

LESSON 47

# The Lame Beggar Walks

ACTS 3



BIBLE TRUTH

THERE IS POWER IN THE NAME OF JESUS

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN

2. BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN

**SUPPLIES:** *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 125)

3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN

**Where Is the Gospel?**

**SUPPLIES:** Bible (ESV preferred); Review “Where Is the Gospel?” to prepare

4. SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN

**SUPPLIES:** snack food and beverage

5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5–10 MIN

6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) . . . . 20–30 MIN

**Coloring Activity**

**SUPPLIES:** coloring page for NT Lesson 47—one for each child; markers or crayons

**Act Out the Lesson**

**Silver and Gold or Salvation**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ • loose change
- ✓ small bag to hold the coins
- ✓ clear glass bowl
- ✓ Bible

7. CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN

**TOTAL 60–75 MIN**

THE LESSON

OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN

In today's lesson the children will learn about the man Peter and John healed at the temple.

As an opener to today's lesson, sing the song, "Peter and John Went to Pray" if you know the song. (If you don't likely some of the children can sing it for you! Or check it out on YouTube.) This particular song is one of the best New Testament children's songs because of how well it follows the biblical text. The traditional lyrics follow:

Peter and John went to pray,  
They met a lame man on the way;  
He asked them for alms and held out his palms,  
And this is what Peter did say:  
"Silver and gold have I none,  
but such as I have give I thee.  
In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"  
He went walking and leaping and praising God,  
Walking and leaping and praising God.  
"In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

After singing the song, ask the children if anyone can guess what today's Bible story is about.

Sing the song again only this time have all the children play the lame man. When you get to the part where the lame man is healed, have all the children start walking and leaping as they sing the chorus. Sing the song again after reading today's story.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

Read story 125, "The Lame Beggar Walks," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

**BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN**

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:

- **What happened in this story?**  
*(A crippled man was begging for money at the temple gate. Peter and John did not give him money but healed him in Jesus' name.)*
  
- **Why was the man begging for money?**  
*(He could not walk so he could not work. He needed to ask people for money to buy food.)*
  
- **How did Peter and John make him well?**  
*(Peter and John prayed for him in the name of Jesus Christ. It was not Peter or John's power that healed the man but Jesus' power.)*

**SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN**

While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking the following questions:

- **Why do you think God put this story in the Bible?**  
*(This story helps us to see that there is power in the name of the risen Christ. People can be healed by putting their faith in Christ. Jesus Christ is God as evidenced by the power that is demonstrated in his name.)*

**Where Is the Gospel?** \_\_\_\_\_

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

It was in the name of Jesus that the beggar was healed, and it was the name and gospel of Christ that Peter brought to the crowd and the religious rulers. After healing the crippled beggar, Peter was not going to miss an opportunity to share the gospel. Peter explained that if they repented and believed in Jesus, their sins would be forgiven. He appealed to them from the words of the prophets, and he quoted Moses (Acts 3:22–23). Peter ended his appeal by reminding them of Jesus' call for them to abandon their wicked ways. This story is the gospel from start to finish.

- **Can we pray for people to be healed today?**  
*(Yes, we can and should pray for people to be healed.)*
  
- **The beggar was asking for silver and gold (money), but what did he get that was more valuable?**  
*(The beggar received two things he could not purchase with all the treasure in the world. First, his legs were healed, and second, the healing was the way God brought faith to his heart to believe.)*

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult.

**ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS. . . . . 20-30 MIN**

**Coloring Activity**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ coloring page for NT Lesson 47—one for each child
- ✓ markers or crayons

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

- **What happened to this man?**  
*(Peter and John prayed to Jesus for him and he was healed.)*
  
- **How do you think the man felt after he was healed?**  
*(He was very happy.)*
  
- **What did the healed man say?**  
*(The healed man praised God. This man connected Jesus Christ with God.)*

**Act Out the Lesson**

Tell the children that hundreds of years before it happened, Isaiah told about the day when Jesus would come. When Jesus came, the eyes of the blind were opened, the ears of the deaf were unstopped, lame men leapt like deer, and the tongues of the mute (speechless) sang for joy. Explain to them that Jesus, the all-powerful King, told his disciples to do the same things that he did. So Peter and John were following Jesus in asking the lame man to walk.

Play a game with the children while you read Isaiah 35:4–6. Divide them into four groups. The first group is the blind group, who should cover their eyes. The second group is the deaf group, who should cover their ears. The third group is the lame group, who should sit on the floor. The fourth group is the mute group, who should cover their mouths. Say the words, “Behold, your God will come” from Isaiah 35:4 and then read verses 5 and 6.

When you get to the part that describes the healing of a particular group, they should remove their hands from their eyes, ears, or mouth, or leap up like a deer and have each group shout “Behold my God has come! His name is Jesus!”

Do this several times to reinforce that Jesus is the one who came to touch our lives by healing our bodies and our souls as well.

### Silver and Gold or Salvation

#### SUPPLIES:

- ✓ loose change
- ✓ small bag to hold the coins
- ✓ clear glass bowl
- ✓ Bible

Tell the children that you have something to show them. Jingle the coins in the bag and ask them if they can guess what is making the sound. After hearing their guesses, take the bag of coins and dramatically drop the coins into the glass bowl. Entice the children with the coins. Then tell them that although they are made of copper and other less expensive metals, to imagine if they were silver and gold. Ask them to think how much gold and silver coins would be worth. (To help them illustrate how valuable a gold coin is, hold up a quarter and tell them that if it was made out of gold it could buy more than ten bicycles or a thousand candy bars!) Invite the children to put their hands into the bowl to touch the coins. Ask them what they would buy with the coins. Finally, ask them to tell you what the most valuable item is in the room. (The answer is the Word of God so make sure you have your Bible out where they can see it without making it too obvious.)

After a few guesses, tell them the correct answer and then read the story. The children should be primed to recognize Peter’s words about silver and gold.

Explain to them that the truth of God's Word and his plan of salvation is the most valuable thing in the world and at the same time it is free for the taking! The lame man paid nothing for his healing!

**CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN**

Take time at the end of class to thank God for what you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as a way for the children to remember today's lesson.

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