



Date: _____
Series: Meet the God/Man, Jesus
Winter Year 2, Lesson 34

Jesus – Our Healer

Take Home Point: *Jesus is our body and soul repairman. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Mark 2:1-12, Jesus heals the paralytic.

Key Verse: Mark 10:27b, "...Everything is possible for God."

We will help kids know:

- The Bible event of Jesus healing the paralytic brought to Jesus by his friends.
- Even greater than Jesus' power to heal is his power to forgive.




We will help kids feel:

- Empathy for those having disabilities.
- Remorse for their own sin and a need to be healed with God's forgiveness.

We will help kids do:

- Identify those areas in their lives that seem impossible for them but possible with Jesus.
- Identify physical ailments in their lives that would need Jesus as healer.
- Identify spiritual ailments (sins) in their lives that need healing.
- Identify spiritual or physical healing needs in others for whom they can pray.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3-4	Kids have to work together as a team to do a seemingly impossible task.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> masking tape or two pieces of yarn piece of paper with: "Everything is possible for God" written on it
Large Group 	4 9-11 11-12 13-15	Overview "Meet the God/Man" Game Show —Contestants are asked questions to turn over today's descriptor of the "God/Man." Puppet Presentation: "Jesus—Our Healer" Gordy brings out a welcome mat. Mr. King notes that Jesus heals people in their bodies as well as healing their souls through forgiveness of sins. Drama Sketch: "Jesus – the Body and Soul Repairman" – a narrator reads the Bible event from Matthew 2:1-12 while dialoging with a roof repairman.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gordy contraption used for bingo calling, which mixes the balls together and releases a ball at a time. Check out ebay for greatly reduced prices. <i>(Option: Put all ping-pong balls in a container and pull them out by hand)</i> game show set <i>(see Lesson 33)</i> sport coat large placards with letters (could be pieces of construction paper with bold lettering) game board for letters to be attached to <i>(Option: foam core or poster board)</i> bell, horn, or buzzer (2-4) welcome mat costume for a roof repairman (jeans, work shirt, tool belt or period costume) small stepladder several ceiling tiles moved tape measure can of silly string
Small Group Application 	5-8	While the children make a paper prayer mat to remind them of the Bible event, they discuss and pray about things in our bodies that need repair and also things in our spirit that need repair.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> copies of the cutout sheet titled "Jesus—Our Healer" on various colors of paper <i>(p. 16)</i> scissors Bible for each child to read

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Today's lesson introduces Jesus as our Healer. Typically, the warm-up time is very clear in presenting the theme for the day. Today and throughout this series, however, the warm-up must be much more subtle in stating the day's theme. The reason for this is that the large group presentation will be in a game show format. Contestants will be trying to guess the theme of the day. Therefore, today we do not want to blatantly mention beforehand that Jesus is our Healer. Even if this is not clearly spoken, the kids will be involved in a warm-up activity related to the topic.

Supplies needed: masking tape or two pieces of yarn, a piece of paper with: "Everything is possible for God" written on it.

Using masking tape or yarn, make two lines in your area anywhere from 10-20 ft. apart. Without kids seeing the message, crumple the piece of paper and toss it behind one line. Have kids stand behind the other line. The goal is for them to figure out a way to retrieve this crumpled piece of paper behind the other line and bring it back behind their line.

Read the following directions:

You are to work together as a team. All of you will begin behind this line. Your goal will be to get this piece of crumpled paper from behind the other line all the way back behind your line. When you complete your mission, we will read the message on the paper.

To do this, there are special challenges you will face. Whoever picks up the piece of paper must indicate that, suddenly, their arms and legs won't work. They won't be able to walk, jump, crawl, or scoot. All they can do is hang on to the paper. They can't even drop the paper or throw it. And, one of you, or two, or even three of you can't carry him or her.

Now, how will you get the paper back behind your line? Talk about it as a group and if you want, I will read the directions again.

The trick to the challenge is that it was never said that more than three of the children couldn't carry the person holding the crumpled paper. Therefore, the answer is for all the kids to help carry the paralyzed child with the crumpled paper back over their line.

After three minutes, the game is over. If kids did not achieve success, tell them you will give them a hint and another chance right after you finish discussing these questions. If they did achieve success, still discuss these questions.

Name something that you once tried very hard to do, but you just couldn't do it because it seemed impossible.

After each child has shared, ask if anyone can help with the task that seemed impossible. After discussing proceed.

If they did not achieve success in the activity, tell them this:

Here is a hint: I said that one, two or three people couldn't help the paralyzed person with the crumpled paper over. But did I say anything about more than three?

The kids will quickly figure out the solution and bring back their paper.

After the paper has been retrieved, open and read Mark 10:27b:

"Everything is possible for God."

If everything is possible for God to do, what do you think are the hardest things for him to do?

After the kids have discussed, conclude with:

Today we will find out something that was possible for God to do, but was so hard that it cost him everything he had.

Large Group: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Overview

"Meet the God/Man" Game Show—Contestants are asked questions to turn over today's descriptor of the "God/Man."

Puppet Presentation: "Jesus—Our Healer"—Gordy brings out a welcome mat. Mr. King notes that Jesus heals people in their bodies as well as healing their souls through forgiveness of sins.

Drama Sketch: "Jesus – the Body and Soul Repairman" – a narrator reads the Bible event from Matthew 2:1-12 while dialoging with a roof repairman.

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Have kids refer to Mark 2:1-12 in their Bibles.

What was wrong with the man who was brought to Jesus? (Mark 2:3. *He was paralyzed. He couldn't move or walk.*)

How did he get to see Jesus? (Mark 2:4. *Four others made an opening in the roof and lowered him into the crowded room with Jesus.*)

What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man before he made him walk? (Mark 2:5. *"Your sins are forgiven."*)

Why was it surprising that Jesus announced the man's sins were forgiven? (Mark 2:6-7. *Only God can forgive sins. Also, Jesus first talked about forgiving sins rather than healing him so he could walk.*)

What did Jesus do to prove to the religious leaders that he had the power to forgive sins? (Mark 2:10-12. *He healed the paralyzed man so he could walk.*)

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

What did it take for Jesus to forgive the man's sins as well as the sins of the whole world? (*His death on the cross.*)

Which do you think is harder, healing someone's body or dying to forgive his or her sins?

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Supplies needed: copies of the cutout sheet titled “Jesus—Our Healer” on various colors of paper, scissors

While the children make a paper prayer mat to remind them of the Bible event, talk about things in our bodies that need repair and also things in our spirit that need repair. The finished product will be a woven prayer rug reminding kids of the empty mat after Jesus healed the paralytic.

Directions for making the woven prayer mat:

Hand kids the cutout sheets and scissors. Have kids cut paper in half along the line. Then folding the right half of the paper at the dotted line, have kids cut along the four lines. Make sure to cut beginning at the fold. This half of the sheet will have 5 slits into which the other slips of paper can be woven.

Cut out the five paper strips from the other half of paper (each of these strips having a title and a topic that will be discussed).

After you discuss each topic, say a brief prayer about what you have discussed. Then, weave that strip into the other paper with slits. Five times throughout the activity there will be prayers. You might rotate the prayer privilege among the children or have more than one pray each time.

Discussion:

1. Body Repairman—prayers for my healing.

Is there anything about your body now that needs healing? What can we pray for?

Jesus is our body repairman. Can anyone share a time when you prayed for healing and God answered you?

Was there ever a time that you prayed and God didn't seem to answer? *(Even if God answers, “no” or “not yet” to our prayers he still wants us to trust him as the body repairman.)*

Have kids weave that strip into the mat. Briefly pray for the needs that were mentioned in discussion.

2. Body Repairman—Prayers for others' healing.

If you were paralyzed, what would you miss most about not being able to walk?

Do you know someone who is paralyzed or is very, very sick?

Can someone's faith help another person become well? *(Yes, see Mark 2:5. Jesus noticed the faith of the friends who brought the paralytic.)*

Who do you know that needs special healing in their body?

How much of a difference do you think your prayers would make?

Have kids weave that strip into the mat. Pray for the needs mentioned in discussion.

3. Soul Repairman--Prayers for my forgiveness.

Have you ever done anything that was not what God wanted and you felt terrible on the inside? Your soul needs healing; how can it be healed? (*Forgiveness.*)

What did God have to do to heal our souls and give us forgiveness? (*Jesus had to die on the cross.*)

If we trust in Jesus as our Savior, then we can go to him, confess our sins, and know that he forgives us. Jesus heals our soul. Think about something that you have done this last week that is not pleasing to God. Mention it in prayer quietly to God right now. Then, let's pray out loud that God would forgive our sins and heal our souls.

Have kids weave that strip into the mat. Pray for the needs mentioned in discussion.

4. Soul Repairman--Prayers for others' repentance.

Let's pray for others who need God's forgiveness and who may be refusing to believe in Jesus, like the scribes in today's lesson. Do you know anyone who doesn't know Jesus or doesn't trust him for forgiveness? (*Discuss.*)

Let's pray for them at this time.

Have kids weave that strip into the mat. Pray for the needs mentioned in discussion.

5. Everything is possible for God.

Which do you think is harder for Jesus to do? To heal our body or to heal our soul? (*Hint: All Jesus did to heal the paralyzed body was to tell the man to take up his mat and go home, but what did Jesus have to do to forgive the man's sins?*) Right. He had to die on the cross. Because Jesus did this, everything is possible for God.

Each person share one thing you are thankful for that God has made possible for you.

Weave that strip into the mat.

The mat you have made is an empty mat, just like the mat the paralyzed man had. A disease had been lifted from him and he could walk. Also, his sins had been lifted from him and his soul was repaired.

We prayed for many things as we made this mat, so let's call this our prayer mat. It can remind us that **Jesus is our body and soul repairman.*

Closing Prayer:

Thank God that all things are possible for him. Thank him for sending Jesus who gave everything including his life to be our body and soul repairman. Pray for all to have a greater trust in Jesus, and to be such good friends as those in the Bible event who would do whatever possible to help their friend meet Jesus and receive his healing.

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Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

“Meet the God/Man” Game Show

The large group format for the “Meet the God/Man” series is a game show. The large group presenter is the game show host and Gordy is an assistant who ad-libs comments during the game show. Immediately after the game show, Gordy helps introduce the topic discussed that day. He does this with a brief scripted dialog, in which he presents a typical view of a third grade boy.

The more creative the set is for this game show, the more fun it can be for adults and children alike. In advance, gather adults to help with special props or decor. The large group presenter needs to have a bright or colorful sport coat or something to serve as a game show host costume. This will help the kids know when he is functioning as a game show host and when he is presenting the Bible event.

Throughout the series, large placards with letters will be necessary to make the mystery word and provide visual effect for the game. For example, today’s mystery word is “healer.” The God/Man, Jesus, is a “healer.” Six placards with the letters spelling “healer” need to be available. Number the letters like below. As contestants answer questions, then these letters are attached or turned over on the board or the wall. Be creative in your own facility as to how these letters can be posted. Foam core or poster board might be excellent backing.

The game format operates as follows:

The official beginning comes with the kids singing the “God/Man” theme song or a song of your choice that enhances the theme. It will be used throughout the series. To receive your copy of the music, go to www.awaken.nu/music_godman.php. You can download the mp3 file (sample) for free or purchase a CD (includes trax and demo) for \$5.00, plus shipping and handling. Sheet music is \$3.00 plus shipping and handling.

Gordy then introduces the game show host. The game show host welcomes all of the contestants to the game “Who Is the God/Man?” (A game show sign would be helpful.) They would then randomly select contestants from the ping-pong ball container. Two boys and two girls should be selected to represent the team of each gender. Give the children the option of picking someone near them to substitute for them if they do not want to come up and be part of the show. This will compensate for kids who are shy.

The game show is conducted before the Bible event is read. Kids are guessing the answers, but then are better prepared to hear the main points of the Bible reading that is read after the game show.

The game-show host will read a question and the contestants will beep in with a bell, a horn, or a buzzer. Whoever beeps first gets to answer the question. If they beep in

before the question is completely asked, the host will not tell them the rest of the question. If they answer the question correctly, they get a chance to look at one of the letters to be placed on the board. They will have five seconds to guess what the word is that describes who our God/Man is. If they fail to answer the question correctly after beeping in, the other team can answer the question following an additional clue. If that team correctly answers, then they will have five seconds to guess the descriptor for the God/Man. If neither team correctly answers the question, the letter is still revealed for the clue though no one is allowed to guess the word.

Typically, the kids will guess the word before all of the letters are given. Whichever team does this, wins the game. It might be interesting to keep a weekly tally of who is doing the best job. Nonetheless, it is still fun and helpful to complete the clues even after the word has been guessed. The remaining clues are given to Gordy so the questions can quickly be covered.

Clue Sheet
“Meet the God/Man” Game
Mark 2:1-12

H - E - A - L - E - R
2 5 3 6 1 4

These first questions will review what we learned last week.

For letter number six, last week we learned how Jesus called his first four disciples. Can you give me three of those four names?

(Answer: Andrew, Simon-Peter, James, and John)

You win the letter L! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number one, what were the disciples doing when Jesus called them?

(Answer: Fishing)

You win the letter E! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number three, Jesus calls people to follow him today. How does he give us directions?

A. He hides them in breakfast cereal boxes.

B. In the Bible.

C. He speaks to us from heaven in a loud voice.

(Answer: B. In the Bible.)

You win the letter A. You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

The following questions require that you guess what you will learn today and maybe use what you already know about Jesus.

For letter number five, can you tell me the following? What did Jesus have to do so our sins would be forgiven today?

(Answer: Died on the cross.)

You win the letter E! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number four, can you tell me the following? There was a man who could not walk and wanted to see Jesus up close. How did he arrange this? Did he:

A. Shout until Jesus came over to him?

B. Have friends carry him in through the door?

C. Have friends lower him through the roof?

(Answer: C. Have friends lower him through the roof.)

You win the letter R! You have five seconds to guess what the God/Man is.

For letter number two, can you tell me why some people were mad at Jesus when he said he could forgive sins? Was it because:

A. Only God could forgive sins and they did not think he was God?

B. He should wait to forgive sins until he knew for sure the man was sorry?

C. They were still looking for the clues in their breakfast cereal box?

(Answer: A. Only God could forgive sins and they did not think he was God.)

You win the letter H! And the God/Man is...our healer!

Jesus – Our Healer

Puppet Presentation

(Having just finished the game show, Gordy throws over a welcome mat from within his puppet stage.)

Mr. King: Gordy, what are you doing?

Gordy: Well, I'm getting ready for today's Bible event.

Mr. King: With a welcome mat?

Gordy: I thought you might be able to use it.

Mr. King: What would I do with it?

Gordy: Well, didn't they carry a guy in on a welcome mat in today's Bible event? I read ahead to find out that Jesus is the healer!

Mr. King: It is true that Jesus is the healer. It is also true that a man who could not walk was lowered through a roof on a mat, but it was not a welcome mat.

Gordy: Are you sure?

Mr. King: I'm sure.

Gordy: Shucks! I never get anything right. Well, Mr. King, give me back my welcome mat. You won't need it.

Mr. King: Well, maybe we could use it.

Gordy: No, I messed up. It is impossible for me to get anything right.

Mr. King: Gordy, this is just what I need.

Gordy: It is? How's that?

Mr. King: This welcome mat reminds me that in today's Bible event, Jesus heals someone who cannot walk. He then welcomes him into God's kingdom by saying, "Your sins are forgiven." Jesus is our body *and* soul repairman.

Gordy: Wow, I was brilliant and I didn't even know it!

Mr. King: I suppose so, Gordy. Now, why don't you listen while I read today's Bible event? Jesus will heal this person's body so that he could walk when, before, he was unable. But he also will heal the man's soul or spirit by forgiving his sins. He then welcomes him into God's kingdom. Anything is possible with the God/Man, Jesus. Okay, here it is, Mark 2:1-12.

During this time the ceiling repairman comes in and begins to set up his ladder. (See characterization below.)

Jesus—the Body and Soul Repairman

Drama Sketch

The following drama sketch is a dialogue between the narrator, who is reading the Bible event, and a fictitious first century repairman. An interesting costume for this repairman would be for him to wear a period costume with a modern day tool belt. He enters with a ladder, inspects the prearranged damage to the ceiling, and climbs the ladder. The repairman needs to be independent of any handheld script and familiar with the dialogue. He can play off the leading questions from the narrator. His role is to explain some of his eyewitness perspectives on the Bible event and help clarify the reality that the God/Man, Jesus, is a healer who is a body and soul repairman.

Introduction (Mark 2:1-4)

Narrator: Reads Mark 2:1-4 from an easy-reading Bible. During this reading, the roof repairman enters and begins to assess the damage. He makes quite a distraction. Finally, ask him what he is doing.

Repairman: *(Answering from on top of the ladder.)* Who Me? I'm just the roof repairman. I was there at the house you are talking about. There were so many people crowded into the house. People from all around came to see Jesus. We all were wondering who he was. Was he the Messiah? The promised one? And there he was preaching in the house. Then there was a noise on the roof and the roof began to come apart. People were screaming, and the next thing we knew, some others were lowering this paralyzed man down to Jesus.

And now we have this hole in the roof. I'm supposed to fix it. Roofs of this type are usually made with timbers going across one way, sticks going across another way, and straw and mud. I need to replace some straw and sticks, so I brought my can of Instant Roof Repair. Some of you may know it as Straw-In-A-Can. Oh, you don't believe me, do you? Well, here. Take this. *(Sprays some silly string into the audience.)*

Meet the God/Man (Mark 2:5-7)

Narrator: **Calm this interruption down! I need to finish reading.** Read verses 5-7.

Repairman: Talk about calming people down! I sure saw some excited and angry religious leaders. They were mad when they heard Jesus say, "Your sins are forgiven."

Narrator: **Why? Why is this so bad?**

Repairman: Only God can forgive sins. Don't you know your Old Testament? For Jesus to be able to forgive this guy, he was claiming to be God. This insulted the religious leaders.

Narrator: What were you thinking?

Repairman: Well, I wondered if he really could forgive sins. If he could forgive sins, then he could repair souls. As a repairman, I would be pretty impressed with that! That's even repairing something you can't see on the outside. Your soul is inside of you, and we can feel terrible for the sins we have done, but Jesus said he could repair our souls by forgiving sins. I would have even lent him my string in a can if that would help. But I don't think he needed it.

Which Is Easier? (Mark 2:8-9)

Narrator: Read verses 8-9. **Now help me, Mr. Repairman. Jesus asked which is easier—to forgive sins or to make a lame man walk. So which do you think is easier?**

Repairman: You can see a man walking. That is an outward miracle. A forgiven man you cannot see. I think both would be impossible for people to do by themselves. Both are possible for God to do, though. Maybe Jesus isn't interested in determining what is the easiest, but implying that both types of miracles are only possible if God does them.

Meet the Body Repairman (Mark 2:10-11)

Narrator: Read verses 10-11.

Repairman: It was the most amazing thing I ever saw. The paralyzed man got up and just walked away. He even carried his mat. Everyone was talking about it, but it makes me wonder whom Jesus is. Certainly, he is a repairman for the body. He healed that man so he could walk. But, could he also be a repairman for the soul? Could he have the power to forgive sins? If that were so, he truly would be God. But yet, he is only a man, or is he?

Well, I better get back to my roof repair business. Maybe I could go find him and get his mat. I could use it on the backside of this roof and patch it up in a jiffy. I'll see if I can find him. Sorry I interrupted your lesson today. Bye!

Jesus – Our Healer

Puppet Conclusion

Gordy: Hey, Mr. King, maybe this guy could use my welcome mat to help fix the roof. Can I go check?

Mr. King: Sure, Gordy, but first let's close. Will you lead us in prayer?

Gordy: Sure. Dear Jesus, thank you that you are the body *and* soul repairman. Help us to trust you. We all need healing inside of us, in our souls. You do that when you forgive our sins. I'm thankful everything is possible for you. In your name I pray, Amen.

Jesus – Our Healer

(Body and Soul Repairman)

Body Repairman – Prayers for my healing
Body Repairman – Prayers for others healing
Everything is possible for God. (Mark 10:27)
Soul Repairman – Prayers for my forgiveness
Soul Repairman – Prayers for other's repentance
