

Jesus Raised a Widow's Son

Luke 7

Did Jesus ever sin?
No, Jesus never sinned.

"But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin."
1 John 3:5

Story Point:

Jesus raised a widow's son to life.



PREPARE HEARTS

- Welcome - Word Search
- Starter Activity - New Life



ACTIVATE HEARTS

- 9:20 - Bible Lesson in LG2
- Review and discuss the Bible Story
- Reflection and Prayer
- Questions from Kids Video



ENGAGE HEARTS

- Key Passage Activity - White Board Race
- Group Activity - Good News
- Group Activity - Jesus Cares

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Jesus had only just finished healing the centurion's servant in Luke 7:1-10 when He came upon a funeral procession of a widow's only son. Jesus didn't merely feel sorry for the grieving widow; He demonstrated His compassion by publicly raising her son from the dead. In this passage, we witness the truth that only Jesus has the authority to restore the dead back to life.

The timing in which Jesus entered the woman's life is interesting as it appears that He came on the scene just a little to late. Perhaps the woman's son had been sick or had received a mortal wound from an accident. Either way, his time for hanging on to life had passed, and people were now carrying the son's dead body through the streets on the way to the grave. Despite this tragedy, Jesus told the woman not to weep.


This wasn't because He lacked emotion; Scripture tells us Jesus is the man of sorrows acquainted with our grief, suffering and sickness (Isaiah 53:3). No, Jesus understood the depths of the woman's despair, and He embodied the greatest hope in her time of need. The widow no longer needed to cry because Jesus would soon resurrect her son - a precursor to His promise to one day wipe away all tears and bring an end to suffering and death.

This week, lead the kids in your class to see that Jesus offers the gift of eternal, resurrected life to anyone who believes in Him. Just as the widow's son was physically dead but raised to life, Christ will raise all who call on Him to immediate new spiritual life and resurrected physical life at His return.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 8:30-8:40 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

- *KNOW that Jesus sees our pain and responds with compassion.
- *TRUST in Him for new life.
- *SHARE the good news of Jesus with others.



As children arrive - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the other children. Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.

*Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc. When most kids have arrived for first service (by 9:05ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.
Pen Pal Kit!!



PREPARE HEARTS

OPENING QUESTIONS:

WELCOME

Word Search

- Activity page
- pencils
- markers

Have you ever seen something so exciting or amazing that you couldn't help but tell someone about it? What did you see? Who did you tell?

Invite kids to complete the "Word Search" activity page.

Today we will learn that JESUS RAISED A WIDOW'S SON TO LIFE. Jesus has the power to raise the dead to life, including giving new life to those who are dead in their sins.



STARTER

New Life

- Bibles
- "Difficulties" Index cards
- Pencils

Prior to the session, write difficulties like fear, suffering, sorrow, worry, and others on individual index cards. (This will be done for you!)

Form groups of two or three kids. Distribute a card to each group.

Challenge kids to read the card and then work together to find a verse in the Bible by using their concordance in the back of the Bible that tells us what Jesus does for those who are facing that specific hardship.

As kids work together, walk around the room and assist when needed.

After each group has found a verse or verses about their topic, go around the room and invite them to share the verse they found with the rest of the group.

SAY: In today's story, we will see how JESUS RAISED A WIDOW'S SON TO LIFE. God promises that He will eventually use everything in a Christian's life for good—even things that are bad or unpleasant in the moment.



ACTIVE MINDS

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

(Quick 1 minute review!)

9:20 – 9:35

K - 4th Grade in LG2

BIBLE STORY:

Jesus Raised a Widow's Son

Bibles, Powerpoint slides

Taught by the Bible Teacher:

Quick Review of where we are in the Big Story of the Bible and Big Picture Question:

Did Jesus ever sin? No, Jesus never sinned.

Open your Bible to Luke 7.

STORYTELLING OPTIONS / TIPS:

Bring context: Help kids understand that the widow's situation was not only sad, but also would have been scary for her. Because of the culture at that time, without a husband or son, she would have been left without any financial support.

What's next?: As you tell the story, pause at exciting points and ask the kids to guess what will happen next. Then, continue with the story and see if the kids were correct.

Jesus, His disciples, and a large crowd were traveling to a town called Nain. As Jesus was coming near the gate of the town, a dead man was being carried out. This man was his mother's only son, and she was a widow, which meant her husband was dead. A large crowd from the city was also with the woman.

When Jesus saw her, He had compassion on her. He said, "Don't cry." Then He came up and touched the coffin carrying the young man's body. The people carrying the coffin stopped. Jesus said, "Young man, I tell you, get up!"

The dead man sat up and began to speak! Jesus brought the man back to his mother. Everyone was amazed, and they glorified God. They said, "A great Prophet has come to us!" and "God has visited His people."

Word about Jesus and this miracle spread throughout Judea and the land.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus has the power to bring the dead to life. We are all dead in our sins, but Jesus will give us new life in Him if we repent and trust in His life, death, and resurrection.



REVIEW AND DISCUSS

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Allow time to have the children think and process - however this works best for your class. We want our kids to feel known and heard!

**

In small groups (or as a large group), talk through these questions.

As Jesus continued His ministry on earth, He traveled with His disciples to the town of Nain. When they entered the town, they saw a crowd of people carrying the body of a young man who had died. In the crowd was the man's mother, a widow who had just lost her only son. **What did Jesus say to the widow?** Look at Luke 7:13. [Choose a volunteer to read Luke 7:13 aloud.]

Jesus saw the widow, had compassion on her, and told her not to cry. Jesus was getting ready to do something amazing for this woman and her son. Jesus went to the young man's body and told him to get up, and the young man got up and began talking. **How did the people who saw this miracle respond?** Look at Luke 7:16-17. [Choose a volunteer to read Luke 7:16-17 aloud.] The people were amazed at what they saw. Jesus had just raised a dead man to life! This miracle caused the people to praise God and tell other people what Jesus had done.

Jesus has the power to raise the dead and give new life because He is the Son of God. When we see Jesus' work in our lives and in the lives of others, we should praise God, just like the crowd did in today's story. We should also go tell others about Jesus so they can experience His power in their lives. Jesus has the power to bring the dead to life. We are all dead in our sins, but Jesus will give us new life in Him if we repent and trust in His life, death, and resurrection.



Reflection and Prayer

Journal Page

Have children use a blank sheet of paper. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions. Or, just talk about it together.

- **What does this story teach me about God?**

That God is compassionate - Jesus saw the widow's pain and cared for her. God is powerful - with just His words, Jesus raised the young man back to life. God is life-giving - He gives physical life, but more importantly, eternal life to all who trust in Him.

- **What does this story teach me about myself?**

That there is nothing I can do to earn new and eternal life, it's only by believing in Jesus and what He did for me on the cross.

Pray together: *Jesus, thank You for seeing us, loving us, and giving us new life. Help us to live in wonder at who You are and to talk with You every day. Amen.*



Questions from Kids Video

USB on TV

Show the "Unit 24, Session 2" questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

- Are most of the stories in the Bible true?
- How does Jesus' power show that He is God?



ENGAGE HEARTS

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud 1 John 3:5

Key Passage Activity:

White Board Race

- Key Passage Poster

Draw two hearts on either side of the dry erase board.

Form kids into two teams and provide each team with a dry erase marker.

Direct kids from each team to race to the board, write a word of the key passage in the heart, and race back to their team.

Continue until all words from the key passage have been written. Announce the team who completes the key passage first as the winner.



Good News

- Newspaper template
- Bibles
- Pencils
- Markers
- Colored Pencils

Form kids into groups of two or three and distribute a “newspaper”, Bible and pencils to each group.

Challenge kids to work together to write a news story and draw a picture on the good news of today’s story.

Allow kids to work in their groups for several minutes. Then, invite each group to come to the front and share their newspaper story and picture with the class.

SAY: Great job with your news broadcast! Today we heard the good news that Jesus raised the widow’s son to life. Jesus has the power to bring the dead to life. We get to share this good news with others, so that they can experience the joy of new life in Him.



Jesus Cares

- Doodle Sheet
- Pencil
- Link on USB
- Worship Music (on your phone)

Distribute a “Doodle sheet” and pencil to each kid.

Inform them that you are going to give them some time to sit alone, think, and pray about how they can give their cares and worries to the Lord because He cares for them.

Play quiet worship music (on your phone) for a few minutes and give them time to doodle, pray and simply relax and enjoy being still in His presence.

OR: Pull up the link on the USB to the KidZ at Heart Doodle Prayer Experience. Hit play and follow along with the audio prompts. **Check it out ahead of time [HERE](#)

SAY: Today’s story reminds us that God loves and cares about what is happening in our lives. I hope you will spend time with God every day in prayer. He loves you and wants to have a close relationship with you.

