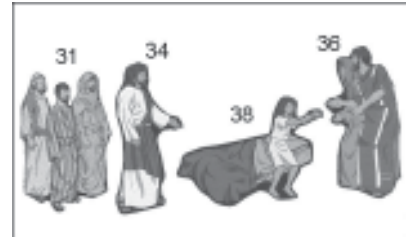
She had been sick for some time and unable to eat. Now she was alive and well and very hungry. Imagine the Lord Jesus thinking about even a little detail like that. Isn't it wonderful that He even cares when we are hungry!

Christian boy or girl, never ever forget how much the Lord Jesus loves you and cares for you. He will never stop caring for you. Try to write on a sheet of paper this coming week some of the ways God shows His care for you. Show me what you have written at the beginning of next week's meeting. Perhaps one or two can share with all of us a way in which God has cared for you.

If Jesus is not your Saviour, will you not come to Him today? He loves sinners so much that He died to take the punishment they deserved. If you pray to Him just now and ask Him to be your Lord and Saviour, He will save you and love you for ever and ever. You will know His care for you every day.

Review questions

- 1 Who was the ruler of the synagogue who needed the Lord to heal his daughter? (Jairus.)
- 2 What did the Lord Jesus do when Jairus asked Him to come and make his daughter well? (The Lord Jesus immediately went with him.)
- 3 What happened as the crowd pushed and jostled the Lord Jesus on the way to Jairus' home? (A woman touched the fringe of the Lord's robe and was healed.)
- 4 What did the Lord Jesus say that showed He knew what had happened? (He asked, “Who touched Me?”)
- 5 When Jairus was still on the way with the Lord Jesus, what sad news did he hear? (“Your daughter is dead.”)
- 6 Whom did Jesus take with Him to the bedside of the dead girl? (Jairus and his wife, Peter, James and John.)
- 7 What miracle took place in the house of Jairus? (The Lord Jesus raised Jairus' daughter from the dead.)
- 8 What was the most special way in which the Lord Jesus showed His love for us? (When He died on the cross for our sin.)
- 9 What is the greatest miracle that could ever happen to you? (The miracle of the Lord Jesus saving you from your sin.)
- 10 How old was the daughter of Jairus whom the Lord Jesus raised from the dead? (Twelve years old.)



CTS

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Review game

Clubbers' favourite

Play the game the children chose last week as their favourite, or choose one based on their reactions to previous games.

Preschool review game

Preschoolers' favourite

Choose a favourite from the previous lessons.

Use all the preschool questions from this lesson series.

Preschool review questions

- 1 Why did Jairus go to Jesus for help? (His daughter was sick.)
- 2 What happened when Jesus and Jairus were on the way to the house? (A woman stopped them; Jairus' daughter died.)
- 3 Why did Jesus say, "Don't be afraid. Only believe"? (Jesus could do anything.)
- 4 What do we need to do so we won't be afraid to die? (Trust Jesus as Saviour.)

Carry-over activity

Nothing is too hard

Divide the class into two teams and give each a piece of paper and a pencil.

For two minutes (or another set time) have them list from the Bible amazing things God has done (eg He created the world; He parted the Red Sea; He walked on water).

When the time is up, have each team read its list.

The team with the longest list could receive a small prize.

If time allows, you may also want to let a few children share testimonies of amazing things God has done.

Close by reminding the children that nothing is too hard for God.

You must be born again

Additional visuals - lesson 2

How?

How?

Believe

By God, the Holy Spirit

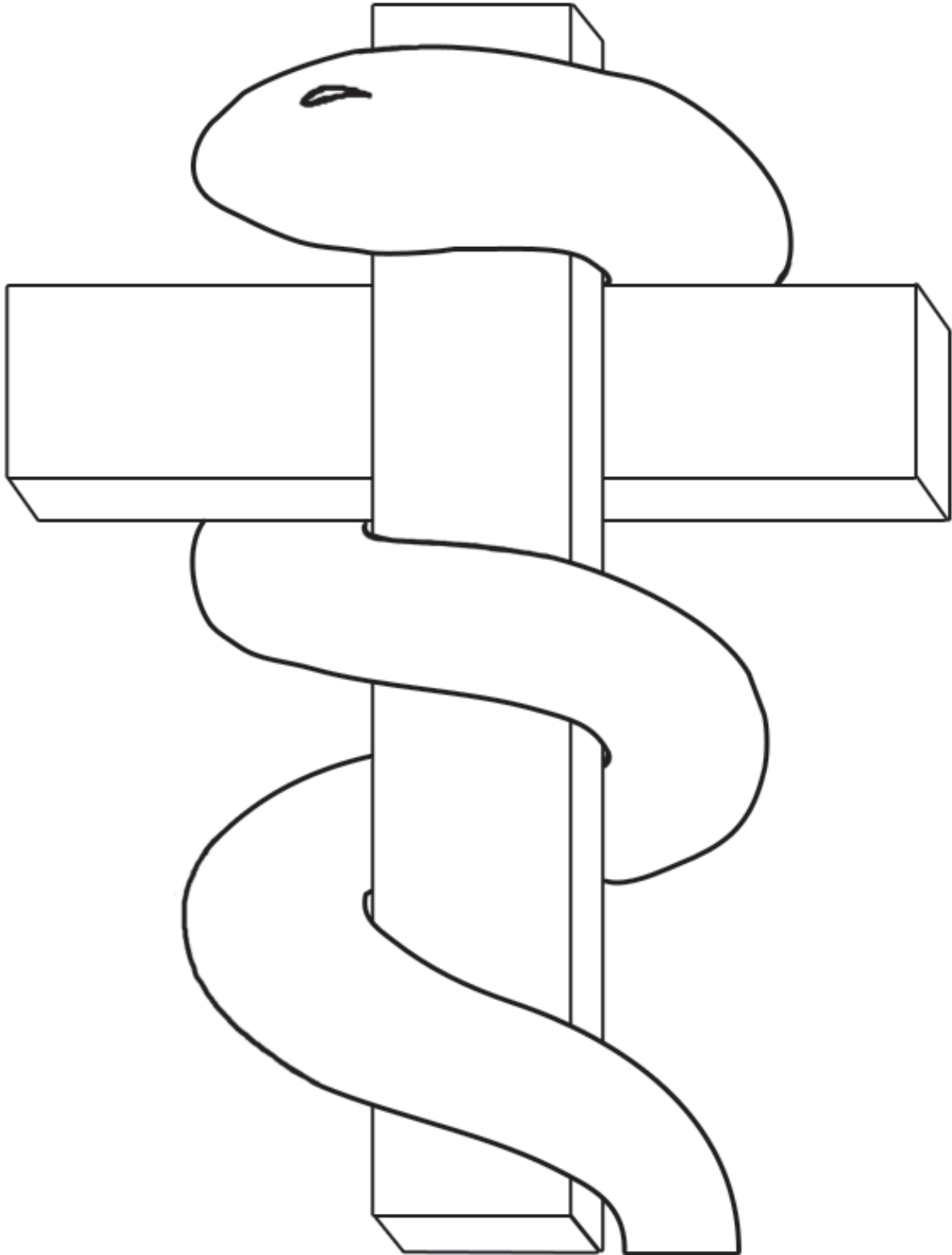
Unless one is born again,
he cannot see the kingdom of God

You must be born again

Even so must the Son of man be lifted up

Snake

Additional visual - lesson 2



New life charades

Carry-over activity - lesson 2

<p>Pray before you eat lunch at school.</p>	<p>Read your Bible when you get up in the morning.</p>
<p>Tell a friend about the Lord Jesus.</p>	<p>Resist the temptation to steal something at a store.</p>
<p>Choose not to cheat in a test.</p>	<p>Obey your parents by turning off the TV and doing your homework.</p>

How can you have eternal life?

Additional visuals - lesson 3

How can you have eternal life?



Live a good life

Say enough prayers

It is a gift from God

Go to church

Faith in God's promises

Carry-over activity - lesson 4

Isaiah 41:10	Philippians 4:6-7
Jeremiah 31:3	Romans 8:39
Hebrews 13:6	Philippians 4:19
Matthew 7:7	Romans 8:28

Copy, cut out and keep in your Bible



Summary of steps for counselling the child who wants to come to Christ

Make sure the child understands about

God

Who is God?
God made us. He speaks to us through the Bible.
God is holy and pure. He loves us.

Sin

What is sin?
Sin is disobeying God's commands. It is against God.
Speak about specific sins.
The child is a sinner by nature and act. (We sin because we are sinners.)
Sin deserves punishment.

The Saviour

Who alone can take away your sin?
God the Son died on the cross for sinners.
The Lord Jesus rose again from the dead.
He is Lord of all.

Explain how to be saved

Explain what the Lord wants us to do, and what He will do.
Use a Bible verse (*John 1:12; 3:16; 6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 6:23 or 10:13*).
What does the Lord want you to do?
What will the Lord do?
Warn about difficulties.
Ask: "Do you want to trust Christ, or would you rather wait?"
Encourage the child to pray audibly (if ready).

Speak about assurance of salvation

Go back to the Bible verse you used.
Speak about a changed life.
Tell him what the person who is truly trusting in Christ can know.

Give (later) some advice about the Christian life

Read and obey your Bible.
Talk to God, our heavenly Father.
Tell others what the Lord has done for you.
Ask God to forgive you when you sin.
Meet with other Christians.
Remember the Lord promises: "*I will never leave you*" (*Heb 13:5*).