

UNIT 22 | SESSION 4

# HEALINGS IN GALILEE

MARK 1; LUKE 4-5



**KEY PASSAGE:** Daniel 4:3

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did Jesus perform miracles? Jesus performed miracles to glorify God, to show He is the Son of God, and to care for people.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus was willing to heal the man's skin and make him clean. Jesus is also willing save those who humble themselves, repent of their sin, and trust in Him.

**STORY POINT:** Jesus showed His care for people by healing them.



## PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

### LEADER Bible Study

The healings Jesus performed from village to village weren't like the spectacles put on by others who claimed to have divine power. Jesus didn't come to seek applause of people looking for a show; He drew near to those experiencing affliction because of His great love for them and His Father. Jesus extended compassionate care to all who recognized their need for a Savior and trusted in Him for spiritual healing and wholeness.

In today's passage, Jesus revealed His purpose for preaching: to proclaim the good news of His Father's kingdom. This kingdom wasn't what the people expected—it wasn't for the most fortunate, educated, or impressive. Jesus' heart was for all who found themselves in need of His healing, all who trusted in Him as their great Healer.

Jesus' healing of the man with leprosy is one of the greatest examples of love and compassion found in Scripture. Luke 5:12 tells us his leprosy had spread all over his body, an advanced case leaving him isolated from community and desperate enough to fall facedown before the Lord. In an act of great faith, the man trusted in Jesus' power to heal, knowing that His willingness to save him was all he would need.

Mark 1:41 says that compassion moved Jesus closer to the man in need. Jesus did more than speak healing words over him; Jesus reached out, touched him, and immediately healed him! In a society that often shunned lepers, Jesus offered His touch as a means of closeness and compassion. With His words, Jesus gave him next steps for cleansing and reentering his community.

The man was healed from leprosy and couldn't keep the good news of Jesus to himself. In desperation, he turned to Jesus by faith, experiencing the Savior's true healing. He believed in Jesus' ability, power, and authority to heal. We can still approach Jesus by faith with our requests, trusting that He can accomplish whatever He wills.

To listen to Jesus and be healed was the reason the crowds gathered all those centuries ago. May the boys and girls who learn from you this week hear Jesus' words of life and experience the healing and wholeness that only He provides.



Scan the QR code to listen to The Gospel Project for Kids Weekly Leader Training Podcast.



#### PREPARE

##### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



#### WELCOME

##### 10–15 MINUTES

Greet kids and open the session



#### LEARN

##### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach kids the story of the gospel



#### LOVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to love the God of the gospel



#### LIVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live out the mission of the gospel



## PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



### WELCOME

#### Activity Page

- "Connect the Dots" activity page

#### Session Starter (Option 1)

- chairs



### LOVE

#### Review & Bible Skills

- Small Group Timeline and Map Set (optional)



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Session

- countdown video
- Story Point Poster

#### Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

#### Review the Timeline

- Giant Timeline

#### Tell the Bible Story

- "Healings in Galilee" video
- Bible Story Picture Poster

#### Questions from Kids

- "Unit 22, Session 4" Questions from Kids video

#### Missions Moment

- "Come!" video
- "South America Map" printable

#### Key Passage Activity

- Key Passage Poster
- small object or prize
- "From Generation to Generation (Daniel 4:3)" song
- worship song of your choice (optional)



### LIVE

#### Activity Choice (Option 1)

- paper plates, 1 per 2 kids

#### Activity Choice (Option 2)

- "Miracle Mix-Up" printable

#### Reflection and Prayer

- Bible story coloring page



## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

| **SAY** “ Tell me about the best movie you’ve ever seen. Did you tell all your friends about it? ”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete the “Connect the Dots” activity page.

| **SAY** “ Nice work connecting the dots to complete the story picture! In today’s story, we’ll learn that Jesus showed compassion for others by healing a man with a skin disease. ”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### OPTION 1: CHAIR LUNGE

Set up a circle of chairs facing inward. You need one chair per kid playing. Guide the kids to sit in the chairs and then select one volunteer to stand in the middle. Explain that when you say *Lunge*, the kid in the middle will attempt to sit down in the empty chair. Instruct everyone else to keep their classmate from sitting down. This may include sliding from chair to chair to keep him or her from whichever chair is then empty. Continue playing until the kid in the middle has successfully secured a chair.

| **SAY** “ It can feel frustrating when others don’t include us. Today we are going to read about a man who was excluded from people because he was sick. Let’s see how **JESUS SHOWED HIS CARE FOR PEOPLE BY HEALING THEM.** ”

#### OPTION 2: GROUP UP



Tell the kids to spread out around the room. When you say *Go* instruct the kids to move quickly around the room and form groups of three. The last kids to form their group of three are out. If there is a group of less than three, than that group is out. The remaining groups will advance to another round. Explain that the kids cannot form the same group of three each round. As more kids sit down, spread the remaining few out farther from each other. This will avoid groups forming too quickly. Continue playing until one group is left standing. Play several rounds, changing the numbers or groups requirements.

| **SAY** “ How did it feel when you didn’t make it into a group? [Allow responses.] Today we will read about a man who had been excluded by others. Let’s learn how **JESUS SHOWED HIS CARE FOR PEOPLE BY HEALING THEM.** ”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## INTRODUCE the Bible Story

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### 1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

**SAY** “ Hi, kids! My name is [your name], and I’m glad you could join me today! Who can remind me what we talked about last week? [Allow responses.] By healing those possessed by unclean spirits, as well as sick people, Jesus showed that His authority and power is from God. Today’s story comes from the Gospels of Mark and Luke. If you brought your Bible with you, go ahead and turn there now [Distribute a Bible to any kid who needs one.] As Jesus continued to travel to other towns sharing about God’s kingdom, He showed compassion by healing people who were hurting. Let’s pray together before we open God’s Word. ‘God, thank You for showing Your love for us through Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. Please focus our minds as we prepare to read from Your Word today. Amen.’ ”

### 2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

**SAY** “ Over the last few weeks, we have learned more about Jesus through our big picture question. Let’s repeat the big picture question aloud together. **Why did Jesus perform miracles?** Who knows the answer? [Allow responses.] **Jesus performed miracles to glorify God, to show He is the Son of God, and to care for people.**

Only God could perform the amazing miracles that Jesus did during His ministry. Through Jesus’ compassion for the hurting, He was demonstrating God’s love for people. Jesus is God’s Son, the second person of the Trinity, who came to save God’s people from sin. Today, we will learn that Jesus showed compassion for people by healing them. ”

### 3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

**SAY** “ Jesus showed that He was ushering in God’s kingdom as He cast out unclean spirits and healed people. Jesus’ teaching was unlike any other teacher. He taught with authority and power from God. At Jesus’ command, the official’s son was healed, the unclean spirit was forced to leave, and Simon’s mother-in-law was made well. Many people came to Jesus to be healed as news about His power continued to spread. Today, we will learn how Jesus showed compassion as He healed people who were sick and hurting. **JESUS SHOWED HIS CARE FOR PEOPLE BY HEALING THEM.** ”



## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Mark 1; Luke 4–5. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “Healings in Galilee.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

#### HEALINGS IN GALILEE

“After **Jesus** healed many people in Capernaum, He **woke up very early the next morning** while it was still dark. **He found a quiet place to pray to God His Father. His disciples searched for Jesus. When they finally found Him, they said, “Everyone is looking for You!”** The people did not want Jesus to leave.

**But Jesus said, “Let’s go on to other villages so that I can share the good news about the kingdom of God there, too. This is why I have come.”**

Jesus went throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out unclean spirits. **Then a man with a skin disease called leprosy came to Him. The man fell on his knees before Jesus and begged Him, saying, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.”**

Jesus was filled with compassion. **He reached out His hand and touched the man, saying, “I am willing. Be made clean.”** Immediately, the man’s skin was healed.

Jesus warned the man not to tell anyone about what had happened. **Jesus said, “Don’t say anything to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest and make an offering to God.”** But the man couldn’t keep the good news to himself. He told so many people what had happened that Jesus could not enter any town without crowds of people coming to Him.

**Jesus stayed in deserted places, and people came from all over Galilee to hear Him preach and to be healed. But Jesus often left the crowds so He could pray to God.**

Christ Connection: Jesus obeyed God, His heavenly Father, His entire life and followed His plan. It was God the Father’s plan that Jesus would die on a cross for our sins and rise again so that those who believe in Him could have eternal life. ”

### 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** “After healing many people, Jesus wanted time alone to talk to His Father through prayer. What did Jesus say when His disciples told Him that everyone was looking for Him? [Allow responses.] Jesus came to share the good news about God’s kingdom with many people. Eventually, Jesus would tell His followers to share the gospel with everyone!

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**The crowds followed:** Have the kids crowd together. As you read, walk around and instruct them to follow you just as the large crowds followed Jesus.

**Careful listening:** Challenge the kids to listen closely to the story. Each time they hear Jesus mentioned, lead them in signing a J in American Sign Language (check online for a diagram or video of the sign).



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Because leprosy was a highly contagious disease, lepers were cast out of society and forced to live alone, or in groups with other lepers. When Jesus saw the leper, He had compassion for him. Jesus sees us in our sin and has compassion over us, too. Jesus wants us to call out to Him for help like the leper did. By healing the man with leprosy, Jesus demonstrated that He had come for people who needed help. Why do you think Jesus told the man not to say anything to anyone? **[Allow responses.]** The leper had good news, and he wanted to share it with others! But there were people who did not like Jesus and wanted to harm Him. Jesus knew that He had come to die, but the time had not yet come.

**JESUS SHOWED HIS CARE FOR PEOPLE BY HEALING THEM.** Jesus was willing to heal the man's skin and make him clean. Jesus is also willing to save those who humble themselves, repent of their sin, and trust in Him. ”

### 3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

**SAY** “ The leper was sick physically, but all people are spiritually sick. Our sin has separated us from God. But God, because of His love for us, sent Jesus to die on the cross for our sin. Jesus saves all those who repent of their sin and trust in Him. To learn more about what it means to trust your life to Jesus, you can talk to one of your parents or a church leader. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

### 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 22, Session 4” Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why do you have to bow your head, fold your hands, and close your eyes to pray? Why can't you just talk to God regularly?
2. Why is it important to pray to God?



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

**5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)**

Show the “Come!” video. Show the country of Argentina on the “South America Map” printable. Point out that it is the second largest country in South America, after Brazil, and the eighth largest country in the world.

**SAY** “Chris and Rhonda Richard are missionaries in Buenos Aires, Argentina. They began an English club to help people learn English so they could help translate for short-term volunteer teams who came to Buenos Aires. Chris and Rhonda used ‘Three Circles,’ a tool often used by American churches to tell people about Jesus, in the club lessons.”

Soon more people started coming to the club meetings, including people who did not know about Jesus. The Richards invited everyone into their home, offering snacks and friendship to the people. Many of the club members are learning about Jesus, and have started coming to a Bible study that also meets in the Richards’ home. The Richards pray for the Bible study to continue growing so it possibly can become a church. Chris is training a person he met through the English club to become a pastor.

Pray that the people in this Bible study group will learn more about Jesus and want to tell the people they know about Him. Pray for the young man who feels like God is leading him to become a pastor. Thank God for opportunities like an English club to help more people learn about Him.

**6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)**

Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Daniel 4:3 together.

**SAY** “Jesus had the power to heal the leper, and He has the power to heal us, too! His authority lasts for all generations. Let’s review our key passage together.”

Choose one volunteer to close his or her eyes. Allow the other kids to watch you hide a small object or prize somewhere around the classroom. Once hidden, instruct the kids to recite the key passage while their classmate looks for the object. As he or she gets close to the object, instruct the class to say the passage louder. If they move farther away, instruct the class to get softer. Play several rounds, allowing different kids to take turns hiding the item and finding it.

Lead kids to sing “From Generation to Generation (Daniel 4:3).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

**7 PRAY (2 minutes)**

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

**SAY** “God, thank You for having compassion for us in our sin. Please give us courage to share with others the news about Your amazing power to heal and save. Amen.”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## LOVE God by Applying the Story

### 1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the New Testament Israel Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Luke 5. Explain that one of the themes the Gospel of Luke focuses on is that Jesus came for all people. During Jesus' time on earth, touching a leper would make a person unclean. But Jesus displayed His authority as the one who heals the unclean.

Consider pointing out the location of Galilee [C5] on the New Testament Israel Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Luke 5:12-13 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

**SAY** “ Think about how it feels when you receive something you asked for, like a gift. When the leper saw Jesus, he fell down at Jesus' feet. The leper's words revealed that He trusted Jesus could make Him well if He chose to. Jesus desires to save those who cry out and trust in Him. The Gospel of Mark reminds us that Jesus did not come for the righteous, but for sinners (Mark 2:17). We are all sinful and need saving. Similar to how the leper was healed from his skin disease when he cried out to the Savior, Jesus will save us from our sin and welcome us into God's kingdom when we cry out to Him for salvation. ”

### 2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

**SAY** “ Why was Jesus not made unclean by touching the leper? ”

Explain that Jesus was demonstrating that He is not only human, He is God. Jesus was not made unclean by the leper's touch; the leper was made clean by Jesus' touch. Jesus came to heal us from our spiritual uncleanness. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read 1 John 1:9.)

**SAY** “ Why did Jesus instruct the leper to go to the priest? ”

Share that according to the Law, lepers who had been healed needed to present themselves to the priest to be welcomed back into the Jewish community. Remind kids that Jesus is the High Priest who cleanses believers from sin and welcomes them into God's family! (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Hebrews 4:14-15.)

**SAY** “ How can knowing that Jesus cares about us help us when we feel alone? ”

Challenge kids to think about how it feels to know that Jesus cares for us all the time. Share that when we trust in Jesus we are never alone. He promises that His Spirit is always with those who believe in Him. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read John 14:16-17.)





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE the Mission

#### 1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

##### OPTION 1: PLATE PAIRS

Split the kids into pairs. Provide each pair with a paper plate and a marker. Each team will choose a partner to sit and a partner to stand. The partner sitting will hold the marker in one hand and hold the plate on their head with the other hand. Explain that you will give the teams instructions to draw a picture, such as a dog or a house, on the top of the plate. However, the partner who is standing must guide his or her partner's hand with the marker. Invite the kids to look at the plate when they are finished.

**SAY** “ Was it hard to let your partner help you draw? [Allow responses.] Helping our neighbor shows that we care about them. **JESUS SHOWED HIS CARE FOR PEOPLE BY HEALING THEM.** He offers believers healing from sin when they trust in Him. ”

##### OPTION 2: MIRACLE MIX-UP

Prior to the session, print two copies of the “Miracle Mix-Up” printable and cut them apart. Consider doing a brief review of the Unit 21 and 22 Bible stories. Create two teams. Lead the teams to line up on one side of the room. Place each team's set of cards on the opposite side of the room. Explain that they will race relay-style to their team's cards until their team has collected all of them. At that point, their team will work together to put the miracles in order based on when Jesus performed them. The first team to get them in order correctly wins.

**SAY** “ Over the past few weeks, we have learned about so many amazing miracles Jesus performed! Through these miracles, Jesus showed His care for people, but more importantly, He showed that He is the Son of God. ”

#### 2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.