



Date: _____

Series: Jesus is Our Helper
Winter Year 1, Lesson 41

Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

Bible Event: Luke 17:11-19

Take Home Point: *JESUS HELPS US – *Thank Jesus.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: Jesus came to earth to help us.

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn the Bible event of Jesus healing the ten lepers. Though Jesus helped them all, only one returned to give thanks. Children will learn, as well, that Jesus helps them and they could be like the one returning to give thanks, as opposed to the nine who forgot to thank Jesus. Kids will take home the point:
* **JESUS HELPS US – *Thank Jesus.***
- In response to Jesus' love, kids will give him their thanks as they offer their songs and worship. Children will also respond in prayer, especially as they give thanks for specific items God has given them.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Cherub Wings: *Gratitude Attitude*, Sunny Side Up Entertainment.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: A Visit from a Dramatized Character

A costumed adult presents the Bible event by telling it from a first person point of view. This person should be introduced by asking children to put on their imagination hats so they imagine that this really is the person in the Bible event.

The Leper Who Returned to Give Thanks

An actor wearing ragged clothes will give a dramatic presentation as the thankful leper whom Jesus healed. Use face makeup available at novelty stores to create scars or sores. (Please note these scars and soars will need to be quickly removed in the middle of this storytelling.) Another simple alternative is to use red icing.

Presenter: This is the Bible and it is God's Word. It tells about how God loved us and sent his own son, Jesus. Let me open it to see what we will discover today. Oh my, this about a very sick person called a leper. He is the leper who returned to give thanks. Shall we get ready to meet him? Let's all put on our imagination hats. . (Put on your imagination hat and encourage the kids to so, also.) Somebody is going to come in all dressed up with make-up on his face and he's going to look a little scary. Don't worry, though. He's pretending to be a man who had a terrible disease called leprosy. This man met Jesus and Jesus did something very wonderful for him. I wonder if you will discover what it is! Now let's meet this man.

Leper: (Enters.) I have a disease called leprosy. It makes me sick and I have these sores all over my body. Other people don't want to be around me, and I'm not even allowed to go to church anymore because I have leprosy!

Where I lived there were ten of us who had leprosy. Can you count to ten? (Count with the children: One, two, three...) We were very sick. Our sores hurt all the time and we knew we could never get better. What is worse is that people thought we must have done something very bad to have such a terrible disease. They thought that God was punishing us, but that wasn't the case. We just happened to have a very bad disease.

The people wouldn't let us live in the village. We had to stay away from people. If anyone came near, we had to shout, "Unclean! Unclean!" to warn them that we had leprosy and that they should stay away.

Pretend that you are me and had to say what I said. Shout, "Unclean." "Unclean."

We just didn't have much hope that we could ever have a happy life. One day Jesus came walking by. The crowds were following him. This was the one we had heard about. This was the one who was able to do miracles and help people. He could heal the blind and make the deaf hear. People said he was God's son – the one he had promised to send. Maybe, we thought, he could help us.

We weren't allowed to go near the crowd so we stood far back and shouted, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" That meant, "Please help us." Pretend with me and yell, "Please help us." "Please help us."

Jesus looked at us with a smile. We could see that he loved us. He said, "Go to the church and see a priest."

Why would he tell us that? We had a rule that if we were ever healed, it would be the priest who would inspect us. If we were healed, he would tell us that we were no longer unclean. Then we could live in the village and be with other people.

We were excited. Maybe we would be healed! We ran as fast as we could off to the priest. (Runs in place. Goes behind a curtain/divider and uses a baby wipe to quickly remove make-up. Then reenters.)

On my way I realized something was happening to my body. My sores were going away! It was like they were melting right off of my skin. The pain disappeared! I looked at my arms and my legs. I touched my face and my chest. I was healed! There were no more sores!

We couldn't believe it! I couldn't wait to see the priest and show him so we would be permitted to go back into our village and join our families. It was the happiest day of my life!

But wait! I stopped. The others kept running. I realized who had healed me. I thought I must go back and find the Master. Quickly I ran back. A crowd of people was around him but I charged right through. I fell at his feet and cried because I was so happy.

"Thank you, thank you, thank you!" I said. I was so happy to be healed.

But Jesus asked me, "Where are the other nine? Weren't ten healed? Was there only one who would come back to praise God?"

Everyone looked around. There was none other but me.

Then Jesus reached down and picked me up. He said, "Rise! You can go on your way. Your faith has made you well."

As I left that day, I knew for sure that God had healed me. I knew that Jesus was the promised one sent from God and that he helped me. Now every day, no matter where I go or what I do, I always stop to thank him. And I wonder what happened to my other nine friends who never did.

Presenter: (Returns to wrap up with take home point.) **Boys and girls we can be thankful, too. Maybe Jesus did not take away the sores of leprosy from us, but he did take away our sin. Remember he died on the cross to take the punishment of all our sin and is alive right now so he can be with us wherever we are. So we can remember: *JESUS HELPS US – *Thank Jesus.***

Let's pray. (Children repeat each phrase.)

Dear God, (repeat)

Thank you for being here. (repeat)

Thank you for sending Jesus. (repeat)

Jesus helps us. (repeat)

So we thank him. (repeat)

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! (repeat)

Amen. (repeat)



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Give students nine raisins and one grape. (The raisins will remind them of wrinkled, unhappy, unthankful faces.) 9 Have the children count the snacks.

Drama Zone: Provide small round stickers for children to draw faces on. Have them draw nine sad or plain faces and one happy face. Then let them put the ten stickers on their fingers and ‘act’ out the story.

Messy Zone: Play dough

Craft Zone: Provide a large white sheet of butcher paper with crayons and markers. Label the paper “Thank Jesus.” Have children draw or write what they are thankful for.

Play Zone: Provide animal puppets. Have children act out scenes where the animals are hurt and get healed. Have one come back to say thank you.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books

Music Zone: *Thank you, Lord, for Making Me, Me* or your choice of music.

Coloring Zone: Color page with markers and crayons.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba Gets Rid of the Grumpies

Bubba enters and is greeted by the presenter with comments like "Isn't it a wonderful day." Bubba disagrees. He's pouting because he doesn't have any toys. The presenter can hardly believe it and asks him further questions.

Bubba admits that he does have some toys it's just that they aren't new toys. He wants new toys and he's not going to be happy until he has new toys. The presenter offers to tell Bubba the following story.

"Greta Grump or Barry Thankful"

This is a story of two little children, one name Greta and one named Barry. Greta had a birthday. On her birthday she got this. (Holds up an imaginary wrapped box and "unwraps" it as the story is told.)

She unwrapped the present and inside was a...Barbie doll! It was beautiful. She hugged it and loved it. But then she stopped and threw it down. She said, "Is that all there is?" Then she received another present.

She unwrapped the second present and looked inside. It was a new dress! She hugged it and admired it. But then she stopped and threw it down. She said, "Is that all there is?" Then she received another present.

She unwrapped the third present and looked inside. It was a...(Allows the children to guess what is in the box. Uses one of their suggestions.)

Each time Greta received a gift she is happy in the beginning. But then she stops, throws down the gift, and says, "Is that all there is?"

This routine continues until the presenter feels like it has gone on long enough. At that point the presenter continues with the following.

Do you think Greta is very happy even though she has all of these presents? No, I don't think so either. What is her problem? She's not thankful. That's why her last name is Grump. She is Greta Grump.

Let me tell you another story about a boy named Barry. Barry also had a birthday. His family didn't have very much money. When he received a present it was wrapped in simple paper and not very fancy at all.

When he opened his present, he looked inside and there was...a new writing pad for school. Many kids wouldn't be very excited about getting a school supply for their birthday, but not Barry. He said, "This is wonderful!" And he was thankful to have it. As a matter of fact, he took it out right away and began to write and draw. He gave his mom and dad a big hug because he was very happy.

Maybe that's why Barry's last name is Thankful. He is Barry Thankful.

Which of these two children would you like to be? Greta Grump or Barry Thankful? I would want to be Barry Thankful too!

With all the presents Greta Grump had, she still wasn't happy because she wasn't thankful. Even if you just had a few things like Barry, you would be happy because he's very thankful.

This is just what happened when Jesus healed the leper in today's Bible event. Though Jesus healed nine other lepers, they didn't remember to say thank you to God. One leper remembered, though. He came back and thanked Jesus.

Which one would you want to be like? I'd like to be like the thankful one. I want to remember **JESUS HELPS US – Thank Jesus*. Let's never forget how Jesus has helped us the most. Remember he gave his life for us. He died on the cross to take away our sin and fill us with his love. That's as important as healing a man with leprosy. So, let's remember: **JESUS HELPS US – Thank Jesus*

The presenter reminds Bubba of the take home point, and Bubba changes his heart to become more thankful.

Close with children praying for things they are thankful for.

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire Prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart.)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: *Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.*

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- video: *Gratitude Attitude*, produced by Cherub Wings, Episode 2—order from: http://product.ebay.com/Cherub-Wings-2-Gratitude-Attitude_UPC_727985007625_W0QQfvcsZ1177QQsoprZ47849144 or from: http://www.visionvideo.com/111-1111111-1111111_3924.vhtml
- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- ragged clothes
- face make up... or red icing
- baby wipes

Action Zones:

Snack:

- raisins and grapes

Craft:

- large white sheet of butcher paper
- crayons and markers
- label – “Thank Jesus”

Play:

- animal puppets

Messy:

- play dough

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books

Music:

- your choice of music

Drama:

- small round stickers
- markers

Coloring:

- coloring page
- markers and crayons

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books