



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: God is Our Rescuer  
Summer Year 2, Lesson 13

# Only by The Power of Jesus

**Primary Scripture:** Acts 4:1, Acts 19:11-22

**Key Verse:** Acts 4:12, "No one else can save us. Indeed, we can be saved only by the power of the one named Jesus and not by any other person."

## **How does this address a need in our kids' lives?**

Kids need to understand the full authority they have to call upon Jesus' name for salvation and for spiritual power. This can only be done by trusting in Jesus as their Savior. They are growing up in a world that tells them there are many different spiritual powers available to them, such as psychic hotlines, meditations, or séances. They are also exposed to a society that uses Jesus' name and the name of God as common slang words. Involvement in any of these practices can diminish and even destroy the effective work of a believer. Our kids need to learn to respect the name of Jesus and call upon him in every time of trouble. There is power and authority in the name of Jesus that is ours through salvation.

## **How does Jesus fill this need?**

**Jesus for us:** Jesus gave his life for us on the cross. He gives us access to spiritual life by inviting us to call upon his name for salvation and spiritual power. In so doing, we access the finished work of the cross and the resurrection.

**Jesus in us:** Jesus dwells in us by the power of the Holy Spirit so his power to live a life to the glory of the Father is given to us. We need to call upon his name in praise and prayer that he might fill us with his presence.

**Jesus through us:** The name of Jesus can be called upon for the salvation of all people. He works mightily through our prayers and ministry so his power would be shown to others as we call upon his name.

## Stamp of Excellence:

*Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.*



## Worship

### Invocation:

*Let kids bring forward the worship symbols such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

### Attention Grabber:

*Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.*

The presenter has several options to demonstrate this one simple point: *\*There is power in the name of Jesus.*

*Option 1:* Label the outside of a large manila envelope, "Most Powerful Word in the World." Inside the envelope have a large sheet of paper with "Jesus" clearly printed on it.

*Option 2:* Cover a cardboard tube from a paper towel roll with construction paper, stuffing the ends, and adding a rope to appear as a fuse. Present it as a stick of dynamite. Inside the stick of dynamite have a rolled up title of Jesus that you can pull out.

*Option 3:* The presenter can dress in a costume of a fireman, surgical nurse, or some other rescue worker and explain the urgent need of a rescue. That rescue would be demonstrated as the presenter produces a large copy of the word "Jesus."

Using any one of these methods present the following message.

**Our theme for today's worship is to focus on the one word that is more powerful than any other word. It has the power to rescue us from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil. Can anyone guess?**

Show the name of Jesus from any of the above options.

**It's the name of Jesus. God's word (NIV) says about the name of Jesus. *"There is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."***

**Let's worship God today and hold up the name that is able to rescue us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.**

## **Songs of Worship:**

*Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!*

Your choice of music.

## **The Power of the Cross:**

*Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.*

*An old dirty rag from the garage or a dust rag and a clean white washcloth are needed as props.*

Show the old dirty rag and talk about how it is dirty and used just to pick up yuck. Then continue.

**Did you know that sometimes we might use God's name like a dirty rag? When we use God's name or Jesus' name (who is God as well) as slang, we are treating him and his name just like an old dirty rag. It's like we're throwing his name on the floor and making it like yuck. Have you ever heard anyone say, "Oh, my God! Did you see that?" Well, that's using God's name in the wrong way. It's using it like an old dirty rag.**

Give other examples.

**In the Old Testament, if someone used God's name in any other way than in prayer or worship, they would be put to death because God doesn't want his name to be used like a dirty rag. Have you ever done that?**

**Instead, God wants us to use his name like this.**

Present a clean white cloth.

**He wants us to use his name in special ways. God is pure and he is holy. When we call upon him, we ask him to take his perfect holiness and wipe away our sins. He does this because he paid the price for our sins' punishment when he died on the cross. Some of you even have a white napkin like this from your baptism. It reminds you that God wipes away your sin. Let's pray for that now.**

Go through a prayer of confession and announce God's forgiveness. Ask God to help us use his name in the right way because he has forgiven us and given us the name of Jesus that we can call upon anytime.

**Baptism Renewal or Response of Commitment:**

Take a bowl of water and the white cloth from *The Power of the Cross*, and walk among the kids. As you dip your fingers in the water and flick some onto the kids, tell them how they are attached to Jesus and his power. As they remember God's promise to be their Savior, it is by his power that he wipes away their sins every day (*You might get some kids lightly wet with splashes and use the white cloth to wipe the water off.*)

## **Song of Response:**

*Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.*

## **Offering:**

*Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.*



# The Word

## Learning Game:

*Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.*

### **Doodletell**

This is a large group guessing game that uses an overhead projector, a transparency, and a marker. Introduce the game by saying:

**I'm going to write some "doodletell" on the transparency. This "doodletell" might seem like a strange language. But it's really just a number.**

Write numbers 1 through 10 across the top of the transparency. This should be done in such a way that the lower part of the transparency has enough room for plenty of doodles. As you write the numbers, say:

**If you look hard enough, you might be able to figure out the secret code that determines which of these numbers my doodletell means.**

At this point, start doodling. Write one or more cryptic symbols of your own choosing. Then lay down the marking pen on the overhead transparency, inadvertently pointing the pen toward one of the numbers at the top and say,

**Doodletell! Can you tell which number the doodle means?**

Of course, kids will guess many numbers, but the proper number will be the number to which the marking pen is pointed. Continue repeating this game until some of the kids begin to figure out the secret. As they do, ask them to keep it to themselves so others might have a chance to figure it out.

Finally, in revealing the secret, make this comparison.

All those doodles really didn't make any sense at all. It's like many people in this world who say there are many different ways to have spiritual power. Like psychic hotlines on TV, or people who gaze in crystal balls. Other people talk about being reincarnated, which means being born again as a different person or animal after you die. Others call on the powers of different spiritual forces.

But really they are all confusing and they don't tell us what we need to know at all. Jesus says he is the only way to get to know the Father. When we look to where he's pointing, we can always know the way. Just like the pen is pointing to the right numbers, Jesus is always pointing the right way to get to heaven, and that is by trusting him. There is no other name under heaven given to men where we can be saved – only the name of Jesus can save.

## **Bible Presentation:**

*Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.*

Use the video, *The Visual Bible: Acts*, by Visual Bible International, 1997, to present Acts 19:11-22. Lead discussion as you see fit. Order from [http://www.christiancinema.com/catalog/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=364](http://www.christiancinema.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=364).

## **Application:**

The application story, "The Dream," attached as an appendix and invites the kids to fill in various parts of the story.



# Witness

## Witness and Tell:

*Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.*

## Prayer:

*Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.*

## Blessing:

*Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.*

## Song of Sending:

*Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.*

# **"The Dream"**

## **An Interactive Story**

The purpose of this story is to illustrate the power and authority of the name of Jesus in spiritual warfare. Kids sometimes have bad dreams or are exposed to movies or TV shows that portray demons or demonically possessed people with more power than their victims. The truth is that in Jesus Christ, we have the power to knock down the very gates of hell.

This story is divided into three sections. The first two sections have blanks that will be filled in orally by a child-volunteer. It might be best to choose two children, one for each section, and have them stand or sit next to the narrator while filling in the parts as the story progresses. It is important to not let the story drag too much as the kids are adding their parts. Pick imaginative kids who think quickly on their feet.

The third section of this story involves only the narrator. However, the narrator may pause at different sections to ask the kids what they think would happen next. Be sure to make the conclusion clear as in the script.

### **Part 1: The Movie**

**Cindy spent the night with her friend Jennifer. They had a chance to stay up late and watch a video after Jennifer's parents went to bed. Jennifer suggested they watch one of the scary movies her older brother had. Cindy knew that she wasn't allowed to watch movies like that or that had more than a PG rating. But she thought to herself, "What could it hurt?" She thought it would be fun. But what started out to be fun soon became something that was scarier than Cindy imagined. It wasn't fun at all.**

**In this movie was a demon-like creature. He was chasing people and doing terrible things. His skin was like \_\_\_\_\_ and his eyes were awful. They looked like \_\_\_\_\_. This demon was so strong it could \_\_\_\_\_. When it finally caught people, it \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Cindy and Jennifer were more than scared. They tried to shut their eyes, but they peeked and saw the same terrible things.**

### **Part 2: The Dream**

**That night when Cindy went to bed she didn't sleep well at all. Instead she had a terrible dream. There was a demon and he was chasing her. She was all alone in a \_\_\_\_\_. She thought she would be safe by hiding behind a \_\_\_\_\_. But as soon as she was hidden, the demon jumped out at her. It grabbed her and said, "\_\_\_\_\_." She tried to run away but \_\_\_\_\_.**



Finally Cindy woke up, but her heart was racing and tears filled her eyes. She was scared of demons and monsters. It felt like they had power to get her.

Over the next three weeks she continued to have dreams much like the first one. Sometimes she even felt afraid to go to sleep. She thought she might have that dream again.

### **Part 3: Power in the Name of Jesus**

Cindy finally talked to one of her friends named Christy. Christy went to the same church. Christy was the kind of friend who really could help.

Cindy asked Christy, “Do you ever have nightmares about demons trying to get you?” Christy said she had dreams like that before, but they didn’t bother her too much anymore.

“Well, how did you get rid of them?” Cindy asked. Aren’t there really things as demons?

Ask the kids: **What do you think Christy said?**

Continue the story. “Well, the Bible says there really are such things as demons,” said Christy. “But demons aren’t as powerful as they often are shown to be on TV. As a matter of fact, they don’t have power over me.”

“How is that?” asked Cindy.

Ask the kids: **What do you think Christy will tell her?**

Christy explained it this way. “Do you believe in Jesus?”

“Yes,” replied Cindy.

“Do you believe Jesus was God’s Son who came to earth to give his life for you on the cross and who rose from the dead?”

“Yes, I believe that,” said Cindy. “But what does that have to do with demons?”

“When Jesus gave his life for you, it was the most powerful thing that ever happened. He destroyed the power of sin over us, he destroyed the power of death over us, and he destroyed the power of the devil over us. You see, sin can’t keep us away from God because Jesus paid the price of punishment for our sin. Death can’t keep us away from God because when we trust in Jesus after we die, we go

to heaven. The devil can't keep us away from God because Jesus beat him once and for all when he died and rose again."

Cindy thought to herself for a moment. "But why, then, do I have bad dreams? Why am I scared demons might get me?"

Ask the kids: **What do you think Christy will tell her?**

Christy explained, "You need to learn how to use the power of Jesus. In the Bible it says that even the gates of hell cannot stand against Jesus' power. If we believe this and say this, no demon can harm us.

Picture it this way. Close your eyes and imagine you were to walk right to the middle of hell itself. That would be a terrible place. There would be hundreds of very evil creatures and they all would like to get you. Even as they're coming right up next to you, all you say is, "In the name of Jesus, get away from me." When you say this, all the demons would get away from you as fast as they could. They would run away and hide from you. It's not your power but Jesus' power because you trust him. You can call on Jesus' name and he says he will make the evil one go away."

Cindy thought to herself and then she practiced the words. "In the name of Jesus, get away from me."

Cindy felt better when she said it. She felt like Jesus was right there, and he was. Later that night she had a bad dream again. It was the same old nightmare, but this time can you guess what she did?

Let the kids finish in the story.

# Supplies:

## Attention Grabber:

- Choose one of these options:
  1. Large sheet of paper with “Jesus” written on it. Put this in a manila envelope. On the outside of the envelope write “Most Powerful Word In the World.”
  2. A cardboard tube from a paper towel roll, covered in construction paper, and the ends stuffed. Add a rope that looks like a fuse. It should look like a stick of dynamite. Inside the tube should be a rolled up sheet of paper with the name Jesus on it.
  3. A rescue worker costume and a large Jesus sign.

## The Power of the Cross:

- dirty rag
- clean white cloth

## Baptismal Renewal:

- bowl of water

## Learning Event:

- overhead projector
- transparency
- marker

## Bible Reading:

- video: *The Visual Bible: Acts*, Visual Bible International, 1997,—order from [http://www.christiancinema.com/catalog/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=364](http://www.christiancinema.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=364), show Acts 19:11-22

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