

Jesus' Second Miracle

John 4

Jesus:

Heals

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- John 14:6

Summer Sunday Schedule:

10:45-10:55 - Welcome/arrival

11:00 - 11:20 - Game Station (LG1)

11:25-11:45 - Story Station (LG2)

11:50-12:10 - Project Station (Classroom)

12:15 - Stay in room for dismissal

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Take time to prepare your heart and mind by spending time in the Word reading John 4:43-54. Note your observations about Jesus' character and what truths you see so you can share them with the kids.

This passage reveals that faith often involves believing in God's provision even when we don't see immediate results. The official's willingness to return home, trusting Jesus at His word, illustrates the definition of faith given in Hebrews 11:1: "Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen." The official didn't have to immediately see his son healed to believe Jesus' words of life.

We want our kids to trust Jesus, especially in moments when they cannot see Him at work. Whether His answers to our prayers come quickly or seem delayed, we want them to trust in the power and goodness of our Savior who is always working for the good of those who love Him.



When the children arrive, introduce yourself, ask them their name, welcome them to the class, and invite them to play with the other children. When most kids have arrived for first service, ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.



LESSON OVERVIEW

None

Ask the class: *Have you ever seen something happen that seemed impossible? what was it? How did you react?* (Allow responses)

Summarize John 4:43-54. and then discuss the following questions in table groups or together as a class:

Why was Jesus able to heal the official's son? Remind kids that Jesus' miracles point to His authority as God's Son. Because Jesus is God, He has the power to heal physical needs, but more importantly, to save us from our sin.

Does Jesus always heal us from physical sickness? Explain that Jesus has the power to heal, but that does not mean He promises to always immediately heal our physical needs or illnesses. Share that physical pain is the result of living in a world afflicted by sin. But remind kids that Jesus offers a greater hope: salvation from sin and life with Him forever! Even though we will have pain and struggles in this world, those who choose to follow Jesus can trust that all hurt and sickness will be gone in the new heaven and new earth.

What does it mean to be dead in sin? Share that God's Word tells us the punishment for sin is death. We have all sinned and deserve death. But because of God's love for us, He sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life, die in our place, and rise again. When a person believes in Jesus as Lord and Savior, they are promised life forever with Him.



ACTIVITY: Growing our Faith

- Cupcake liners
- Scissors
- Leaves
- Glue sticks
- Markers

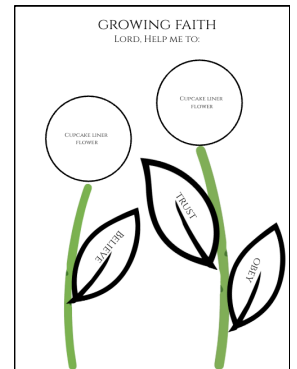
The official had faith that Jesus would heal his son, even though he couldn't see it happen. He trusted Jesus without seeing the end result.

What does faith look like? How do we grow our faith?
Faith is when we:

- **Believe** in God and that He sent His Son Jesus to save us from our sins.
- **Trust** in Him and that He will take care of us and help us in our everyday life.
- **Obey** His commands that are in the Bible.

Talk about everyday examples of when they can live out their faith. How do they trust? How do they obey?

SAY: People are saved the moment they place their faith in Jesus, but demonstrating or living out faith takes time and practice. Remember that as you grow closer to Jesus, the more your faith will grow.



Prayer 101

Prayer Builder

- "I Can Pray to God" sheets
- Pencil boxes of Prayer builder cards

Let's help our children learn to pray by using these prayer templates to help build their prayer and to pray together as a class.

Give each table group a pencil box of prayer builder cards and each child a "I can pray to God" sheet.

Talk together as a class about what we can pray to God about:

- We can talk to Him about what He is like - how He is good, loving, kind, etc.
- We can talk to Him about how he helps us...
- We can thank Him for our family, friends, school... (be specific!)
- We can ask for help with....anything! (be specific!)

Have the children pick a card for each square on their sheet of something that resonates with them and what they want to pray to God about.

Have them share what they are going to pray for and write some of their ideas on the board.

Model prayer by having the whole class bow their heads and pray together. Lead with "God you are...." (and have them silently pray what they have on their card) then move to "God you.....", "Thank you for.....", and "God, help me.....". Then, close the prayer.

I Can Pray to God

You Are	You
Thank You For	Help Me

