

Life of Christ

Jesus heals a crippled hand

Matthew 12:9-14

Younger Verse

Be kind to each other. Ephesians 4:32

Older Verse

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Lesson Goals

See what it means to be kind to others
Understand and do what God wants instead of what others want
See people like Jesus did and do not make fun of them if they are disabled

Welcome Time

Have any of you ever had a broken arm or wrist? What is it like not to be able to use your hand/arm for a while? Share that today's lesson is about a man who could not use his hand. Challenge the kids to listen and see what Jesus did.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Note: In Luke 6, the Bible tells us that it was the man's right hand that was healed.

One church day, Jesus and His friends went into the church. Back then it was called a temple or synagogue. They saw a man that had a crippled right hand. It was deformed.

Other people were at the church too. These people were trying to find a way to trick Jesus because they didn't believe Jesus was God's son.

They thought of a good question to ask Jesus. They said, "Is it against the law to heal on a church day?"

Back then, the people had special rules they had to follow on church days. Believe it or not, they could not do certain things because it was God's day. These sneaky people were trying to trick Jesus.

Instead of answering the question, Jesus asked them a question. He said, "If you had a sheep that fell into a pit on church day, would you get it out?" Of course! Jesus helped the people know that a person was much more important to God than a sheep. Then, He told them that it was lawful to do good on a church day.

After He answered their question, He asked the man to stretch out his crippled right hand. When the man did this, a miracle happened! The man's hand was well!! It looked just like the other hand!

Many people saw what happened and followed Jesus. However, the evil people didn't believe Jesus and tried to find a way to kill Him. They went away and began to plan how they could kill Jesus.

Back then, the Sabbath or church day was Saturday. To make it less confusing to kids, it is probably easier to say church day instead of the Sabbath.

Jesus loved all kinds of people no matter what they looked like. He was kind to them and showed them that they were special to Him and to God.

He also showed us the ultimate example of His kindness. He did something for us that no other person could have done. Jesus died for us.

Those evil men did find a way to arrest Jesus. Jesus had done nothing wrong, but they still arrested Him and did a horrible thing. They had Him nailed to a cross.

Even then, there was another reason for Jesus' death. He did not die for anything He had done. Instead, Jesus died for all the bad things WE have done. Jesus took all our bad stuff and died for it. Why? He did this so that we could go to Heaven. One thing you need to know—We do not automatically go to Heaven. The only way we go to Heaven is if we believe in Jesus and ask Him to come into our life. He cleans out the dirty attitudes in our hearts and makes us clean. Jesus promises to stay with us forever and take us to Heaven one day. Have you asked Jesus to come into your life? He died so that we could get to Heaven. It is the only way. If you want to talk about it more, let's talk during activity time or snack time.

Jesus wants us to be kind to others, no matter how they may treat us. Let's think of some ways that we can be kind to others at home, at school and while we are playing outside. (Let them share ideas with the group.) Let's try to practice kindness this week to others.

Learning Activities

Do activities that will help the kids see how much Jesus loved the man and how much He loves us. Help them think of ways to be kind to others this week.

Memory Verse Activities

Today's verse tells us several things that we should always do. Talk about the things (Kind, Compassion, Forgiveness) and what they mean. Share how they can practice these qualities.

Prayer Time

Join hands and pray. Ask God to help everyone show kindness this week.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Something creative - Fill a plastic glove full of popcorn to eat!

Planning for June 1st
Story of the Seed Planter
Matthew 13:1-23

Preschool Lesson
for
Jesus helps a crippled man

Make some puppets out of playdough to tell the story.

One church day, Jesus and His friends went into the church. (march the playdough figures to “church.”) They saw a man that had a crippled right hand. It did not look like the other hand.

Other people were at the church too. These people were trying to find a way to trick Jesus because they didn’t believe Jesus was God’s son.

They thought of a good question to ask Jesus. They said, “Is it all right to help on a church day?”

Back then, the people had special rules they had to follow on church days. Believe it or not, they could not do certain things because it was God’s day. These sneaky people were trying to trick Jesus.

Instead of answering the question, Jesus asked them a question. He said, “If you had a little sheep that fell into a pit on church day, would you get it out?” Of course! Jesus helped the people know that a person was much more important to God than a sheep. Then, He told them that it was all right to do good on a church day.

After He answered their question, He asked the man to stretch out his crippled right hand. When the man did this, a miracle happened! The man’s hand was well!! It looked just like the other hand!

Many people saw what happened and follow Jesus.

Jesus loved all kinds of people no matter what they looked like. He cared for them and showed them that they were special to Him and to God.

This week, let’s find ways to help all kinds of people and show them that Jesus loves them.

Sing, “Jesus loves me.”

Hands-on Activities
for
Jesus helps a crippled man

Make the Hand-y Reminder.

Using an envelope, make two puppets (or more). Draw Jesus on one and the crippled man on the other. Have fun telling the story again.

Act out the story letting different people play the part of the crippled man.

Try to do an activity with one hand tied or placed behind their back—it's hard. Talk about how hard it must have been for the crippled man. Share how he must have felt to be able to use both hands!

Make hand prints and write the verse on it or a thought from the story.

For younger kids, do a fun finger-painting activity. Be sure to bring an oversized shirt to put on so that they will not get paint on themselves.

Some kids have a hard time learning their left and right sides. Practice learning it together. (Remember that if you face them, your left and right are backwards from theirs and can be confusing.)