

LESSON 8: JESUS HEALS A CRIPPLED WOMAN ON THE SABBATH

Leader Guide for Ages 3-6

Classroom: Monkeys

 Luke 13:10-17

04/26/2020

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Luke 13:10-17
- In This Passage: One Sabbath day, Jesus sees a crippled woman in a synagogue. She's been unable to stand up straight for 18 years! Jesus heals her, even though the legalistic religious leaders don't approve. But Jesus values love over man-made rules.
- Bible Point: Jesus is loving...
- Application: ...so we're loving.
- Summary Verse: "Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves" (Philippians 2:3).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *Jesus is loving.* Most kids would consider themselves loving. But like the religious leaders, we all have priorities that get out of whack sometimes. Use this lesson to help kids evaluate whether they're truly putting love for others above their own opinions and values.
- Think About: How do you know Jesus loves you? How can others see Jesus' love through you?

Dig In to Prayer

- Ask God to show his love to other kids through the kids in your class.

Quick Tip

- In this story, the religious leaders were more focused on rules than on love. Maybe you fall into the same habit without realizing it! Rules provide boundaries that help kids understand what is acceptable behavior. However, too many rules can send the message that rules are what you're all about. Kids would rather hear about the things they can do than about the things that are off limits, so try to set a few positive rules such as "respect others" and "stay safe." If a child is breaking the rules, approach the situation with love, seeking first to understand.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Preschoolers share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Preschoolers act out the story and receive and pass hearts.

Supplies

- Bible
- construction paper in 4 different colors (enough for each child to have 1 heart of each color; see Easy Prep for heart size)

Easy Prep

- Draw several hearts on each piece of construction paper, each about 2x2 inches. There's no need to cut out the heart shapes; simply cut a square or rectangle around each heart. You'll need 4 hearts per child, 1 of each color.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Preschoolers receive an affirmation and give an affirmation.

Supplies

- construction paper hearts from the Core Bible Discovery activity (only 1 heart needed per child)



OBJECT LESSON

Preschoolers use water to make paper stick together.

Supplies

- 8½x11-inch sheets of printer paper (1 per child)
- crayons
- squirt bottles with water (1 for every 4 kids)



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Preschoolers race to move paper hearts to a bucket.

Supplies

- sheets of red paper (2 per child)
- pen
- scissors
- 6 disposable bowls
- small bucket
- mix of various craft supplies such as cotton balls, packing peanuts, stickers, craft sticks, ribbon, and chenille wires
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- On 1 of the sheets of paper, draw 6 hearts in 2 columns down the length of the paper (3 hearts in each column).
- Make copies of the hearts you drew on the remaining paper.
- Cut out the hearts using a paper cutter, or use scissors to cut a few pieces of paper at a time. You don't have to cut around the individual heart shapes; simply cut squares around the hearts to separate them.
- Divide the paper hearts among the bowls. Add a mix of craft supplies to each bowl so that kids will have to sort through the supplies to find the hearts.

- Spread bowls throughout the room.
- Place the bucket in the center of the room.



PRESCHOOL PUPPET SKIT

Recommended for preschoolers.

Supplies

- Theophilus the FaithRetriever™ Puppet (order [here](#))
- paper (1 sheet per child)
- crayons

Easy Prep

- Fold a sheet of paper in half to make a card. Draw a big heart on the front. Attach the heart card to Theo's paw.



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Preschoolers play a version of Hot Potato.

Supplies

- 8½x11-inch piece of card stock (if you can find red card stock it'll simplify prep)
- scissors
- red marker
- upbeat music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Cut a large heart from the piece of card stock, and color it in with red marker.



CRAFT

Preschoolers make chenille-wire women.

Supplies

- chenille wires (2 per child)
- yarn (about 1 foot per child)

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.

**Marked supplies can be reused from Core Bible Discovery*

Let's keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



Welcome

Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have preschoolers give a high-one (high-five with just one finger) to three friends.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having preschoolers say, "Long live [name of birthday child]!"
- Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we'll learn how Jesus is loving. We'll start today by talking about someone who loves you!**

Share

- Share about someone who loves *you*.
- In leader-led small groups, have preschoolers share about people who love *them*.
- After small groups have discussed, have adult or teen helpers share with the whole group what they talked about in their small groups.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **It's great to have friends and families who love us! I'm thankful for Jesus because he loves us and shows us his love more than anyone, ever! And when we're friends with Jesus, he helps us be loving like him.**

Pray, thanking Jesus for being loving.



Supplies

- Bible
- construction paper in 4 different colors (enough for each child to have 1 heart of each color; see Easy Prep for heart size)

Easy Prep

- Draw several hearts on each piece of construction paper, each about 2x2 inches. There's no need to cut out the heart shapes; simply cut a square or rectangle around each heart. You'll need 4 hearts per child, 1 of each color.

Act It Out

Show the Bible. Say: **Today we'll learn that Jesus is loving. The Bible says that one day Jesus was teaching in a synagogue—that's like a church. And it was kind of like how I'm teaching you in our church right now!**

Share about two places *you've* learned something from a teacher, and talk generally about what you were learning there. You might share about school, your worship service at church, a Bible study, or even a podcast you listen to. For example, "I sometimes listen to pastors on my phone, and they teach me about Jesus and the Bible."

Ask: • **Tell about someplace *you've* learned from a teacher.** Preschoolers might share about preschool, Sunday school, or when they've played pretend with friends or siblings.

Say: **Jesus was teaching people in the synagogue about God. He loves God and wants all the people in the world to know about God—because God loves everyone, including you! As Jesus was teaching, he noticed a woman whose body wasn't working right. Jesus loved this woman, just as he loved everyone else.**

Share about a time *you* had an injury or about a disability *you* have.

Ask: • **Tell about a time *you* were hurt.** Preschoolers might share about a broken bone, or they might share about an owie they had on a finger or toe and they tried not to use the finger or toe because it hurt.

Say: **This woman Jesus noticed had been bent over for 18 years!** Lead kids to stand up and bend over at the waist. Have them stay bent over until you tell them to stand up again.

Share your age, and help kids count to that number.

Ask: • **How old are you?** Lead kids to share their ages and count up to each age in your group one time. If you have several 3-year-olds, for example, you'll count to three only once. But if you have 3- and 4-year-olds, you'll count to three once and four once. Remind kids to stay bent over.

Say: **This woman in the Bible was bent over for 18 years! That's a really long time! That's not just a few minutes, like how long you've been standing that way. And it's not just a few hours or a few days. It's more than we can imagine!**

Ask: • **How are you feeling, standing bent over like the woman was?** Allow kids to share.

Say: **It must've been really hard for her, if even standing this way for just a few minutes is hard for us! Let's see what happened when Jesus saw the woman.**

Read Luke 13:12.

Say: **Jesus made her better! All he did was touch her, and she was able to stand up straight!** Touch each child on the back, allowing kids to stand as you touch them. Have adult or teen helpers join in "healing" the kids so all the kids can stand up more quickly.

Say: **The woman was so happy, and she thanked God! Let's cheer now that we're standing up straight again, too!** Lead kids in a cheer, and then have kids sit.

Say: **What Jesus did was amazing, and he did it because he's loving. He loved the woman and wanted her to be better. But there was a leader at the synagogue who didn't like that Jesus helped the woman. He told Jesus, "The rules say that you're not supposed to work today. You're supposed to be resting. But what you just did was working." The leader wasn't happy that Jesus made the woman better on a day that Jesus was supposed to be resting.**

Ask: • **What do you think about that?** Invite kids to share if they think it was right for Jesus to make the woman better, even though the leader said Jesus should be resting.

Say: **The leader thought Jesus should've helped the woman on a different day, not the day for resting. But Jesus loved the woman so much that he wanted to make her better as soon as he saw her! Jesus knew that the leader's rule wasn't God's rule. God *does* want his friends to rest, but Jesus knew it was okay to help a friend anytime. Then the people celebrated all the wonderful things Jesus did. They could see that Jesus is loving by how he took care of people.**

Receive and Pass Hearts

Say: **Let's talk about some ways that Jesus is loving toward us.** Talk about the following things, and give each child a heart, using a different color for each example.

- Say: **Jesus is loving because he forgives us when we do something wrong.** Share an example of your own to get kids started. Give each child a heart in the first color, and then invite kids to share about something they've done wrong. Remind them as they share that Jesus is their loving friend and he forgives them.
- Say: **Jesus is loving; he's happy to be friends with each of you, and he smiles when he sees you because he's proud of who you are.** Share first to get kids started. Give each child a heart in a second color, and then invite kids to share something good about themselves. Remind them as they share that Jesus is their loving friend and he's proud of who they are.
- Say: **Jesus is loving because he takes care of us. He gives us everything we need.** Give each child a heart in a third color, and then invite kids to share about something they need, such as food, clothes, friends, and their families. Remind them as they share that Jesus is their loving friend, and he wants the very best for them. He wants them to be safe and have the things they need.
- Say: **Jesus is loving, and he wants to be best friends with us.** Give each child a heart in the fourth color, and then invite kids to share something friends do. Share first to get kids started. Remind them as they share that Jesus wants to be their friend, too, and that he loves them very much.

Say: **Look at all the hearts you have! Jesus is loving toward us in so many ways. Jesus loves you, and he loves me. He loves each one of us, and he even loves the people we aren't friends with or don't know. He loves to take care of us and be friends with us. And he shows us how we can love others, too.**

Share ways *you* like to show love to others, including each way Jesus is loving. (He forgives us, he's proud of us, he takes care of us, and he wants to be best friends with us.)

Ask: • **What's a way you can be loving like Jesus?** Help kids think of ways they can be good friends to others, ways they can forgive when someone hurts them, ways they can share encouraging words, and ways they can care for others. As each child shares an idea, have that child give a heart to someone else. Encourage children to exchange hearts as many times as possible, making sure kids all receive and exchange hearts.

Say: **Jesus loves it when we show love to others because Jesus is loving, too!**



Supplies

- construction paper hearts from the Core Bible Discovery activity (only 1 heart needed per child)

Receive an Affirmation

Say: **Today we found out how loving Jesus is! He loved the woman in our Bible story and wanted to take care of her. It was more important to him that he show love to her than follow all the other church leaders' rules. Jesus loves you, too, and he'll always care for you and show you love.**

In small groups, have adult and teen helpers give each child a paper heart and say the following affirmation over each child: **Jesus is loving, and he loves you,** [child's name].

After all the kids receive an affirmation, say a brief prayer, thanking Jesus for being so loving toward you and all the kids.

Give an Affirmation

Say: **Jesus is loving, and he helps us be loving to others, too. Let's practice being loving right now and give our hearts to someone else. When you give your heart, say "Jesus is loving and he loves you!"** Lead kids in practicing this line, and then have adult and teen helpers lead the kids to each give an affirmation to another child, making sure each child receives an affirmation and a new heart.

After all the kids have given an affirmation, say a brief prayer, asking Jesus to help you and the kids be loving to others, and then close the prayer.

Thank the kids for coming to church, and encourage them to join you back at church next week.



Supplies

- 8½x11-inch sheets of printer paper (1 per child)
- crayons
- squirt bottles with water (1 for every 4 kids)

Tip

- If you have a lot of young kids, you may want to provide heart patterns for them.

Draw Hearts

Say: **Heart shapes make me think of love. Let's show that Jesus is loving by drawing a heart on a piece of paper.**

- Give each child a sheet of paper, and put the crayons where kids can reach them.
- Have each child draw a big heart in the middle of the paper.

Put Hearts Together

Say: **When friends love each other, they want to be close. They stick together and keep loving each other no matter what. Let's see if your heart will stick to a friend's heart.**

Form pairs, and have partners press their papers together to see if they stick together. As kids try unsuccessfully, comment that the papers won't stay together. Say: **Let's see if water will make the heart papers stick together.**

- Have kids hold their papers away from their bodies while adult or teen helpers use spray bottles to soak all the kids' papers with water.
- Have pairs lay one paper on top of the other paper on a table with the bottom paper positioned a little higher than the top one. Have kids pat the papers to press them together.
- Have one child in each pair lift the bottom paper off the table. The water will make the top paper lift, too, and the two hearts will stick together.
- After several seconds, have kids pass the papers to their partners to hold and see if the water still holds the papers together.

Talk About It

Say: **The water made the papers stick together! When we love someone, we stick with them, no matter what. Jesus is loving. Even though we can't see him, we know he's always close to us, and he loves us so much!**



Supplies

- sheets of red paper (2 per child)
- pen
- scissors
- 6 disposable bowls
- small bucket
- mix of various craft supplies such as cotton balls, packing peanuts, stickers, craft sticks, ribbon, and chenille wires
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- On 1 of the sheets of paper, draw 6 hearts in 2 columns down the length of the paper (3 hearts in each column).
- Make copies of the hearts you drew on the remaining paper.
- Cut out the hearts using a paper cutter, or use scissors to cut a few pieces of paper at a time. You don't have to cut around the individual heart shapes; simply cut squares around the hearts to separate them.
- Divide the paper hearts among the bowls. Add a mix of craft supplies to each bowl so that kids will have to sort through the supplies to find the hearts.
- Spread bowls throughout the room.
- Place the bucket in the center of the room.

Tips

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).
- If you can find them, craft foam hearts are a great substitute for making paper hearts on your own! Although they can be a seasonal craft supply, they can often be found at craft stores such as Hobby Lobby in large batches at an affordable price.
- Packing peanuts can be a choking hazard. Watch little ones closely to ensure they don't put them in their mouths.

Move the Hearts

Say: **Today's Bible story showed us that Jesus is loving. Jesus showed love by helping a woman stand up straight again when he healed her bent-over back! Jesus loves all of us as much as he loved that woman, and Jesus' love is all around us. Let's play a game where we'll look for love around us!**

- At your cue, everyone will run to the bowls around the room to search for hearts.
- When a heart is found, the child will run to place it in the bucket in the center, then run to any bowl to search for more hearts.
- Hearts can be moved only one at a time.
- The goal is to move all the hearts from all the bowls to the bucket as fast as possible.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while everyone plays. You can reset the hearts and play as many rounds as time allows.

Talk About It

Say: **In the game there were paper hearts all around us, and in our lives Jesus' love is all around us. Sometimes Jesus' love is around us through other people.**

Ask: • **Who is someone you love?** Share your own example first.

Say: **It's awesome to love and be loved! We feel safe, peaceful, and happy when we're around the people we love. We can help others feel that way when we're loving. I've been loving to others by...**

Share a couple of preschool-friendly examples of ways you're loving, such as caring for family members through good and hard times or sharing what you have with others.

Ask: • **What are ways *you* can be loving?** Preschoolers might talk about sharing their toys, drawing pictures to tell others they love them, or giving hugs.

Say: **Those are great ways to be loving and to remember that Jesus is loving!**



Supplies

- Theophilus the FaithRetriever™ Puppet (order [here](#))
- paper (1 sheet per child)
- crayons

Easy Prep

- Fold a sheet of paper in half to make a card. Draw a big heart on the front. Attach the heart card to Theo's paw.

Tip

- Before printing, turn on page numbering in Word to keep the pages in order (or simply hand-number each page after printing). You may also find it helpful to highlight your part and set the script on a music stand nearby during the skit.

Leader: **It's time for our puppy friend, Theo, to come for a visit. Let's call him to our class with a "woof, woof." Ready?** *(Leads kids to bark until Theo is brought into view.)*

Theo: **Hooowwloo...** *(Sighs loudly.)* **I have an itchy-itch...** *(Points to his head.)* **Would you give me a scratch?** *(Circulates among kids so each child can pet him.)*

Leader: **Thanks for giving a friendly welcome to Theo, kids!**

Theo: *(Looks to kids.)* **You make me feel so loved when you give me a nice scratch!**

Leader: **We're glad you feel loved, Theo! In fact, we're learning about love today.**

Theo: *(Looks excited.)* **You are?!** *(Holds up his card for the kids to see.)* **I was just making this card to tell my mom I love her!**

Leader: **Your mom will love that, Theo! And you're showing love to her by giving her that nice card!**

Theo: *(Looks to kids.)* **What are you learning about love today?**

Leader: *(Allows time for kids to respond to Theo's question.)* **We're learning that Jesus is loving, and he shows us how to be loving, too.**

Theo: **Jesus sure is loving!** *(Pauses and then looks like he has an idea.)* **Maybe we could all work together to show love like Jesus does.**

Leader: **I like that idea, Theo! What did you have in mind?**

Theo: *(Looks to kids.)* **Do you have any paper?**

Leader: *(Helps kids get a stack of paper for Theo.)*

Theo: **Thanks!** *(Looks to kids.)* **Do you have crayons, too?**

Leader: *(Helps kids get crayons for Theo.)* **What are we going to make?**

Theo: **We can all make a card to show love to someone.** *(Looks to kids.)* **Do you want to make cards, friends?**

Leader: **We'd love to!**

Theo: **Cool! Follow me.** *(Passes a sheet of paper to each child, and then gives one to the leader.)* **First you'll fold your paper in half.** *(Asks leader to demonstrate how to fold.)*

Leader: *(Demonstrates how to fold the paper into a card.)*

Theo: *(Circulates among kids and tries to help them make the fold. It's okay if their folds aren't perfect.)*

Leader: **What next?**

Theo: **Next we draw a heart on the front.** *(Demonstrates how to draw a heart on the paper the leader used to demonstrate the fold, then circulates among kids and helps them draw hearts. It's okay if their hearts don't look exactly like hearts. Theo compliments the kids on their hearts.)*

Leader: **They're looking good. Now what, Theo?**

Theo: **Now we think about who we want to show love to. I made one card for my mom, and I think I want to make another card for you.** *(Looks to leader, indicating he's making his second card for the leader.)*

Leader: **Thank you, Theo! That makes me feel so good, and it makes me feel loved!**

Theo: **I want to give you a card because I love you and am thankful for how nice you are to me when I visit your class!** *(Hugs the leader.)*

Leader: *(Sniffles.)* **That's so nice of you, Theo! I think I might cry!**

Theo: **Jesus is loving, and I'm happy I could show you love like Jesus loves us.** *(Looks to kids.)* **Who are you going to show love to with a card?** *(Responds to kids' answers.)* **Okay, now color in your heart and draw a picture on the inside of the card for the person you're making your card for.** *(Theo makes his own drawing for the leader, and circulates among kids, commenting on their pictures.)*

Leader: *(Asks kids if they want to write a sentence to the person they're making cards for and writes it on the cards for preschoolers.)*

Theo: **I can't wait to give our cards away. It's awesome to show love! And I can't wait to hear what your friends and families say when they get your loving cards!**

Leader: **I can't wait either, Theo! You had such a great idea for helping us practice being loving like Jesus. Thank you!**

Theo: **You're welcome! Here's the loving card I made especially for you!** *(Hands the card he made to the leader.)*

Leader: *(Hugs Theo.)* **Thank you!**

Theo: **I'm going to go give my loving card to my mom now. I can't wait to see what she says!**

Leader: **Sounds great, Theo! Kids, let's say goodbye to Theo.** *(Looks to kids.)* **Let's give Theo a big "woof, woof, goodbye"!** *(Leads kids in a "woof, woof, goodbye," and then places Theo out of sight.)*



Supplies

- 8½x11-inch piece of card stock (if you can find red card stock it'll simplify prep)
- scissors
- red marker
- upbeat music
- music player

Easy Prep

- Cut a large heart from the piece of card stock, and color it in with red marker.

Tip

- If you used the Music Video block, consider repeating the songs from today's lesson during the game. You can find the downloadable album [here](#).

Play a Version of Hot Potato

Say: **In today's Bible story, Jesus helped a woman who had been bent over for a *long* time so she could stand up straight again. Jesus healed her and showed her how loving he is! Let's play a game where we'll be loving to our friends here.**

- Have everyone stand in a circle.
- Give the heart to an adult or teen helper.
- While music plays, everyone will pass the heart around the circle.
- When the music stops, the person holding the heart gets a hug from everyone else (or a friendly fist bump if a hug is overwhelming).
- After the hug, start the music again for another round.
- Play as many rounds as time allows, and try to time the music pauses so everyone gets a hug.

Talk About It

Say: **In the game we were loving to each other by giving hugs.**

Ask: • **What makes you feel loved?** Preschoolers might tell about ways their parents care for them or when friends and siblings share and play with them.

Say: **We know what it feels like to be loved, and as much as other people in our lives love us, Jesus loves us even *more*. Jesus is loving, and his love is for everyone, so we can be loving to others, too.**



Supplies

- chenille wires (2 per child)
- yarn (about 1 foot per child)

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Make a Chenille-Wire Woman

Say: **In our Bible story today we found out how Jesus healed a woman.**

Show preschoolers the sample craft.

Bend the chenille-wire woman so she's bent over like the woman in the Bible story. Say: **The woman had been bent over like this for 18 years! But Jesus made her all better so she could stand up straight!** Straighten the craft so the chenille-wire woman is standing up straight. **Jesus is so loving! He cared about the woman that day, and he cares about each of you, too.**

Let's each make a woman with these bendy wires to remind us of the Bible story. Lead kids to make the craft:

- Have each child bend one chenille wire in half. Help kids twist the overlapping wires from the bend down about an inch to represent the body. Have them pull the chenille wires apart to represent legs.
- Have adult and teen helpers help kids make a loop in the center of the second chenille wire for the woman's head. Help them twist the end pieces to form a complete circle. The straight ends will be the woman's arms.



- Help kids create a hook on the bent part of the first chenille wire and then hook it through the second chenille wire to attach the body to the head.
- Give each child a piece of yarn, and have kids thread it through the head and around the loop to create hair.

Retell the Bible Story

Lead preschoolers to retell the Bible story using their bendable crafts. Continue as time allows.

Say: **Jesus is loving—he took care of that woman, and he takes care of us! We can practice being loving by taking care of others, too.**

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