

Jesus' Miracles

KEY VERSE

Mark 4:41

Lesson Overview (TEACHER)

TRANSITION

Lesson 4 followed Jesus' Galilean ministry, his preaching of the kingdom, and the calling of the disciples to follow Him. Lesson 5 witnesses His divine authority displayed through miraculous power over nature, serious diseases, and common afflictions, proving He is the Messiah and God.

CENTRAL TRUTH

Jesus has divine power over creation.

KEY TEXTS

Matthew 8:1–17, 23–27; 9:1–8, 20–22; 12:9–14; 14:13–33; 15:32–39;
Mark 1:29–34, 40–2:12; 3:1–6; 4:35–41; 5:24–34; 6:30–52; 8:1–9;
Luke 4:38–41; 5:1–26; 6:6–11; 7:1–10; 8:22–25, 43–56; 9:10–17; 13:10–17;
14:1–6; 17:12–19; John 4:46–5:17; 6:1–21; 21:4–8

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GOSPEL

Jesus showed His divine power by calming storms, multiplying food, and healing every kind of disease. These acts proved that He is God in human flesh. Yet, His greatest miracle was taking the sickness of our sin upon Himself on the cross. He invites you to come to Him and believe in Him!

Family Devotional (PARENT)



This section explains what the Family Devotional covers for parents to use with their children each day of the week. Each devotional reinforces the lesson taught in Sunday School.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

Day 1 **Jesus' Miracles** (Sunday School review)
Matthew 8:1–17, 23–27; *9:1–8, 20–22; 12:9–14; 14:13–33; 15:32–39; Mark 1:29–34, 40–2:12; 3:1–6; 4:35–41; 5:24–34; 6:30–52; 8:1–9; Luke 4:38–41; 5:1–26; 6:6–11; 7:1–10; 8:22–25, 43–56; 9:10–17; 13:10–17; 14:1–6; 17:12–19; John 4:46–5:17; 6:1–21; 21:4–8*

Day 2 **Jesus Walks on Water**
Matthew 8:23–27; 14:22–33; *Mark 4:35–41; 6:45–52; Luke 8:22–25; John 6:15–21*

Day 3 **Miraculous Catches of Fish**
Luke 5:1–11; John 21:4–8

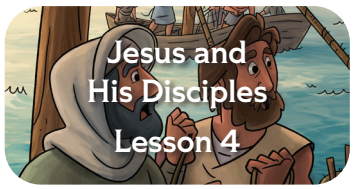
Day 4 **Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand**
Matthew 14:13–21; 15:32–39; *Mark 6:30–44; 8:1–9; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–14*

Day 5 **Jesus Heals Lepers**
Matthew 8:1–4; *Mark 1:40–45; Luke 5:12–16; 17:12–19*

Day 6 **Jesus Heals Paralytics**
Matthew 8:5–13; 9:1–8; *Mark 2:1–12; Luke 5:17–26; 7:1–10; John 5:1–17*

Day 7 **Jesus Heals Hurting People**
Matthew 8:14–17; 9:20–22; 12:9–14; *Mark 1:29–34; 3:1–6; 5:24–34; Luke 4:38–41; 6:6–11; 8:43–48; 13:10–17; 14:1–6; John 4:46–54*

LAST WEEK



NEXT WEEK



Jesus' Miracles

NOTE: Do not read this commentary aloud to the children. The commentary is designed to help educate and prepare the teacher for the lesson. The teacher's goal in studying the commentary is to better understand the lesson.

JESUS' POWER OVER NATURE

In His active ministry, Jesus traveled often (see Matt 4:23; 9:35; Luke 4:43–44). Because His ministry was near the Sea of Galilee He would often travel by boat (Matt 8:23a; Luke 8:22). On one occasion Jesus and His disciples (Matt 8:23b) got into a boat to travel across the lake (Luke 8:22) but soon He fell asleep (v23a) on a cushion (Mark 4:38a). When a "windstorm" arose (Luke 8:23b) the boat was in danger of being flooded (Matt 8:24b). Jesus was sleeping soundly through the storm, until the disciples had to awaken Him (v25a; Mark 4:38b). They told Him they were "perishing" (Matt 8:25c; Mark 4:38d; Luke 8:24b). Jesus awoke, "rebuked the wind and the sea" (Matt 8:26b; Mark 4:39a; Luke 8:24b), and there was "great calm" (Matt 8:26c; Mark 4:39b; Luke 8:24c). Jesus also rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith (Matt 8:26a; Mark 4:40; Luke 8:25a). The disciples marveled at this display of divine power over the forces of nature (Matt 8:27) and they were afraid because the ability to instantly still the storm would be something only God could do (Mark 4:41; see Luke 8:25b).

On another occasion, Jesus sent His disciples away in a boat (Mark 6:45). That evening, the boat was not traveling quickly because of the headwind (vv47–48a), so Jesus went to them by walking on the water (v48b). The disciples were frightened because they thought they were seeing a ghost (v49), but Jesus assured them, "it is I" (v50), and He got into the boat (see Matt 14:22–33; John 6:16–21). Once while preaching on the shores of the lake (Luke 5:1–4a), Jesus ordered Simon (Peter) to put his fishing net into the water for a catch (v4b). Simon balked and explained to Jesus that they had fished all night and caught nothing (v5a). Nevertheless, Simon did as Jesus commanded him (v5b) and they caught a "large number of fish" that filled their boats (vv6–7; see John 21:4–8). This amazing catch of fish was a miracle accomplished by Jesus. Jesus' power over nature was also exhibited on land through His miracles of feeding the crowds. Twice, Jesus was able to take meager amounts of food and feed thousands of people (see Matt 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–14; five thousand; see Matt 15:32–39; Mark 8:1–9; four thousand). ***These demonstrations of power over nature were proof that Jesus was God.***

JESUS' POWER OVER SERIOUS DISEASES

A severe disease of Jesus' day was leprosy. Most cases of leprosy in the Bible were not the disease known as Hansen's disease, but were a variety of skin ailments or varying degrees of severity. All forms of leprosy would have rendered the victims ritually unclean (see Lev 13:1–14:57) and therefore excluded them from all social and religious associations. A kneeling leper came to Jesus and implored Him to heal him: "If you will, you can make me clean" (Mark 1:40). Jesus was "Moved with pity" and He reached out and touched the leper and said to him "I will; be clean" (Mark 1:41). Although He could have healed the man with a word (see Luke 7:7,10), Jesus reached out and touched the leper. This man had likely not been touched, nor had he received compassion for years, but at Jesus' touch the man was healed "immediately" (v42). Jesus ordered the man to show himself to the priest according to the law (vv43–44; see Lev 14:2–32), but the man was so overjoyed he began to tell others what Jesus had done for him (Mark 1:45). While Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem through Samaria (Luke 17:11), He was confronted by a group of ten lepers (v12a) who recognized

Him even from a distance. They cried out to Him, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us" (vv12b–13). Jesus commanded them to go to the priest and show themselves (v14a) and "as they went they were cleansed" (v14b). One of them recognized that he had been cleansed and returned to praise God at Jesus' feet (vv15–16a). Jesus remarked that ten had been cleansed, but only one had returned to praise God, and he was a "foreigner" (vv16b–17). Jesus commended the man for his faith (v18).

Another serious disease of that day was paralysis. The physical causes of paralysis were varied, probably caused by any number of infectious diseases, birth defects, strokes, or accidents. However, Scripture reveals that at times—but not in every case (see John 9:3)—there was an underlying connection between disease and sin (see Ps 107:17). One time, Jesus was at home teaching, and many people were gathered in His house (Mark 2:1–2) and four men came to Him carrying a paralytic man (v3). They could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, so they broke open the roof above Jesus and lowered the man down, still lying in his bed (v4). Although it was obvious that the man and his friends wanted him to be healed, Jesus told him his sins were forgiven (v5). Some of the Pharisees and scribes who were there (v6; Luke 5:17) objected, saying that only God could forgive sins (Mark 2:7). Jesus responded by asking which was easier: to say your sins are forgiven or to say "Rise, take up your bed and walk" (vv8–9). Then He demonstrated that He could do both by telling the man to rise and go home (vv10–11), which he did (v12; see also Matt 8:5–13; Luke 7:1–10 for another example of Jesus healing a paralytic). Once in Jerusalem, Jesus saw a man superstitiously seeking healing at the Pool of Bethesda for many years (John 5:1–6). The man had been frustrated because he was not able to move himself down the steps into the pool (v7). Jesus simply ordered him to "Get up, take up your bed, and walk" (v8). The man was healed instantly and did as Jesus had commanded him (v9a). When the Jewish leaders saw the man carrying his bed, they reproached him because it was the Sabbath (vv9b–10); the man explained that he was only obeying the commands of the one who had healed him (v11). Later, the Jews found Jesus and persecuted Him for healing on the Sabbath (vv15–16); Jesus responded that His work was a work of His Father (v17). The Jews understood that this was a claim to be equal to the Father (v18). ***By these healings of serious diseases, Jesus proved that He was God.***



JESUS' MESSIANIC POWER OVER COMMON DISEASES

Jesus also demonstrated His ability to heal lesser afflictions. On one occasion, He healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever (Matt 8:14–17; Mark 1:29–34; Luke 4:38–41). He healed a woman of a chronic hemorrhage (Matt 9:20–22; Mark 5:25–34; Luke 8:43–48), a man's withered hand (Matt 12:9–14; Mark 3:1–6; Luke 6:6–11), a disabled woman (Luke 13:10–17), cured a man of dropsy (Luke 14:1–6), and even healed an official's son who was "near death" from a distance (John 4:46–54). Jesus became well known for His healings, so many more were brought to Him, and He "healed all who were sick" (Matt 8:16; Mark 1:32–34; Luke 4:40). He healed "the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others" (Matt 15:29–31). T***hese healings were, in part, intended to fulfill Messianic prophecies and prove that Jesus was the Messiah (see Matt 8:17; Isa 53:4).***

LESSON SUMMARY

The Gospels record Jesus calming a fierce storm, walking on water, and providing a miraculous catch of fish, which reveals His authority over nature. He touched the untouchable and cleansed ten lepers, though only the grateful Samaritan returned to praise God. He restored paralytics, forgave sins, and proved His divine authority. Jesus also healed fevers, chronic bleeding, withered hands, and many common afflictions. Jesus' miracles fulfilled Messianic prophecy and demonstrated His compassion for all who come to Him.

Personal Preparation

The following section is provided for you to use as a devotional. This will help you prepare for your upcoming Generations of Grace lesson time. *Check off your progress as you go.*

- ☐ **PRAY** for wisdom to understand what you are about to read and to effectively teach the lesson.
- ☐ **REVIEW** last week's lesson and the central truth.
- ☐ **IDENTIFY** this week's central truth along with the transition, key texts, and key verse(s) from this lesson's title page.
- ☐ **READ** this week's key texts from Scripture and choose which passages you want to read aloud to the children during your lesson time. Record on the right hand page under **READ**.
- ☐ **STUDY** the commentary and identify the italicized sentences to summarize the lesson and central truth below.

- ☐ **SUMMARIZE** your notes from above into the **LESSON OUTLINE** on the right hand page. Add any additional questions that you want to reference while teaching your lesson (one question provided per point).
- ☐ **PREPARE** your activity, craft, or coloring page for this week's lesson by visiting our website's additional resources page. Select the introduction, illustration, or application that you would like to use in your classroom along with any visual aid you may decide to use while teaching.
- ☐ **PLAN** your music time by choosing songs that pertain to this week's narrative theme. Check the additional resources on our website for recommendations.
- ☐ **RE-WRITE** this week's spotlight on the gospel in your own words on the teaching outline under **CONCLUDE** on the right hand page.
- ☐ **PRAY** about how you can apply this lesson to your life and that you would communicate the central truth and spotlight on the gospel clearly in your lesson.

Additional Resources
gracecurriculum.org

Teaching Outline

This section is designed to be used as a clean copy of your notes for teaching the lesson. Follow the teaching outline below as a step-by-step guide during your Sunday School lesson.

☐ **PRAY** with your class that the children would understand the central truth and gospel message, and that you would teach the children effectively.

☐ **REVIEW** last week's lesson and the central truth to begin your lesson.

☐ **INTRODUCE** this week's lesson and the central truth using the selected introduction, illustration, or application from our additional resources page.

☐ **READ** the key texts from Scripture you selected that connect to the central truth.

☐ **TEACH** your class using your summarized notes and questions from the **LESSON OUTLINE**. The points provided are the main headers from the commentary. Use the visual aid you selected and always connect your lesson back to the central truth.

LESSON OUTLINE



1. **JESUS' POWER OVER NATURE (MARK 4:35–41; 6:45–52; LUKE 5:1–11)**
   - What did Jesus do to show His power over nature, like during the storm and on the water?

2. **JESUS' POWER OVER SERIOUS DISEASES (MARK 1:40–45; MATTHEW 8:1–4; LUKE 5:12–16; 17:12–19)**
   - What did Jesus do to help sick people like the man with leprosy and the man who couldn't walk?

3. **JESUS' MESSIANIC POWER OVER COMMON DISEASES (MATTHEW 8:16; MARK 1:32–34; LUKE 4:40)**
   - What did Jesus' healing power show about who He is?

☐ **CONCLUDE** this week's lesson with the spotlight on the gospel and tie it into the central truth and the lesson you just taught.

☐ **PRAY** for the children hearing this lesson that they would be saved and follow the LORD.