



Date: _____
Series: A Whole New You
Fall Year 1, Lesson 25

New Hands

Take Home Point: *Your hands can help; now is the time!

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Luke 10:25-37, John 20:24-30

Key Verse: 1 Timothy 4:12, "Don't let anyone look down on you for being young. Instead, make your speech, behavior, love, faith, and purity an example for other believers."

We will help kids know:

- Faith in Christ can be described as touching him with hands of faith, knowing that Jesus gave his life for us on the cross.
- Through faith God has given us new hands that we can use to help others. We can touch people with compassion and kindness.
- Hands can also be used to hurt others and we should resist using our hands in such a way.




We will help kids feel:

- Comforted as they remember hands that touched them with compassion or kindness.
- Confident that God will use their hands as well to touch others with God's compassion.

We will help kids do:

- Be sensitive to the ways we touch others and how we can help with the touch of compassion.
- Examine their Bibles for Jesus' teaching on how we might best use our hands to help others. Then identify specific ways we might practice this.
- Think of the imprint of their touch as groups make a finger paint mural.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Kids share memories of ways they have been touched with hands that helped and hands that hurt.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none needed
Large Group 	4 7 8 11	Overview Interactive presentation: Marty Morpheus Explains New Hands —a volunteer is called forward to demonstrate visually how hands can hurt or help, using a latex glove filled with water or sand. Dramatic Interpretation of the Parable of the Good Samaritan: Students act out the parable while the narrator reads a delightful presentation in a modern day setting. Thomas and the Touch of Faith: The Bible event of Thomas touching Jesus' nail scarred hands is read from John 20:24-30.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marty Morpheus explorer outfit (see lesson 21) • palms marked with red magic marker (see p. 7) • latex or work gloves • latex glove filled with sand or water • skateboard or scooter • candy bar • preschool child • robe for "Pastor" or jogging suit • doctor props: stethoscope, white jacket • dog leash (optional) • nametags for the characters in the drama (see p. 8)
Small Group Application 	4	Kids write ideas on how to encourage others on paper and thank God for his compassion to us.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • newsprint or paper for brainstorming • finger painting paper or poster board • finger paints in a pie tin • plenty of newspapers, wet wipes for mess control • paper clips or cotton swabs to write in the paint

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.*

As kids gather: *Listen to memory verses from last week and give coupons for memory verses, remembering to bring your Bible, and bringing a guest.*

Begin: *Review the group covenant signed by all. This can be as simple as reading it and reminding all that they have signed it. (See lesson 16.) Welcome new kids and invite them to sign the covenant.*

Remember the touch

Explain to kids that they will partner with someone and will touch their partner's back with either one finger, two fingers, three fingers, four fingers or five fingers. The object is then to see if the partner can guess how many fingers touched his/her back.

The kids will discover that the closer the fingers are together, the harder it is to discern how many are touching. Continue for several rounds and then try the same game on one another's hands while the one guessing closes his/her eyes. Gather the kids in a circle and discuss:

Today, we will talk about touch and our hands. This game was a fun way of challenging us to remember what it felt like when we were touched. Hands can be used to help or hurt.

**Can you remember a time someone used their hands to hurt you?
Would anyone like to share about a time like this?**

Note to shepherd: Listen carefully if you hear someone who has been hurt by an adult or have been in an abusive setting. Be ready to talk further, one on one to that child, later after class. If you do, consult with another adult or leader in your church for advice and counsel. Know in advance your church's policy for reporting child abuse. You may need to talk to a children's leader or pastor. (See appendix for a sample policy.)

After discussion, continue.

Think of a time when someone touched you and it really helped you. For example, remember a time someone touched you with an encouraging pat on the back, a hug of comfort, or a touch that brought healing. It might have been a doctor or nurse's touch. Share an example of a good way someone used their hands to help you.

Today we learn that **your hands can help; now is the time!*

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

Interactive presentation: *Marty Morpheus Explains New Hands*—a volunteer is called forward to demonstrate visually how hands can hurt or help, using a latex glove filled with water or sand.

Dramatic Interpretation of the Parable of the Good Samaritan: Students act out the parable while the narrator reads a delightful presentation in modern day setting.

Thomas and the Touch of Faith: The Bible event of Thomas touching Jesus' nail scarred hands is read from John 20:24-30.

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 Luke 10:25-37 in their Bibles. Read aloud or have a volunteer read it loudly. Have the rest of the kids follow along in their Bibles.

What two religious leaders didn't stop to help the traveler? (Luke 10:31-32. A priest and a Levite.)

Why do you think they avoided the man? (Possible answers: Too busy, were afraid that they might also get beat up, lack of love and concern.)

What specific ways did the Samaritan care for the traveler? (Luke 10:33-35. He felt sorry for the man, went to him, cleaned and bandaged his wounds, put him on his own animal and took him to an inn, took care of him there, paid the innkeeper to continue his care, and came back to check on him.)

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

The Samaritans were from another country and had different beliefs. Consequently, the Jews despised them. Why did Jesus use a Samaritan as the example of the compassionate person? (He was the least likely person to help the traveler.)

Read 1 Timothy 4:12: ***“Don’t let anyone look down on you for being young. Instead, make your speech, behavior, love, faith, and purity an example for other believers.”***

According to this passage, can kids be “Good Samaritans”? Yes! Even though kids may seem like the least likely, they can help. Our point today is: **Your hands can help; now is the time!*

Read John 20:24-29.

How did Thomas receive the touch of faith? (He had to actually touch Jesus wounds in his hands and side to believe Jesus had died and was alive again.)

How can we receive the touch of faith? (Believe like Thomas that Jesus is our Lord and God, and that he died and rose again.)

Why do we need the touch of faith to help others? (When we understand how much Jesus loves us - enough to die for us - then we can give others this kind of love. We can share the same compassion Jesus had for us.)

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Application Activity:

Needed: paper or newsprint to write down ideas, pie tin, finger paints, finger paint paper or poster board, cotton swabs or paper clips, and wet wipes for clean up

Brainstorm ways hands can be used to encourage or help others in need. Write kids' ideas on newsprint or paper. Examples: pat on back, hugs, high fives, applause, fold in prayer, write a note of encouragement, serve or help in some way.

Think of a hurting person you know who needs a touch or a pat on the back.

Have kids tell about someone they know in need (names do not need to be mentioned) and how they can use their hands to help with the following activity.

Write the take home point in the middle of the glossy side of a poster board or finger paint paper. Then using finger paint, have kids sign their names around the outside.

Explain that when they think of a hurting person they know and how they can help them, they can dip their hand into the tin of paint and make a handprint on the poster board by their name. Then have them write with the cotton swab (or paper clip) what action they will do to help that person.

Have kids clean hand with the wet wipes.

Ask for someone to restate the take home point: ****Your hands can help; now is the time!***

Closing Prayer:

Thank God for his kindness and compassion for us. Pray to see those in need and to have God's kindness and compassion for them. Pray to have the touch of faith to then help those in need.

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Large Group Presentation

“Marty Morpheus Explains New Hands”

Audience Participation Presentation

In advance, make a red mark on the palms of your hands with permanent magic marker to represent the nail scarred hands of Jesus. Wear rubber gloves or work gloves during presentation.

Hello, I’m Marty Morpheus, the famous explorer and discoverer of new species. My specialty is to find creatures that have emerged as new from something old. For example, my favorite is the butterfly. Once a caterpillar crawled into a cocoon and then emerged as a new creature, a butterfly.

Though that is amazing, it’s not as amazing as the new creature we have with us today. This creature is called a believer. Our “New Creatures Manual,” the Bible, says in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “Whoever is a believer in Christ is new creation. The old way of living has disappeared and a new way of living has come into existence.” So let me call up a believer and look at the new creature that he is.

Call a volunteer forward and using a latex glove filled with sand say:

This is a hand. We will discover how hands can be used to help or hurt someone.

Volunteer, how might this hand be used to hurt you? Sure, I suppose I could hit you with it. Well, kids, should I do that? No, not today. Or perhaps, I could leak sand out all over you. Nope, not today. But, there is another way this hand might hurt you. You might need this hand to help you and this hand could refuse to do anything. That could be the worst of them all. We will find out more about that today.

How might this hand help you? What uses can you think of for this hand? Sure, it could be a paperweight or a doorstop. It could give you a pat on the back, a touch of kindness or compassion. That’s what we’ll discover today as we listen to a story Jesus tells. This parable is an example of how we might use our hands. For hands can be used to help or hurt.

A Parable of the Good Samaritan: A Sixth Grader's Version

A Dramatic Interpretation

The following drama can be done with little or no rehearsal. Some instruction may need to be given to the actors. As the narrator reads this story, the participants act it out. The narrator is free to position players accordingly. Players can be more dramatic such as using facial expressions, moans, groans, or ad-libs. In other words, the narrator interacts with the players to help them act out the script he is reading.

Actors needed for the following characters:

- *Jerome---a preschool child to play the Good Samaritan*
- *Pastor Joe-- a pastor or someone dressed like a pastor or in a jogging suit (the priest)*
- *Ms. Matilda--a Sunday School teacher (the Levite), walking her imaginary dog, "Pootchin's"*
- *Joshua-- a sixth grader with a skateboard and candy from the store.*
- *Bubba Getsky and Bruno Toughbottom--the bullies (robbers)*
- *Doctor*

Props:

- *nametags for characters*
- *skateboard or scooter*
- *candy bar*
- *preschool child*
- *robe for "Pastor" or jogging suit*
- *doctor props: stethoscope, white jacket*
- *invisible dog on a leash*

Ask for volunteers to act the above parts. Put nametags on the volunteers and give them their props to distinguish the characters.

Narrator begins:

One time Jesus told a story to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?" He told the story that we know today as the parable of the "Good Samaritan." Perhaps if Jesus were telling this story to a group of sixth graders it might sound something like this.

Once there was a sixth grader, Joshua, who loved to skateboard. Stand behind the actor and place your hands on his shoulders. He had an awesome skateboard. Show us your skateboard. Thanks, Joshua! Joshua was one of the greatest skateboarders around. Give us an example. Fantastic.

Joshua also loved candy. Any time he had some extra change, Joshua would skateboard to the local convenience store after school and purchase a candy bar. Today we see that he had some extra money and bought some candy. Show us your candy, Joshua. Name the candy. Great choice in candy.

But on his way home from the convenience store, Joshua had to go through the neighborhood of Bubba Getsky and Bruno Toughbottom. Bubba Getsky was mean. As a matter of fact, they sometimes called him Mean Bubba for short - even though those words aren't shorter than just "Bubba." Just look at his face. Refer to character. See him snarl. Pause and wait for actor to snarl. I mean see him REALLY snarl. Thanks, that's enough to scare anyone.

The word is that Bubba had a friend named, Bruno. This is Bruno Toughbottom. Everybody wave at Bruno. But, Bruno says, "What are you waving at?" Have Bruno repeat that phrase. Bruno didn't like anyone. He was every bit as mean as Bubba and smelled twice as bad! Lift up Bruno's arm and wave under his armpit.

Bubba and Bruno saw Joshua coming down the street on his skateboard with candy in his pocket. What do you suppose they did? Of course, they knocked Joshua off his skateboard and took the candy. Well, let's watch those bullies in action. Here they go. Prompt the bullies to ambush Joshua in a safe manner.

Joshua was hurt very badly and started to cry. Bubba and Bruno not only made fun of his crying and called him a baby, they laughed when they saw he had a broken arm. Direct bullies to laugh as they take the skateboard and candy and then leave.

Show us your arm Joshua. Pause. No the other broken arm. Have Joshua hold arm up, dangling at the elbow. Ooooo. Badly broken. So Joshua sat there in pain waiting for someone to come and help. He even had a few sobs. Can you hear him sobbing? Thank you, Joshua.

Soon, Pastor Joe came jogging by on his nightly run before dinner. Pastor Joe was the favorite pastor in town. Can I hear a cheer from the audience? Look how fast Pastor Joe runs. He can even do....(cartwheels or... mention whatever stunt the actor can do) Everyone liked him because he was so fit and athletic. Everyone liked him because he was just a regular Joe. As a matter of fact, he played some of the best softball in the entire men's softball league.

Pastor Joe was speeding by so fast that he barely noticed the boy with his head down sitting to the side of the path. Pastor Joe was in

too much of a hurry to stop and ask if anything was wrong. Here comes Pastor Joe flying by now. Now he stops to listen to the applause of the fans. After all, he is the fastest pastor in town! Can we hear a handclap for him?

The next person that came by was Ms. Matilda walking her dog. She was a Sunday School teacher but was late to her Sunday School meeting. She had to finish her walk and get to the meeting as soon as possible.

Here she comes now, walking her dog. The dog came up to Joshua and he even petted Pootchins on the head with his good hand. He said, "Oww" as he shifted his weight and thought Ms. Matilda would notice that his arm was hurt, but she didn't. Instead she pulled her little Pootchins away and continued her walk.

The third person to come by was a five year old. It was little Jerome. He had been playing in the park. His mom had called him in and now he was on his way home but he stopped. He saw that Joshua was hurt. "I'll do something right away," he told Joshua. And off he ran.

Jerome came back his dad. Jerome's dad was a doctor. He knew right what to do. He made sure that Joshua's arm wouldn't move as he wrapped a bandage around it. He helped Joshua to his house where little Jerome went and got him some water and some cool wash cloths to clean up the scrapes. He called Joshua's parents who quickly came to pick him up.

Jerome's dad offered to ride with him to the emergency room, and as a doctor, he would help immediately fix Joshua's arm and do it for free. In no time his arm was fixed and in a cast. He was feeling better and they were driving home.

On the drive home, Jerome listened to Joshua tell how Bubba and Bruno had stolen his skateboard and his candy. Jerome was upset. He said, "That's not fair at all." So Jerome asked that his father pull his car over when they got to Bubba's house. Then Jerome went up to the door with his dad. He saw the skateboard on the front porch and asked to speak to Bubba. When Bubba came to the front door, Jerome said, "I'm taking Joshua's skateboard back. You leave him alone or else you will have to answer to me." Bubba just laughed until he saw Jerome's dad standing behind him. At that Jerome took the skateboard and bounded back to the car. At least Joshua had his skateboard once again.

So, who was the best neighbor? Was it the pastor? Was it Ms. Matilda? Or was it five year old, Jerome? Conclusion to our story...
**your hands can help. Now is the time!*

After applauding the actors and dismissing them to return to their seats, continue with the following Bible event.

Thomas and the Touch of Faith

How do you get the touch of faith so that you can touch others with his compassion? You need to know first of all what Jesus has done for you. I will tell about what happened to Thomas in John 20:24-30.

Place this script in your Bible so that students can tell that this comes from the Bible.

Thomas, one of the twelve apostles wasn't with the other disciples when they saw Jesus after his resurrection. When they said, "We've seen the Lord." Thomas told them, "I won't believe unless I put my hands into his pierced side and his pierced hands."

A week later, all the disciples were again together and this time Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus appeared and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then Jesus looked right at Thomas and said, "Put your finger here and feel the wounds in my side. Touch the holes in my hands. Stop doubting and believe.

Thomas fell down at Jesus' feet. He now had faith. He said, "My Lord and my God."

What caused this change in Thomas? He was *touched* by faith. Jesus had died on the cross and was now alive. At first, Thomas didn't believe that. But, when he could reach out and touch Jesus, he could know for sure that Jesus really was alive. That meant that on the cross he did die for the sins of the world.

For us today, we too need the touch of faith. We must picture ourselves coming to Christ and putting our fingers here. Pull off gloves and show red marker dots in your palm. It's like putting our fingers in the wounds of Christ and knowing that Jesus died for me. As my hand of faith touches his hand of sacrifice, I am healed of my sins. I now can have a new touch as well, so that I can touch the world with Jesus' love.

Close with prayer.

**Thank you Lord, for the wounds you bore in your hands for us.
Thank you that you showed us how to serve others with our hands.
Send your Holy Spirit to touch us with faith and to be empowered to use our hands to help, not hurt others. Now is the time! In Jesus name, Amen.**

Responding to Child Physical Abuse and Neglect

What to Do If You See Any of the Danger Signals Listed Here

Let a staff member know immediately. DO NOT TALK TO ANYONE ELSE.

Child Abuse and Neglect Defined

Abuse or neglect shall mean knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child to be:

- A. Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
- B. Cruelly confined or cruelly punished;
- C. Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care;
- D. Left unattended in a motor vehicle if such minor child is six years of age or younger;
- E. Sexually abused;
- F. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, debauchery, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions.

What Are Some Signs of Possible Physical Abuse?

The following signs may indicate physical abuse. Since this form of child abuse involves external injuries, it is more easily detected than other forms of abuse.

- ❑ Unexplained injuries, especially those located on parts off the body not usually affected by normal childhood activities such as the eyes, mouth, back, thighs, buttocks, and genital areas.
- ❑ Repeated injuries such as bruises, welts or burns, especially those where the shape of an object used to produce them is visible, such as an electric cord, hair brush, belt buckle, board, cigarette.
- ❑ Abrasions or lacerations appearing on the body for no apparent reason. Injuries in various stages of healing that appear in a regular pattern or are grouped together.
- ❑ Small circular burns that may have been afflicted by a cigar or a cigarette, often found on the forearms, hands, buttocks, or soles of the feet.
- ❑ Burns with a “donut” shape on the buttocks that may indicate a child was dipped or forced to sit in scalding liquid. Any burn that shows the pattern of the object used to inflict the injury, such as an iron, fireplace tool, or heater.

- ❑ Burns caused by friction, usually found on the arms, necks, legs, or torso, indicating a rope or cord may have been used to tie the child up.
- ❑ Unexplained fractures, such as to nose, face, ribs, legs, arms.
- ❑ Behavior on the part of the child that may be hyperactive, disruptive, and aggressive, or complacent, compliant, shy, withdrawn, or uncommunicative.
- ❑ Denial on the part of the parents that anything is wrong, unlikely explanations for the child's injuries that occur with increasing frequency or severity.

What About Child Neglect?

- ❑ The child appears poorly nourished or inadequately clothed.
- ❑ Child appears consistently tired or listless and always seems as if no one cares. Attendance at school may be inconsistent.
- ❑ Child evidence is a consistent lack of good hygiene or an obsession with cleanliness.
- ❑ Child is left alone regularly over long periods of time or in dangerous situations.
- ❑ Child shows evidence that medical needs are not being met.
- ❑ Child might display an inability to relate well to adults and have trouble forming close friendships.

What are Possible Indicators of Sexual Abuse?

- ❑ An abrupt change in behavior or personality.
- ❑ Pain or itching in the genital area.
- ❑ Bruises or bleeding in external genitalia, vaginal or anal areas.
- ❑ Withdrawal, fantasy, or infantile behavior.
- ❑ Unusual sexual knowledge or sexual acting out.
- ❑ Poor boundaries with opposite sex adults.
- ❑ Excessive or inappropriate masturbation.
- ❑ Excessive aggression and danger.
- ❑ Difficulty in walking or sitting.