

October 29, 2017

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Jesus Heals the Officer's Son*

Lesson Objective: This week our children will learn about Jesus healing of a very sick boy. The story is about a desperate father who wishes to find a solution for his dying son. The father comes to Jesus looking for a miracle, which does happen, but not before the father is tested. The father endures Jesus' rebukes to the Galileans for wanting a sign, and yet he continues to plead for help. Jesus gives him a test, and a miracle, all in one: "Go home, your son is healed." The response of the officer is one of both faith and obedience. The officer believes and so goes home. Our prayer for the souls you teach this morning is that they would hear the Gospel call and obey too.

Scripture: John 4:43-54

Story: Vos, Chapter 14 (Pages 279-280).

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

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: The Boy is Healed

Supplies: Cardstock bed, cardstock boy, sticker, brad, crayons/markers

Instructions:

1. Color bed and boy
2. Place sticker on bed cardstock paper
3. Attach boy to bed with brad



Relay of the Day: Take Him at His Word - See instructions in email from Jeanie and classroom.

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Hedbanz

Craft: Martin Luther

Supplies: Cardstock of Martin Luther, hammer, brad, crayons/markers

Instructions:

1. Color Martin Luther
2. Attach hammer to hand with brad



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

Relay of the Day: Take Him at His Word - See instructions in email from Jeanie and classroom.

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

Story:

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, in our story today we learn about a boy who is sick. Who here has been sick before? [allow kids to raise hands] Well this little boy had a father who loved him very much and traveled a long way to get help. But only One Person could help this little boy; let's find out who that is!
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' ministry had taken him back to Galilee and specifically Cana, where he turned the water into wine.
- The people of Galilee were specifically looking for a miracle. They were not concerned with Jesus' identity as the Messiah and Savior of the world. They wanted the miracle instead of the Miracle-Worker.
- As Jesus entered Galilee word had spread about his works and travels. A desperate father, and officer of Herod's court, came to Jesus looking for help. The officer's son was sick and close to dying.
- The father merely wants a miracle, and again, not the Miracle-Worker. Jesus rebukes the father and the crowd gathered for their lack of true faith.
- The desperate father is persistent. Jesus gives instructions to see if the father will place his faith in Jesus or not.
- The father trusts the words of Jesus and returns home. The sign of faith is accompanied by obedience.
- As the father returns, he is met by his servants and his son is healed. The whole household believes in Jesus.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, in our story today we learn about a boy who is sick. Who here has been sick before? [allow kids to raise hands] Well this little boy had a father who loved him very much, and traveled a long way to get help. But only One Person could help this little boy; let's find out who that is!

Jesus Heals the Officer's Son

Jesus had been teaching for quite some time throughout the land, but decided it was time to go back to Galilee. Galilee was the area where Jesus was from (modern equivalent of a county). So Jesus went to Galilee, and as he arrived the people of Galilee welcomed him. They were glad Jesus was there because they liked to see him perform miracles. Many people in Galilee had seen all the miracles Jesus had done and were fascinated by his miracles.

Jesus went to visit Cana in Galilee again. Cana was where Jesus had changed the water into wine. As Jesus entered Cana he met one of the king's important officers who lived in the city of Capernaum. Capernaum was about sixteen miles away, so it was quite a walk in those days. The officer was a very important person in the king's court, and highly respected. The officer had a son that was very sick and close to dying. The officer was worried about his son, and when we get worried we start to look for help, for a miracle. The man had heard that Jesus was now in Galilee. The officer found Jesus and ran up to him. He went to Jesus and begged him to come to Capernaum and heal his son. His son was almost dead. Instead of running immediately to Capernaum to heal his son, or doing something else, Jesus responded in a different way.

Jesus said to the officer and the crowd gathered around him, "You people must see signs and miracles before you will believe in me." The officer was only concerned that his son would live. The officer did not believe that Jesus was the

Messiah, but maybe just someone who could do miracles. The officer believed that Jesus had to see his son to heal him. The officer did not believe that Jesus was all-powerful and could heal his son with His words.

As Jesus finished speaking to the crowds, the officer cried again, "Sir, come before my child dies!" But Jesus answered the officer, "Go. Your son will live." The man believed what Jesus told him and went home. The officer believed what Jesus said, and obeyed Jesus' command. He left Jesus in Cana and walked back home to Capernaum.

On the way home, the officer's servants came out of Capernaum to meet him. The servants said to the officer, "Your son is well." The man asked, "What time did my son begin to get well?"

They answered, "It was about one o'clock yesterday when the fever left him." The father knew that one o'clock was the exact time that Jesus had said, "Your son will live." So the man and all the people that lived in his house believed Jesus was the Savior of the world.

The Bible tells us that this was the second miracle that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What place did Jesus return to?
- What miracle did Jesus perform there?
- Who came to see Jesus as He arrived?
- What did the people of Galilee hope to see?
- Who came from Capernaum to see Jesus? Why?
- What did Jesus tell the officer to do?
- Did the officer go back home?
- What time did the officer's son get better?
- Who believed in Jesus after the son was healed?

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