

LESSON 8: PAUL BRINGS EUTYCHUS BACK TO LIFE

Leader Guide for Grades 5 & 6

Classroom: Deeply Rooted

 Acts 20:7-12

10/11/2020

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Acts 20:7-12
- In This Passage: Paul is preaching late at night in a dimly lit room. A young man named Eutychus is among the audience, seated in a window. Eutychus falls asleep and falls out the window three stories to his death! But Paul, through God's power, brings him back to life. What a miracle!
- Bible Point: God is miraculous...
- Application: ...and he works through us.
- Summary Verse: "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name goes all the glory for your unfailing love and faithfulness" (Psalm 115:1).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *God is miraculous*. Most kids probably haven't seen such amazing miracles as someone coming back to life! This lesson may raise questions about how God can work through us as he worked through Paul. Help kids see that God's miracles aren't always as flashy as this one, but he's working through them in powerful ways!
- Think About: When have you felt God working through you? Thank him for that.

Dig In to Prayer

- Ask God to work through you to do miracles in the lives of your kids.

Quick Tip

- Teaching kids may not always feel miraculous. At times you might struggle to maintain control or feel like you're not getting through to kids. Trust God to work through you. The things you say to kids can have a lifelong impact beyond what you could ever fathom—or will ever know about. One or more of your kids may go on to do big things for God because of the difference *you* made! So keep your words and attitude positive and encouraging. You never know when they'll be the start of a miracle.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING

Kids share about a topic related to the lesson.

Supplies

- Bible



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Kids experience getting sleepy, see a balloon “healing,” and enjoy a snack.

Supplies

- Bibles
- flicker lights or candles
- classical or lullaby music
- music player
- reference book kids are likely to find boring, such as a textbook or detailed instruction manual (check your local library)
- 2 inflated balloons
- box (roughly the size of a copier paper box)
- straight pin
- snacks
- paper
- pencils

Easy Prep

- Draw a face on each balloon, making the faces as identical as possible.
- Put 1 balloon in the box, and set the box in the back of the room.



OBJECT LESSON

Kids balance a soda can.

Supplies

- empty aluminum soda cans (1 for every 2 kids)
- water (100 milliliters for every 2 kids)
- metric measuring cups (pairs can share) or a food scale
- paper towels
- cups (1 per child) (optional)



DEEPER BIBLE

Kids find out five miracles God can do through them on a daily basis.

Supplies

- Bibles



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Kids try to run through rolling hula hoops.

Supplies

- large hula hoops (1 for every 2 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Kids blow ping-pong balls along a curving line.

Supplies

- ping-pong balls (1 for every 3 kids)
- painter's tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- For every 3 kids, tape a roughly 10-foot zigzag line on the floor. Space the lines at least 3 feet apart from each other.



CRAFT

Kids make a Eutychus figure that moves without touching it.

Supplies

- "Spinning Eutychus Instructions" handout (download [here](#))
- 8-ounce paper cups with rims on the bottom (1 per child)
- permanent markers
- staplers
- chenille wires (2 per child)
- paper
- tape
- toothpicks (1 per child)
- scissors

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Kids make a mosaic displaying God's miracles.

Supplies

- scraps of construction paper
- markers
- tape

**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.



Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have kids give an elbow-five to five friends.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having kids do jumping jacks as many times as the birthday child is old. With each jumping jack, they'll say "Happy birthday!"
- Collect the offering.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we're going to learn that God is miraculous, and he works through us. Today's miracle happened after a young man fell out of a third-story window!**

Share

- Tell kids about a memorable time *you* fell.
- Have kids form pairs. Ask kids to share about memorable times *they've* fallen.
- After partners have discussed, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group.

Summarize

Open a Bible to Acts 20, and say: **Thankfully, our falls weren't as bad as the one Eutychus had out of a third-story window. But when Eutychus fell, God got to work through Paul to do a big miracle! Let's see what the Bible says about that miracle. The Bible isn't an ordinary book; it's God's book for us, full of stories that show how God is miraculous. As we explore his Word today, we'll experience how miraculous he is. Let's start by talking to God.**

Pray, praising God for his miracles.



Paul Brings Eutychus Back to Life (Acts 20:7-12)

Supplies

- Bibles
- flicker lights or candles
- classical or lullaby music
- music player
- reference book kids are likely to find boring, such as a textbook or detailed instruction manual (check your local library)
- 2 inflated balloons
- box (roughly the size of a copier paper box)
- straight pin
- snacks
- paper
- pencils

Easy Prep

- Draw a face on each balloon, making the faces as identical as possible.
- Put 1 balloon in the box, and set the box in the back of the room.

Get Sleepy

Dim the lights, and light candles or turn on flicker lights to create a sleepy setting. Softly play classical or lullaby music.

Say: **Let's start with some light reading.** Read from the reference book for a few minutes in a soothing, monotone voice. The goal of this time is to get kids feeling bored or sleepy.

As you read, have your adult or teen helper stand in the back of the room near the box, holding the second balloon. After you've read for a few minutes, have your helper suddenly pop the balloon, and drop the pieces in the box.

Ask: • **How did you feel while I was reading? How about when the balloon popped?**

• **Tell about a time you really wanted to stay awake for something but couldn't.** Share your own childhood story first, such as trying to stay up to watch a movie or to make it until midnight on New Year's Eve.

Say: **Today we'll explore a Bible story about a young man who got sleepy while someone was talking. You might've felt bored while I was reading, but we don't know that he got bored. He may have really wanted to stay up and listen to the speaker! Unfortunately, it got really late, and he couldn't keep his eyes open. Let's see what happened.**

Read Acts 20:7-9. Eutychus' name is pronounced "YOU-ti-cus."

Heal the Balloon

Say: **Yikes! It's dangerous to fall asleep in church! Good thing we have so much fun here. But God is miraculous, and he works through us. Let's see what happened next.**

Read Acts 20:10.

Go to the box your helper is standing near, and pull out the unpopped balloon. Say: **Our balloon is fine, too! Hooray!**

Ask: • **What do you think happened to repair our balloon?**

Go back to the front of the room and say: **Unlike pretending to heal a balloon, Paul did a real miracle with God's power. He brought a dead man back to life! That's not something Paul or any human could do in his own power. But God is miraculous, and he works through us. You could be an instrument God uses to do a miracle, too!**

Enjoy a Snack

Say: **After Paul brought Eutychus back to life, Eutychus went home...probably to take a nap far away from any windows. But everyone else went back upstairs to hear more from Paul and to enjoy some food. Let's enjoy some food, too!**

Distribute snacks. As kids eat, have them talk about people they'd love to be in a room with. It might be a concert they'd want to attend, a famous person they'd want to meet, or a loved one they haven't seen in a long time.

Say: **Paul was a great speaker with incredible, powerful, amazing things to say about God. People excitedly gathered to hear from him before he left town. They were probably even more excited to be around him after they saw him bring someone back to life! But that wasn't Paul's miracle; it was God's. God is miraculous, and he works through us. Let's see what it's like to work *through* someone else to accomplish something.**

Work With a Partner

Have kids form same-gender pairs and gather by a table. Set out paper and pencils.

Have partners decide who will be the Eyes and who will be the Arms. The Arms person will stand behind the Eyes person and put his or her arms under the arms of the Eyes. The Eyes kids will put their arms behind them so they can't use them.

Say: **You and your partner are going to work together to draw a picture of anything in this room. Eyes, you can see where the paper and pencil are, and you can direct the Arms on what to draw by talking. Arms, you can't peek around your partner—just follow what he or she says to do.**

Allow a few minutes for partners to draw a picture together and then split apart and see how well they did.

Say: **Think about how God worked through Paul in our story.**

Ask: • **How was *this* experience like how God works through people? How was it different?**

• **What are some ways God could work through kids?**

Say: **God is kind of like the Eyes partner. He sees what needs to be done, and he gives us instructions. God *could* do the work himself, but he wants to partner with us and work through us to do miracles. Miracles don't have to be as big as bringing a dead person back to life. You might be part of a miracle by giving a kind word that cheers someone up or helping someone who feels discouraged. You may never know the full effect of the difference you make when God works through you! God is miraculous, and he works through us.**



OBJECT LESSON

Balancing Can

[10 min]

Supplies

- empty aluminum soda cans (1 for every 2 kids)
- water (100 milliliters for every 2 kids)
- metric measuring cups (pairs can share) or a food scale
- paper towels
- cups (1 per child) (optional)

Tips

- Instead of collecting empty aluminum cans, consider providing cups for kids to pour the soda or sparkling water into so they can drink it during the experiment. Soda in Sunday school? It's a miracle!
- If you have a food scale, have kids weigh the water instead—100 milliliters of water weighs 100 grams.

Add Water

Say: **A miracle is something that's surprising and highly unlikely to happen. Let's do a surprising and highly unlikely experiment right now! Hold up an empty can. We'll balance a can, and unlike Eutychus in our Bible story, it won't fall!**

- Form pairs, and give each pair an empty aluminum soda can.
- Have pairs take turns using a measuring cup or food scale to measure 100 milliliters or 100 grams of water.



- Have pairs pour the water into their cans.

Balance the Can

Say: **Now we'll lean the soda can on its edge like this.** Demonstrate for the kids. **Then let go!**

- Have one partner carefully tip the can, place the edge on the table, then gently let go. The can will balance!
- Partners can take turns gently tapping the can so it spins in a circle on its edge.
- Invite the other partner to pick up the can so he or she can repeat the experiment and try balancing the can, too.
- Just in case, have paper towels handy to wipe up spills.



Talk About It

Ask: • How is this balancing can like a miracle? How is it different?

Say: I heard a lot of surprised reactions when you saw the cans balance. That's how we respond to miracles. We say "Whoa!" or "Wow!" But this wasn't a miracle—there's a scientific explanation for this surprising discovery. We added just the right amount of water to change the can's center of gravity so it balanced on the edge. It's not a miracle, but it's still pretty cool. God is miraculous. His work can't always be explained. It's hard to explain how God used Paul to bring Eutychus back to life again. But we can watch and observe his miracles that happen around us and through us! Wow!



Supplies

- Bibles

Hear a Story

Say: In our Bible story, God did an amazing miracle through Paul. You probably haven't brought a dead person back to life like Paul did. So you might be wondering, does God actually do miracles through me? Let's dig in to that.

One thing to keep in mind is that some miracles are big and exciting like Paul's and others might seem small to us. But you might not realize the full impact of an encouraging word right away.

Here's a true story to help you imagine what that might look like. Billy Graham was an amazing evangelist. An evangelist is someone who tells other people about God. He held a lot of events where tens of thousands of people chose to follow Jesus. A lot of his events were shown on television to reach even more people. Many people have heard of Billy Graham; he's a well-known guy in Christianity.

But most people *haven't* heard of Henrietta Mears. Henrietta Mears never became very famous. When Billy Graham was young and just starting his events, they weren't going so well. He even thought of giving up. Henrietta Mears ran a camp, and she invited Billy Graham to visit for a few days. Some people didn't want her to invite him, but she did anyway. While he was there, he spent time praying and listening to God. He heard a clear message from God to keep going. Because of Henrietta's invitation, Billy kept on preaching about Jesus...and the rest is history.

Henrietta Mears' camp led to a lot of miracles! Her camp led to Billy Graham reaching a lot of people for Jesus. Some of those people were in gangs and turned to Jesus instead. And just think, without Henrietta Mears, that never would've happened.

You might not think little things you do are miracles, but those little things just might save lives someday.

Ask: • Tell about a time you felt like God wanted you to do something that seemed small, and you didn't know why. Share your own story first.

Say: God is miraculous, and he works through us in big, flashy ways...and in seemingly small ways. Let's practice some ways God can work through us.

Dig Deeper

Have kids form five groups. Assign each group one of the following Bible passages and topics:

- 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (encourage others)
- James 5:16 (pray for others)
- John 15:12 (love others)
- Romans 12:13 (help others)
- Romans 12:18 (make peace)

Have each group read its passage and spend two minutes brainstorming a way to put the verse into practice *right now* in the Sunday school class.

After kids brainstorm ways to put the verses into practice right now, have them do it! Kids will have five minutes to live out their verses right there in class. After the five minutes is up, allow time for groups to read their verses aloud to the whole class.

Say: God is miraculous, and he works through us. He just worked through you to do amazing things! This week, listen to God and see how else he wants to work through you to do the miraculous.



HIGH-ENERGY GAME

Through-a Hula

[10 min]

Supplies

- large hula hoops (1 for every 2 kids)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

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](#).

Try to Run Through Rolling Hula Hoops

Say: **Today we're learning that God is miraculous, and he works through us like he did through Paul in healing Eutychus. Let's celebrate God working through us with a fun game where you'll try to get through a hula hoop!**

- Form pairs, and give each pair a hula hoop.
- Have pairs line up along a wall at least 5 feet apart—the more spread out, the better.
- The person holding the hula hoop in each pair will roll the hula hoop on the floor so it moves in a fairly straight line, like a wheel.
- The other person in each pair will try to run through the rolling hula hoop before it topples to the floor and try to get through the hula hoop without making it fall. It will be difficult, but that's part of the fun challenge!
- Allow kids to take turns rolling and running, and encourage them to work together to figure out strategies for success.
- Have partners encourage each other during their attempts at getting through the hoop.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Ask: • **What strategies did you figure out for getting through the hoop?**

• **Why would it have been harder to play the game without a partner?**

Say: **You worked together as partners, and that made the challenge way more doable. We can't do miracles on our own—only God can—but God invites us to team up with him in his work so he can do miracles *through* us.**

God is miraculous, and he works through us. It's awesome to be on a team with God!



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Miracles Move

[10 min]

Supplies

- ping-pong balls (1 for every 3 kids)
- painter's tape
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Easy Prep

- For every 3 kids, tape a roughly 10-foot zigzag line on the floor. Space the lines at least 3 feet apart from each other.

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](#).

Blow Ping-Pong Balls Along a Curving Line

Say: **Today's Bible story was *amazing* because God worked through Paul to bring Eutychus back to life after he fell out of a window. God is miraculous, and God works through us to do miracles. Let's play a game that'll help us understand that better.**

- Form teams of three, and give each team a ping-pong ball.
- Have team members introduce themselves if they don't already know each other's names.
- Have each team choose a zigzag line and line up single file on one end of the line.
- The person in each team who's holding the ball can then move to the opposite end of the line, get down on all fours, and place the ping-pong ball on the ground at the end of the tape nearest him or her.
- When you say "go," kids with ping-pong balls will start moving the balls along the zigzag lines using only their breath until they get the balls to the other end near the rest of their teammates.
- All the other teammates will cheer on the Ball Mover by his or her name.
- Once the first Ball Mover reaches the end of the line, the next person in line can have a turn, with teammates cheering.
- Continue this way until everyone on each team has had a chance to move the ball.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How did you know it was you moving the ball even though you couldn't see your breath?**
• **How can we know God is working through us if we can't see God or his power?**

Say: **God is miraculous, and he works through us. God is like the Ball Mover in this game. As he works through us, he moves us to just the right place to be part of his miracles.**



Supplies

- "Spinning Eutychus Instructions" handout (download [here](#))
- 8-ounce paper cups with rims on the bottom (1 per child)
- permanent markers
- staplers
- chenille wires (2 per child)
- paper
- tape
- toothpicks (1 per child)
- scissors

Easy Prep

- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Make Moving Eutychus Figures

Show kids the sample craft you made. Say: **When Eutychus fell out of the window, he died. Like the figure on my cup, he wasn't moving. But did you know I can make this Eutychus move again...without touching him?** Rub the toothpick back and forth over the staples. This will cause the cup to vibrate, making the Eutychus figure spin in circles.

Give each child a cup and a toothpick. Set out the remaining supplies to share, and have kids follow these directions to make their own moving Eutychus figures.

- Staple at least 10 staples in a row on the side of the cup, like a ladder. The staples should be pretty close together—no more than a quarter inch apart.
- Decorate the cup with permanent markers.
- Turn the cup upside down, and bend a chenille wire into a circle that fits inside the rim on the bottom of the cup. Twist the ends together so your circle holds its shape.
- Make an arc with another chenille wire, and twist it onto your circle.
- Cut a piece of paper that's double the width of your circle and a little taller than it is wide.
- Fold the paper in half, and tape the open side closed so you can slip the paper onto the chenille-wire arc you made.
- Draw Eutychus on the paper before you slip it onto the arc.

Make Eutychus Move

- Have each child put his or her Eutychus figure on the bottom of the cup and practice scraping a toothpick on the staples to make him spin.
- If Eutychus falls, the arc may need to be adjusted so he stands up straighter.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How do you think your craft works to make Eutychus spin?**

• **How do you think God worked through Paul to bring Eutychus back to life?**

Say: **God is miraculous, and he works through us.** We can explain how our craft works: Rubbing the staples makes the cup vibrate, which makes Eutychus move. But we can't explain how God brought the real Eutychus back to life! Sometimes God's miracles are mysterious and beyond what we can explain. And it's amazing that he wants to partner with us to do those miracles!

Have kids take their cups and figures home and show them to their friends and families as they tell about how God worked through Paul to do a miracle.



Supplies

- scraps of construction paper
- markers
- tape

Make a Miracle Mosaic

Say: **God is miraculous!** Let's make a mosaic of his miracles.

- Have kids each write on a scrap of construction paper a miracle they've seen. Remind them that a miracle could be a beautiful sunset or the heartbeat of a new baby.
- Have kids tape their miracles to the wall to make a mosaic.
- Have kids each write on a new scrap of construction paper a prayer request for a miracle they'd like God to do.
- Have kids make a second mosaic with their prayer requests.
- Have kids stand by the second mosaic and silently pray for the requests they see on the wall.

Wrap Up

Pray: **God, thank you for being so miraculous!** You've done amazing miracles, and we trust you to do more. **Work through us to do your miracles this week! In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.