

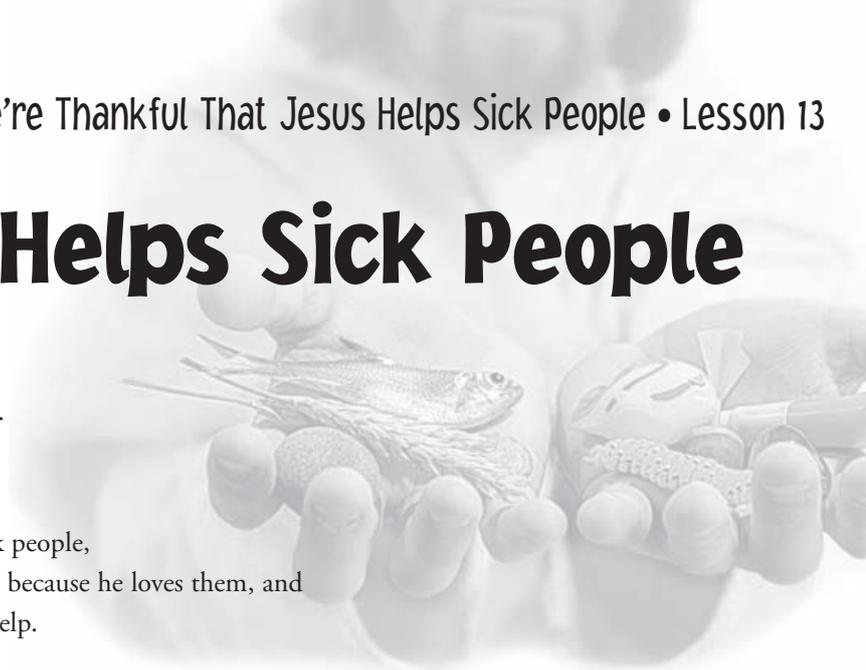
Jesus Helps Sick People

Bible Verse

Jesus helps us all (adapted from Matthew 11:28).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- understand that Jesus helps sick people,
 - discover that Jesus helps people because he loves them, and
 - express their thanks for Jesus' help.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- We're thankful that Jesus helps sick people.

Luke
5:17-26



No matter who we are or how healthy we are, we still need Jesus. We need his help when we're sick, and we especially need his help in the area of forgiveness, as the paralyzed man in our story did as well.

We often pray for sick people, but how often do we thank God for health, or after a sick person recovers? How often do we credit a doctor or a particular treatment for the healing instead of God? Even when the doctor or the medicine does help a person, we should be thankful to God for the skills he's given the doctor and for the healing elements of medicines that God has helped researchers to discover.

We all could be more thankful to God for all he does for us, and you have a chance to get your toddlers started off with thankful attitudes early in life. Help them learn to be thankful that Jesus helps sick people.

Prayer

- Read Colossians 3:15-16.
- How's the level of gratitude in your heart toward God?
- What do you have to be thankful for? Share it with God now.
- Pray: Lord, thank you for all you've done in my life. Help me to exhibit a thankful attitude before my class by...

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), scissors, marker, tape or safety pins, CD player	
	Option 1: Rooftop Toss —Toss beanbags into a pretend house.	Beanbags, medium-sized box or box house from Lesson 10, masking tape	
	Option 2: Tiptoe Through the House —Walk, hop, crawl, and tiptoe around a make-believe house.	Masking tape or colored vinyl tape	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	Jesus Helps Sick People —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story from Luke 5:17-26 of Jesus healing the paralyzed man.	Paper plates, jumbo cotton balls, bath towel, paper, tape	
	Jesus Helps Us —Sing a song about Jesus' help and love.	CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Review the Bible Point with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Happy-children patterns (p. 182), tape, scissors	
	Sing It Out —Sing a song about how Jesus helps sick people.	CD player, facial tissues	
	Bear Boo-Boos —Put bandages on a stuffed bear, and remember that Jesus helps sick people.	Small adhesive bandages	
	Bible Craft —Make cute puppets to express how they feel when Jesus helps them.	Crayons, markers	
	Bible Game —Play an active color game with pretend bandages.	Red, yellow, blue, and green construction paper; scissors; tape; marker	
Closing 	Party Bananas —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Bananas; paper plates; powdered, fruit-flavored gelatin; napkins	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), scissors, marker, tape or safety pins, CD player



- Play “Jesus Helps Us All” (adapted from Matthew 11:28) (track 14) from the CD as children are arriving.
- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child’s clothing.
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► Jesus helps sick people.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won’t be distracted by him during the next activity.



To make beanbags in a snap, pour dried beans or peas into child-sized socks, and then securely knot the ankles.



Option 1: Rooftop Toss

SUPPLIES: beanbags, medium-sized box or box house from Lesson 10, masking tape

Set the box house from Lesson 10 beside a wall, or use a medium-sized box with a hole cut in the bottom. Place a masking tape line about three feet from the box, and then set two beanbags on the line.

As children arrive, invite them to stand at the line and take turns tossing beanbags through the “roof” of the box house. Remind children that the lame man was lowered through the roof of a house in the Bible story. Mention that they’ll hear more about the Bible story today and how ► Jesus helps sick people.



Option 2: Tiptoe Through the House

SUPPLIES: masking tape or colored vinyl tape

Before class, use masking tape or colored vinyl tape to make a square outline of a house. You may also outline a triangle “roof” for the “house.”

Let children walk, hop, crawl, and tiptoe around the house outline. Make comments such as “I’m thankful we can move in different ways” and “It’s fun to walk and hop. The man in the Bible story couldn’t do that until Jesus healed him.” Remind children how the man thanked God when Jesus helped him walk. Tell children that we’re thankful that ► Jesus helps sick people. too. Encourage children to say, “Thank you, God” as they move around the house outline.



Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let’s Pick Up All Our Things” (track 2). Use the CD and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”


teacher tips

As you are preparing the StoryBoard with the sensory items, think through the Bible story and the interactive questions you will ask. Think about voice changes, gestures, and eye contact.



Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
It's time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Say: **Who helps sick people? ► Jesus helps sick people. How do we know that? The Bible tells us. The Bible tells us that ► Jesus helps us all.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let's sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD, lead children in singing "God's Special Book" (track 3) to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."



This is God's special book.
Yes, it's God's book you see!
I learn about all God has done
And his love for me!
(Repeat.)
Bible!

■ Bible Story: Jesus Helps Sick People

SUPPLIES: paper plates, jumbo cotton balls, bath towel, paper, tape



Before class begins, be sure the sensory items are still attached securely to the StoryBoard so children can touch them without danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Cover Panels 2 and 3 of the StoryBoard by taping a sheet of paper over each panel.


teacher tips

It's important to say the Bible Point just as it's written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.

Panel 1



Set the punch-out figure of the man on the felt mat, cotton balls, a bath towel, and paper plates beside you.

Say: **We're going to hear a Bible story about how ► Jesus helps sick people.** Point to the man on the mat on Panel 1 and say: **Here is a man who didn't feel very well. The man couldn't**

move his legs. He couldn't walk or run or hop. So the man's friends carried him everywhere on a mat. We can touch the man's mat. Let children find and touch the mat.

Ask: • **How does the mat feel?** (Soft; nice.)

Say: **Let's see if we can carry pretend people on mats.** Hand each child a paper plate with a cotton ball on it. **Can you carry your pretend person around the room?** Lead children on a walk around the room with their paper plate "mats" and pretend people. **Let's take our pretend people to see Jesus!** Have children set their paper plates beside the StoryBoard and then sit down. **Oh, what good friends you are! It's nice to help others, and I'm thankful that ► Jesus helps sick people.** **Just as we brought our pretend people to Jesus, the friends brought the man on the mat to see Jesus. But, oh my! What did they see at the house where Jesus was?**



Panel 2



Choose a child to reveal Panel 2.

Say: **What did they see? People! Lots and lots of people! There was a big crowd with Jesus, and the friends couldn't get inside.** Shake your head as you slowly say the following rhyme:

**No room, no room—not even for a mouse!
How could they fit in that crowded little house?**

Repeat the rhyme and encourage children to shake their heads as they say it with you.

Say: **Jesus was in the crowd. He was helping sick people. Can you find Jesus and touch his beard?** Let children each have a turn pointing to Jesus and touching his beard.

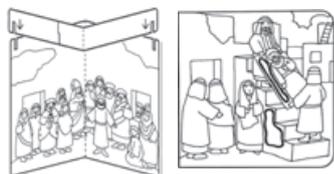
Ask: • **How does Jesus' beard feel?** (Soft; nice.)

• **Who helps people?** (Jesus.)

Say: **The friends knew that ► Jesus helps sick people, but how could they get in the house? The friends had a wonderful idea. What do you think they did?**



Panels 2 & 3



Choose a child to reveal Panel 3, which shows the friends carrying the sick man up the stairs.

Say: **The friends carried the man up, up, up the steps—up to the rooftop. We'll touch the stair steps.** Have children find and touch the steps on Panel 3. Then say: **Now let's pretend we're going up and down steps, too. Stand up and follow me.** Lead children in the following action rhyme a few times.

Step-step-hop! (*Step in place and then hop.*)

Step-step-hop! (*Step in place and then hop.*)

Upstairs, downstairs (*stand on tiptoes and then squat low*),

Then we stop. (*Step in place.*)

That was fun! But I think carrying the man up those steps was hard work for his friends. The friends really wanted the man to see Jesus because they knew that ► Jesus helps sick people.

When they got on top of the house, the friends lowered the man down, down, down through the roof. Lower the punch-out figure on the felt mat down through the roof on Panel 2. **Jesus saw how the man and his friends believed in him. So Jesus said, “I forgive the wrong things you’ve done. Pick up your mat and go home.” Suddenly** (lift the figure from the mat and move the legs back and forth), **the man’s legs moved and he could walk! The man picked up his mat. Then he thanked God that he could walk.**

Here’s a pretend mat. Spread the bath towel on the floor. **Let’s take turns pretending to be the man on the mat. I’ll choose someone to lay on the towel. When we say, “Pick up your mat and go home,” you can pick up the towel and say, “Thank you, God!” Then walk around the StoryBoard one time.** Let each child have a turn.

Then say: **Jesus loved the man on the mat and wanted him to feel better. So Jesus healed the man. Let’s sing a song to show how thankful we are that** ► Jesus helps sick people.

■ Jesus Helps Us

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing “Jesus Helps Us” (track 13) to the tune of “God Is So Good.” For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Jesus helps you. (*Point to a friend.*)

Jesus helps me. (*Point to yourself.*)

Jesus helps us. (*Spread arms out wide.*)

He helps you and me. (*Point to a friend and then to yourself.*)

Jesus loves you. (*Cover your heart, and then point to a friend.*)

Jesus loves me. (*Cover your heart, and then point to yourself.*)

Jesus loves us. (*Cover your heart, and then spread your arms out wide.*)

He loves you and me. (*Cover your heart; then point to a friend and then to yourself.*)

(Repeat.)

Say: **Jesus loves us and wants us to be healthy and feel good. I’m thankful that** ► Jesus helps sick people. Let’s see how the children in our bulletin board hospital or doctor’s office are feeling today.



BIBLE POINT ►



Important: Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.



BIBLE POINT ►

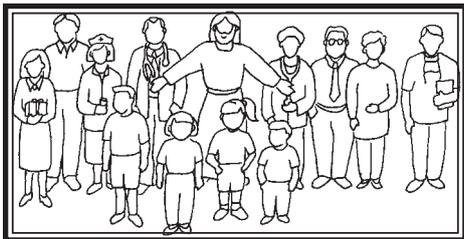


BIBLE POINT ►

Bible Activities

Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: happy-children patterns (p. 182), tape, scissors



Before class, photocopy the happy-children patterns. Cut out one pattern for each child.

This week, you'll exchange the pictures of the sick children with pictures of the same children who are happy and feeling better.

Bring out Cuddles the Lamb.

Cuddles: (Singing to the tune of "Old MacDonald")



SING

**Jesus helps us when we're sick,
Baa, baa, baa, baa, baaa!
He helps us feel good really quick,
Baa, baa, baa, baa, baaa!**

Teacher: Cuddles, you're very happy today, aren't you?

Cuddles: Yes! I'm so thankful that ► Jesus helps sick people! My cold is gone, and my friend Sam feels better, too! I feel like singing! (*Continues singing.*)



SING

**Jesus helps us when we're sick,
Baa, baa, baa, baa, baaa!**

Teacher: You're right, Cuddles. ► Jesus helps sick people. But those aren't the words to our song. If you'd like to help us with the bulletin board, we'll sing "The Ah-CHOO Song" with you and teach you the right words.

Cuddles: I'd like that!

Teacher: We're going to see how the children in the bulletin board hospital or doctor's office are feeling. I think they're feeling better today.

Have Cuddles hand each child a picture of a happy, healthy child. If there's time, allow children to color the pictures of the children. Help children gently remove the pictures of the sick children and replace them with pictures of the happy children. Each time a child places a picture, lead him or her in saying the Bible Point.

Cuddles: I'm glad that the children in the pretend hospital are feeling better.

Teacher: And now we'll sing "The Ah-CHOO Song" to show how thankful we are that ► Jesus helps sick people.

Have Cuddles sing the following song with the children, and then put Cuddles away, out of sight.

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Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: CD player, facial tissues



Hand each child and Cuddles a facial tissue, then lead children in singing “The Ah-CHOO Song” (track 11) to the tune of “Old MacDonald.” Use the CD and do the motions in parentheses as children “teach” the song to Cuddles.



Jesus helps us when we're sick (*point upward*)
And have a cold—ah-CHOO! (*Pretend to sneeze.*)
Jesus helps us when we're sick (*point upward*),
And I can help out, too. (*Point to yourself.*)

Cough—cough—'CHOOO! (*Make coughing and sneezing sounds in place of the words.*)
God bless you! (*Make a slight bow.*)
Do you need a tissue, too? (*Hold out a facial tissue.*)
Jesus helps us when we're sick (*point upward*)
And have a cold—ah-CHOO! (*Pretend to sneeze.*)

(Repeat.)

Say: **The man in the Bible story thanked God that Jesus helped him walk. The man was very happy. I'm happy that ► Jesus helps sick people! I have a little bear here who is very sick. Can you help him feel better?**



Bear Boo-Boos

SUPPLIES: small adhesive bandages (one for each child)



Before class, unwrap small adhesive bandages so they are easier for the children to work with. You should leave the tabs on, however, so the bandages don't stick to anything else.

Hold up the *toy bear* from the Learning Lab.

Say: **I'm going to tell you what's wrong with Little Bear, and then I'll need a helper to put a bandage on the part of Little Bear that is sick.**

Say: **Little Bear has a stomachache.** Invite one child to pull the tabs off of an adhesive bandage and affix the bandage to Little Bear's stomach. Continue to list Little Bear's ailments (headache, hurt leg, sore throat, cut knee, scraped elbow, and so on) until each child has had an opportunity to put a bandage on the bear.

Ask: • **When you know someone who is sick, what can you do for that person?** (Give them a bandage; give them a hug; tell them Jesus loves them.)

• **Why do we help sick people?** (Because Jesus does; because it makes them feel better.)

• **Why does Jesus help sick people?** (Because he loves them; he wants them to feel better.)

Say: **I think that Little Bear feels a lot better now! Thank you for helping him. We can make happy puppets to remind us how thankful we are that ► Jesus helps sick people.**



Have some transparent tape handy just in case some of the bandages fall off.



■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: *crayons, markers*



Set out markers, crayons, and the craft sticks found in the Learning Lab box. If you need additional craft sticks (tongue depressors), many physicians will supply them for free. Say: **Show me an “I’m feeling sick” face.** Pause for children to respond. Then say: **Show me an “I’m feeling better” face.**

Pause. **Draw an “I’m sick” face on one end of your stick. Then draw an “I’m feeling better” face on the other end.** Help children draw two faces on their craft sticks with the crayons and markers.

When everyone has finished, repeat the following rhyme and encourage children to use their craft-stick puppets to follow you.

It’s no fun when I feel sick (*hold up the “sick” face*),
But Jesus helps me get well quick! (*Hold up the “happy” face.*)

Say: **The man in the Bible story didn’t feel good when he couldn’t walk. But he knew that ► *Jesus helps sick people*, and Jesus healed him. That made the man happy, and he thanked God right away. Let’s play a game to remind us how the happy man could walk and hop after Jesus healed him.**



■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: *red, yellow, blue, and green construction paper; scissors; tape; marker*

Before class, cut 2x4-inch strips of yellow, red, blue, and green construction paper. Use a marker to draw a square in the center of each paper strip to make the strip look like a bandage. Be sure to have a colored “bandage” for each child and one of each color for yourself.

Hold up the colored bandages and let children identify each color. Tape a paper bandage to each child’s clothing, and then have children stand at one end of the room while you stand at the opposite end holding a set of colored bandages.

Hold up a colored bandage. The children with that color may skip, hop, crawl, or walk to you. Then hold up another color. Continue until each child is beside you; then lead children in saying the Bible Point and clapping. Play again by going to the other end of the room. If you have older toddlers, let them take turns holding up colored bandages and telling you the names of the colors.

Say: **Our pretty paper bandages remind us how happy we are that ► *Jesus helps sick people*. We can have a snack to remind us how thankful we are, too. The children wearing red bandages may tiptoe to the snack table.** Pause. **Now the ones wearing yellow bandages.** Pause. **And the ones wearing blue and green bandages may tiptoe together!**





Closing

■ Party Bananas

SUPPLIES: bananas; paper plates; powdered, fruit-flavored gelatin; napkins

After children have washed their hands and are gathered at the snack table, ask:

- **Who helps sick people?** (Jesus!)



Say: ► ***Jesus helps sick people.*** He helps people because he loves us so much. And he wants us to love him back so that someday we can live with him forever in heaven. We're so thankful that ► ***Jesus helps sick people!*** Let's be like the man in the Bible story and thank God that Jesus helps us when we're sick. Fold your hands. Pray: Dear God, thank you for Jesus' love.

And thank you that Jesus helps us whenever we're sick. In Jesus' name, amen.

Say: **We can eat party bananas to show how happy we are that Jesus helps us.** Hand each child half of a peeled banana on a paper plate. Pour a teaspoon of powdered, fruit-flavored gelatin on the paper plate, and invite toddlers to dip their bananas in the gelatin powder for a festive treat.

When everyone has finished, remind children to throw their napkins and paper plates in the wastebasket and to take home their craft-stick puppets.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ *Jump for Joy*

Gather children in a circle. Let children take turns telling about or pointing to an “owie” they have or have had, such as a skinned knee or bumped elbow. Then lead children in saying the Bible Point, counting to 3, and then saying, “Jump for joy!” Encourage children to hop high in the air with joy.

■ *Beanbag Bandage*

Before this activity, cut 4x8-inch paper strips from red, yellow, blue, and green construction paper. Use markers to draw squares on the strips to make them look like bandages. Tape the paper “bandages” on the floor in a line. Let children take turns tossing the beanbags from Option 1 on the paper bandages, and then telling the colors that the beanbags land on. If you chose not to do Option 1, let children toss paper wads.

Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.

