

October 22, 2017

## Morning Overview

**Lesson:** *The Mob Wanted a Miracle*

**Lesson Objective:** This morning we look at Jesus' interaction with a Jewish audience as He teaches in the synagogue. In our story, we see an initial marvel at Jesus, met with rejection and resistance to the message, especially when we see that God's wonders, and even mercy, is given out how He sees fit. The crowd reacts strongly to Jesus, to the point of trying to kill him. Their rejection of God's plan, and Jesus at the center of it, is a small window into our own lives. The Good News of Jesus Christ is one we must fully accept and submit to, there is no middle ground. Rejection of Jesus is always met with hostility and anger. Jesus' demands upon us, or the world, leads on to one of these two reactions throughout the Gospels.

**Scripture:** Luke 4:14-30

**Story:** Vos Children's Bible, Chapter 15 (Pages 280-281); The Gospel Storybook Bible, Pages 176-177.

## 9:30am Sunday Schedule

**Opening Activity:** See instructions in classroom

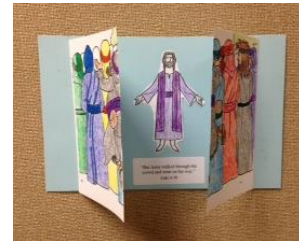
### Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

**Craft:** Jesus and the Mob

**Supplies:** Colored cardstock, Jesus figure, mob (2 pieces), glue, tape, verse sticker, crayons/markers.

- Instructions:**
1. Color figure of Jesus.
  2. Glue figure of Jesus to center of cardstock.
  3. Attach verse sticker
  3. Tape mob pieces to cardstock on outside so they cover Jesus and can open and close.
  4. Color mob figures if desired.



**Relay of the Day:** See instructions in classroom

**Snack**

## 11am Sunday Schedule

**Opening Activity:** See instructions in classroom

**Craft:** 5 Solas Scroll

**Supplies:** Scroll paper, craft sticks (2), tape, glue, yarn, crayons/markers.

- Instructions:**
1. Tape or glue craft sticks to paper – one on each end.
  2. Roll paper over craft sticks to form a scroll.
  3. Color scroll if desired.
  4. Secure scroll with yarn.



**Cherub Church** for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:40-11:55

**Relay of the Day:** See instructions in classroom

**Optional Activity:** See bin of squishy balls in classroom for ideas on reviewing catechism questions.

### **Story:** *The Mob Wanted a Miracle*

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, when was the last time you had to share something with someone (a toy, object, time with a parent, a snack, etc.)? (Allow time for answers, or discussion). Well in our story today Jesus shared some very Good News with people, but, you know what? They did not believe Jesus' Good News. Let's read our story today to find out what Jesus says to them about His Good News and who gets to hear it...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

### **Teaching Summary:**

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus went about telling others about the Good News – that He was the Messiah that was to come and rescue people.
- Jesus spoke in many places, but especially in synagogues. Jesus spoke in the synagogue in Nazareth from the book of Isaiah.
- Jesus told the crowd in the synagogue that He was the fulfillment of Isaiah 61. The crowd was amazed by His words.
- The crowd then responded with doubt, and doubt turned into demands. The crowd wanted a sign to validate Jesus' claims. Jesus would not succumb to their demands. Jesus saw through their disbelief, ingratitude and selfishness.
- Jesus told two stories from the Old Testament: about the widow at Zarephath and then Naaman. Both stories were about foreigners – non-Israelites – receiving God's kindness and mercy. These incensed the crowd.
- The crowd attempted to kill Jesus, but it was not His time. He escaped to go on and tell others about the Good News.

## Story

### **Transition**

Boys and girls, when was the last time you had to share something with someone (a toy, object, time with a parent, a snack, etc.)? (Allow time for answers, or discussion). Well in our story today Jesus shared some very Good News with people, but, you know what? They did not believe Jesus' Good News. Let's read our story today to find out what Jesus says to them about His Good News and who gets to hear it...

### **Jesus Tells the Good News**

As Jesus continued to travel and tell others about the Good News (about Himself and the Kingdom of God), more and more people came to hear him. They were amazed at what He said and the miracles He performed. The Bible tells us that the power of the Holy Spirit was with Jesus. Stories about Jesus spread throughout the whole land. Then Jesus began teaching in the synagogues, and everyone who heard him praised him. Jesus traveled a lot. He walked to villages, towns and whole regions continuing to tell the Good News.

One day Jesus traveled to Nazareth, where he had grown up. He was there on the Sabbath day which is a day of rest. On this Sabbath day Jesus went to the synagogue as he always did. Jesus stood up to read from the Old Testament. People in Jesus' day did not have the whole Bible like we have. They only had certain books or parts of books on scrolls to read. As Jesus stood up, someone handed him the book of Isaiah. Jesus opened the book and found the place where this is written:

The Spirit of the Lord is in me. This is because God chose me to tell the Good News to the poor. God sent me to tell the prisoners of sin that they are free, and to tell the blind that they can see again. God sent me to free those who have been treated unfairly, and to announce the time when the Lord will show kindness to his people.

Once Jesus was finished reading from the book of Isaiah, he closed the scroll, gave it back, and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue was watching Jesus closely. They were looking to see what He would do next. Then Jesus began to speak to them. He said to everyone gathered, "While you heard these words just now, they were coming true!" Long ago before Jesus was ever born, Isaiah wrote these words to tell about the Messiah. The Messiah would come to make these things come true. The Messiah would come from God; He would be God's Special One. Jesus was telling the crowd that day, "I am the Messiah. I have come from God. I am God."

### **The Crowd Wanted a Miracle**

As the people in the synagogue heard these words, they began to praise Jesus. His words made them happy! They were amazed at the beautiful words he spoke. But then voices in the crowd began to ask, "Isn't this Joseph's son?" Jesus heard these whispers and questions. People started to question and doubt whether Jesus was the Messiah. "Surely if he is the son of a man, a carpenter, how can he be from God?" was probably the thought of some in the crowd. Jesus became irritated. He had told them the Good News, and the people started to doubt that He could do these things! They wanted more, they wanted Jesus to prove it. Jesus knew what they were thinking too. He said to the crowd, "You want to say, 'We heard about the things you did in Capernaum. Do those things here in your own town!'"

Jesus saw that the people were ungrateful for the Good News He was proclaiming. The crowd wanted a miracle or a sign to prove that Jesus was who he claimed to be. Jesus told the crowd, "What I say is true and will happen." But that did not seem to change any one person's mind. Jesus was not going to be tested this way. Jesus decided to tell the crowd two stories that they knew very well.

The first story was about the prophet Elijah. During Elijah's life, there was a time in Israel when it did not rain for three and half years. This drought, or no rain, caused no plants to grow. And since no plants were growing there was no food anywhere in the whole land. As Jesus was telling the story to the people, he then said something that made them angry. "There were many widows in Israel during that time. But Elijah was sent to none of those widows. He was sent only to a widow in Zarephath, a town in Sidon." The widow of Zarephath lived outside of Israel, she was not an Israelite, one of God's chosen people. Jesus was telling the crowd that God's mercy and favor was for someone else, for someone that needed it and wanted it. God's mercy was not just for the Israelites, but for the "poor, the prisoner of sin, the blind and those that are treated unfairly." There were people in the crowd that became very upset. They thought Jesus had come to help them first, and maybe them only. They did not want Jesus to heal others, to save others, to show God's kindness to others, only to themselves.

But Jesus was not finished. He wanted to tell the crowd one more story. Again, a story the whole crowd knew very well. Jesus told them, "There were many with a harmful skin disease living in Israel during the time of the prophet Elisha. But no Israelites were healed, only the foreigner Naaman, who was from the country of Syria, was healed." Now everyone in the crowd was mad at Jesus! Jesus had just told them again that He came to save and heal everyone, not just this town, not just the Israelites, but everyone! The crowd had been selfish, ungrateful, and demanding of Jesus.

The Bible tells us when all the people in the synagogue heard these things, they became very angry. The people got up and forced Jesus out of town. The town was built on a hill. They took Jesus to the edge of the hill and wanted to throw him off. These people who had just heard the Good News from Jesus now wanted to kill him. But it was not Jesus' time to die. The Bible tells us that "Jesus walked through the crowd and went on his way." Jesus being all-powerful was able to escape the crowd so He could go and tell others about the Good News.

## Questions for Review

### Questions for Younger Children:

- What was Jesus telling people about?
- Where did Jesus begin to teach people?
- What did Jesus read in the synagogue?
- What question did the crowd ask?
- Who did Jesus talk about from the Old Testament?
- Who is God's mercy and favor for?
- Why did this make the Israelites mad?
- What did the people in the synagogue try to do to Jesus?

### Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us about God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

## Scripture Memory for October:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

## Catechism Questions (1-20)

### Hymn of the Month:

Amazing Grace