



PRAY *Have a parent open up this lesson in prayer*

“Dear God, bless us in our time of Family Worship! Help us to understand the Bible more so that we can love You. Amen.”

OPENING ACTIVITY

Simon Says—Instruct kids to stand on one side of the room. Stand opposite them and instruct them to mimic you actions/obey your commands. The kids are supposed to mimic your actions only if you say the words “simon says” before your command. Sprinkle in spoken commands while telling the kids to do something different than what you are doing.

Say: It was a little hard to follow both my actions and my words wasn't it? You had to listen carefully and watch closely. Today we will learn about some things Jesus did that cause people to listen carefully to His words and watch closely His actions.

Say: To help us listen careful, we have a Big Picture Question: What makes people special?

Say: People are special because we are made in God's image, male and female, to know Him. Jesus' ministry was to forgive our sins so that we could come to know the truth about who God is. Let's learn more.

READ as a family read the Bible Story below, or read from the portion of Scripture indicated. Take turns among those who can read,

The BIBLE Story

Jesus' Early Miracles

Mark 1

Jesus traveled to Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm) with His disciples Simon, Andrew, James, and John. He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath and began to teach. The people there were very surprised. Jesus' teaching was not like the scribes' teaching. He spoke with authority.

Just then, a man with an unclean spirit shouted, "What do You have to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?

Have You come to destroy us?

I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus commanded the spirit to be quiet and come out of the man. The spirit yelled again and then came out.

Everyone was amazed! "Who is this Jesus?" they asked. "He teaches with authority, and the unclean spirits obey Him!" News about Jesus spread quickly throughout all of Galilee.



Next, Jesus and His disciples went to Simon and Andrew's house. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her, took her hand, and healed her. She got up and began to serve them. That evening, large crowds of people came to the house with others who were sick or bothered by evil spirits, and Jesus healed them.

Early the next morning, Jesus went out by Himself to pray. Simon and the other disciples found Him and said, "Everyone is looking for You."

Jesus said, "Let's go on to the nearby villages so I can preach there too. This is why I have come."

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee. He preached and drove out demons. A man with a skin disease came to Jesus. He got on his knees and begged: "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Jesus was willing, and He healed the man.

Christ Connection: Jesus' miracles proved that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. They strengthened people's faith and met their needs. Through Jesus, God did what is impossible for us to do on our own. He provided forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Change pace:**
Draw attention to dialogue by slowing your pace slightly when speaking dialogue.
- **Pause for effect:**
Use pauses and silence between paragraphs to capture kids' attention.

Take to Heart

As a family, take time to memorize the Key Bible Passage over the next several weeks! Take it to heart and notice how God's Word becomes alive in you!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

— John 3:16

LEARN *as you read through the lesson, have kids each read a question and the answers. Let's learn about God's Word together!*

Say: After sin entered the world, God could have said "too bad, you had your chance." It would have been fair for Him to say that. Instead, God had a plan to defeat sin and death forever. Jesus is that Saviour. Jesus' ministry of teaching and healing is coming into full swing and it is proof that Jesus has the power to save us from sin.

Ask: In today's story, where was the synagogue that Jesus taught in?

Say: The synagogue was in Capernaum. Synagogues are important places because they are where people would go to learn about God. Where are some of the places you learn about God? (*school, church, from mom and dad*)



Ask: What are some of the amazing miracles that Jesus did in today's story? Why is that so important?

Say: Jesus healed someone with an evil spirit AND he healed someone with leprosy. These miracles are important because Jesus saw the pain and suffering of people around Him, and He worked to help them. He did not say "too bad, so sad." But He did something about it. Even though Jesus's miracles are pretty amazing, Jesus wanted to move on. He specifically said that He came to preach.

Ask: Why was Jesus' miracles more important than His miracles?

Say: Jesus' miracles brought a physical healing. But everyone has a spiritual healing that they need as well. When we focus only on the miracles, it can be easy to focus only on what God can do for us. But Jesus' message wasn't about what He can do for us physically. His message was a message of repenting from sin, loving God and about experiencing Jesus' power to heal us spiritually.

Say: We don't always do a good job loving God or each other. That is because of the sin that is in our hearts. Jesus loves us, and He is able to heal and restore, but he always wants us to love and obey God. The most important healing is not physical, but spiritual. Jesus heals us from the damage caused by sin.

PRACTICE YOUR FAITH

Pray a prayer of repentance.

Say: *We are all born sinful. We cannot save ourselves from sin.*

Thankfully, God's perfect plan was to send Jesus to forgive our sins. We receive this forgiveness when we repent and believe that Jesus is the only one who can save us.

As a family, pray together to have your sins forgiven. But also pray that your faith may be strengthened as Jesus heals you spiritually.

Spread the News:

Jesus commands us to spread the news of repentance and the forgiveness of sins. It can be hard to share this news with our friends. Use the outline below to practice telling your family members about Jesus.

THE GOSPEL

GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.

	<p>GOD RULES. Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.</p> <hr/>
	<p>WE SINNED. Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.</p> <hr/>
	<p>GOD PROVIDED. Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.</p> <hr/>
	<p>JESUS GIVES. Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.</p> <hr/>
	<p>WE RESPOND. Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.</p>