

WEEK 3 LESSON GUIDE

CHANGING GEARS



BIG IDEA

Jesus changes how we see things.

BIBLE

Jesus Heals a Blind Man: John 9:1-41

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Life-Changing Praise!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, read [this](#)!
- "Robot Rock" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)
- "Open My Eyes" (KidSpring Children's Ministry)
- "2 Corinthians 5:17" (The Corner Room)
- "God Makes Messy Things Beautiful" (Slugs and Bugs)

ACTIVITY | Robot Freeze Dance

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Let's play a game of robot freeze dance! When you play a song (try [this](#) one), encourage the kids to show off their best robot dance moves. When the song stops, so do they.
- Let's play freeze dance! When the song plays, show me your favorite robot dance! When the song stops, freeze! We'll keep going until the song is all done!

ACTIVITY | Building in the Dark

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have groups of kids build blocks together while wearing [sunglasses](#) and the lights are off.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Instead, have the toddlers take turns closing their eyes and attempting to walk across the room. Discuss with them how hard it is to walk when we can't see!
- Friends, we're going to build some blocks together. Here's the hard part . . . we will be wearing sunglasses and the lights will be off, so it will be hard to see what we are doing! Work together to build a tall tower, a castle, or whatever your group decides on!
- Today, we're going to learn all about a man who couldn't see, but Jesus came and changed everything!

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | John 9:1–41 (Jesus Heals a Blind Man)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read and tell the Bible story using the same robot motif as you did in previous weeks. Make your voice sound monotone like a robot or a smart assistant (like Siri, Alexa, or Google). Have prepared a poster board with a big smiley face drawn on it, as well as some brown paint. When you get to the part of the story where the man gets mud rubbed in his eyes, rub some brown paint on the smiley face's eyes.
- Hello. I am a storytelling robot. Today, I am going to tell you another story about Jesus. Let's begin!
- One day, Jesus was traveling with his friends when they met a man who was born blind. That means he was not able to see.
 - **What are some things you can see?**
 - Sadly, this man couldn't see any of those things. But he could hear, and he heard Jesus was near!
- Jesus' friends asked, "Why can't he see?"
- Jesus answered, "It's to show how powerful God is!" Jesus' friends found out what he meant really quickly. You'll never believe what happened next.
 - Jesus spat in the dirt, picked up some mud, and rubbed it in the man's eyes! Suddenly, his eyes were open! He could see!
 - Even though Jesus used mud, the mud didn't open the man's eyes. Jesus did! Jesus did something that no one else was able to do. Jesus helped the man see again. Now, he was able to hear Jesus AND see him too.
- **Can you imagine how awesome that must have been?**
- **How would you celebrate if this happened to you?**
- The man wasn't the only one who was changed that day. Everyone around him was changed, too. They knew Jesus was more powerful than anyone. He also cared about someone when nobody else did.
- That is the end of today's story. Powering down. *[Make a whirring noise and lower your head.]*

BIG IDEA | Jesus changes how we see things.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the [Jack-in-the-Box toy](#) (or the [one you made](#)) from Week 1, write the Big Idea on an index card and attach it to the puppet inside. Reintroduce your kids to the Big Idea "mystery box," and share that this week's Big Idea is inside of it. Play [this](#) song while each kid comes up and cranks the box once. At the end of the song or whenever the box is opened, pull out the card and read it aloud. Use the hand motions to help them learn it.
- Our big idea this week is . . .
 - **Jesus changes** (Spin your hands together horizontally.)
 - **how we see things** (Point to your eyes.)

VIDEO | Changing Gears, Episode 3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Seeing Again

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have the kids stand up and cover their eyes. When you count to three, have them uncover their eyes, seeing again. Try this several times, changing your counting speed from really slow to really fast.
- The man, who learned in today's story that **Jesus changes how we see things**, was blind until he met Jesus! Jesus changed everything for him, and the man was able to see everything new!
- I'm going to count to three, and I want you to cover your eyes. When I count to three again, uncover them. We're going to try this a few times, and see how fast you can play!

PRAYER

- Dear Jesus, you are powerful and so kind. Help my eyes to see your love. I want to see the world the way you do. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Sweet Robots

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Slice up some Rice Krispies Treats into squares and give them to the kids, along with some Froot Loops. Let them make robots that look a little like [this](#).
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** For toddlers, you could have the robot snacks pre-built so that the kids can admire their robots and then eat them!
- The man in this week's Bible story couldn't see, and then Jesus helped him. Jesus changed everything, and he could see again!
- **If you could see anything in the world, up close and right in front of you, what would it be?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the robot face from previous weeks, pass it around in a game of hot potato, playing the month's worship songs. When the song stops, whoever's holding the robot gets to answer the review question.
- Let's pass around my robot friend as we think about today's true Bible story, and our Big Idea: **Jesus changes how we see things.**
- When you hear music playing, pass around the robot. When the music stops, freeze! Whoever's holding our robot friend will get to answer a question! Ready? Let's go!
 - **What changed for the man who was blind when he met Jesus?**
 - **What did Jesus use to help the man see again?**
 - **What healed the man – the mud or God?**
 - **Some people thought the man was blind because he had done something wrong. Was that true? How do you know?**

ACTIVITY | Eyes to See Craft

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid two white dinner plates and allow them to color it in however they'd like. Then give them two smaller circles cut out of black construction paper and glue them on to make a funky pair of eyes! To make [giant googly eyes](#), don't glue the black paper on but place it on the plate. Get two clear dinner plates and hot glue them upside down on each of the white dinner plates for each kid. Kids can shake the eyes around to see the "pupils" move. Be sure to take photos of kids posing with their eyes to send to parents!
- Our eyes are made to see! Some people can't see like you and me, but like the man in our story, Jesus cares about them! **Jesus changes how we see things!**
- Let's make some big, silly eyes together to help us remember this truth!

MEMORY VERSE | 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

- **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this week, read the whole memory verse to the kids. Then, practice memorizing the third part. Have the kids repeat after you in their best robot voice and do the hand motions.
- Here's what we already know from this month's memory verse:
 - **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ"** (Point up high.)

- **“the new creation has come”** (Wave your arms around you, motioning “new.”)
- This week, we are adding:
 - **“The old has gone, the new is here!”** (Motion with both hands left: **“the old has gone,”** and right: **“the new is here”**).
- Now, let’s do it all together!

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today’s Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | In Gear

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out some [gear blocks](#) for the kids to play with and experience. This week, have them try to build the longest gear chain.

ACTIVITY | Foiled

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Kids will create fun [aluminum foil 3D drawings](#). Have kids draw pictures of robots (or whatever makes them happy!) on foam board or heavy card stock. Trace their drawings with hot glue, allowing them to dry completely. (Do this away from the kids if you think they will reach and touch the glue.) Wrap the pictures with aluminum foil. Use cotton swabs to reveal the drawings. Sharpies can be used after to decorate their 3D drawings.