



SUPERNATURAL

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

IPHC CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM

JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH LEPROSY

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 8:1-4 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus has the power to do the supernatural.

FOCUS VERSE

“What is impossible with man is possible with God.” Luke 18:27 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Red Dot Stickers | Adhesive Bandages | Robe (Optional) | *Leprosy Pyramid* |
Scissors | Clear Tape | Markers or Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What do you like to do when you're not at church?
- Tell me about your family. Do you have brothers or sisters? Pets?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Learning to sing in corporate worship is a spiritually formative practice. Kids need opportunities to practice worshipping with children their own age and with their families. If possible, provide some sort of worship time for your kids.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather everyone for prayer. Allow a willing child to pray. If no one volunteers, you can pray instead.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Jesus, we thank You for being with us today. Please help us understand more about You as we hear from Your Word, the Bible. We love You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”



ENCOURAGE CHILDREN WHEN THEY VOLUNTEER TO PRAY. THIS CAN BE SCARY, SO APPLAUD THEM FOR THEIR COURAGE. WE ARE TRAINING LEADERS, AND BEING COMFORTABLE PRAYING ALOUD IS A SKILL WE WANT THEM TO DEVELOP AND GROW IN.

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

Each week we will introduce a new puzzle piece to provide an ongoing, chronological, and visual record of the stories we are learning.



WE CHOSE A PUZZLE PIECE TO ILLUSTRATE HOW ALL OF GOD'S STORIES FIT TOGETHER. YOU CAN SAY, "THESE PUZZLE PIECES REMIND US THAT ALL OF THE BIBLE FITS PERFECTLY TOGETHER INTO ONE BIG STORY ABOUT JESUS."

BACKGROUND: Say, "This month, we are starting a new group of lessons called *Supernatural*. Does anyone know what the word 'supernatural' means? The word 'supernatural' describes an impossible act that can only be done by the power of God. Over the next four weeks, we will be learning about some of the supernatural things Jesus did in the New Testament. Our first puzzle piece looks like this! Let's put it on the wall."



LAMINATE THE PUZZLE PIECES OR PRINT THEM ON CARDSTOCK TO MAKE THEM LAST LONGER.

TRANSITION: Say, "Alright, let's get ready for today's story with a game."

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Red Dot Stickers (about 50 per class) | Adhesive Bandages (about 50 per class) |

Say, "Our game is about making people well. Who has the job of making people feel better? Right! Doctors! Let's get ready to play a game where we are going to pretend to be doctors."

GAME GOAL: The class will work together to "heal" the "sick" person.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Choose one person to be "sick." The rest will be "doctors."
2. Next, stick about 10 dot stickers on the "sick" person and tell all the "doctors" that they will have to fix all the "sick" person's "injuries" (red dot stickers) by covering the dots with bandaids.



STICK THE RED DOT STICKERS IN APPROPRIATE SPOTS LIKE ON KNEES, FEET, ARMS, HANDS, FACES, ETC.

3. Put the "sick" person on one side of the room and the "doctors" on the opposite side. The teacher will let the "doctors" fix the "sick" person by running to them one at a time to put on bandaids until all the dots have been covered.
4. Once all of the "injuries" are covered with bandaids, replay and choose a different person to be "sick."

TRANSITION: Say, "Like the game we just played, the man in today's lesson was sick and needed to be healed. Let's find out what happens to make him feel better!"

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Robe (Optional) |

Say, "Today, we will read about Jesus healing a man with leprosy. Right before this supernatural event took place, though, Jesus had been teaching to a large crowd on a mountain. Amazed by His words, these people started following Him everywhere. This is where our story begins. Let's read to see what happens next." Read Matthew 8:1-4 (ICB).



READ WITH EXPRESSION! IT WILL MAKE THE STORY COME TO LIFE.

¹ When Jesus came down from the hill, great crowds followed him. ² Then a man sick with a harmful skin disease (leprosy) came to Jesus. The man bowed down before him and said, "Lord, you have the power to heal me if you want." ³ Jesus touched the man and said, "I want to heal you. Be healed!" And immediately the man was healed from his (leprosy) skin disease. ⁴ Then Jesus said to him, "Don't tell anyone about what happened. But go and show yourself to the priest. And offer the gift that Moses commanded for people who are made well. This will show people that you are healed."

Say, "That was such a supernatural story!"

Ask, "*Does anyone know what leprosy is?*" In the Bible, leprosy was a skin disease that caused open sores or wounds all over a person's body. There was no cure for leprosy in Jesus' time. Even doctors couldn't help those who had it. This is why Jesus' miracle was so amazing! Only God's power could heal a disease like this. Jesus has power to do the supernatural."

ACT IT OUT: Reread the story. Use the robe (optional) or any other props you have around and the room.

TRANSITION: Say, "**Jesus has the power to do the supernatural!** Let's get ready to learn more about our story."

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Isn't Jesus awesome for healing that man? Let's talk about it."

1. In this story, who has the power to do the supernatural?

Response: **Jesus has the power to do the supernatural.**

2. What supernatural thing did Jesus do?

Response: He healed a man from leprosy.

3. Why was healing leprosy so supernatural?

Response: Leprosy was incurable.

4. How long did it take Jesus to heal the man?

Response: He healed him immediately.

5. Why do you think Jesus touched the man to heal him? Why didn't he just say, "Be healed"?

Response: Jesus did not have to touch the man to heal him, but He did anyways! Everyone in Jesus' time knew that if you touched a person who had leprosy, you would get it too. Jesus wasn't afraid of leprosy or the man. Jesus touched the man to show he had the power to perform this healing without getting leprosy Himself.

6. Why does Jesus tell this man to "show" himself to the leaders of the Jewish people?

Response: The man normally wouldn't be able to go into the city and temple because he was contagious; he was considered "unclean." Now he could go, because Jesus made him clean. Additionally, Jesus wanted the leaders to see the miracle and not just hear about it.

7. What does this story tell us about Jesus?

Response: **Jesus has the power to do the supernatural**, Jesus is powerful, Jesus is merciful, Jesus can heal anything, Jesus is compassionate, Jesus is loving, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job answering the questions! Let's do an activity together."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Leprosy Pyramid* (1 per child) | Scissors | Clear Tape | Markers or Crayons |

Say, "We're going to be making a leprosy story pyramid to make today's story come to life. Who's ready?"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a *Leprosy Pyramid*, scissors, tape, and markers or crayons. Each side of the *Leprosy Pyramid* displays a different portion of the story.
2. Have the children color the images, cut the pyramid out, and fold it together.
3. As the children are cutting and taping their pyramids together, help anyone who needs more assistance.

TRANSITION: Say, "Awesome job! Now we can use our *Leprosy Pyramids* to help us remember our story. Let's practice this month's memory verse."

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Explain that the kids will learn a memory verse this month to help them remember that God (Jesus) can do the impossible. First, say the verse by yourself and demonstrate the actions. Then, have the kids practice it with you. Finally, ask for volunteers who would like to try it by themselves.

"What is impossible (do a crossing out motion with arms) with man is possible (make a fireworks motion looking up to the sky) with God." Luke 18:27 (NIV) (hold hands open like a book)

CHALLENGE: Practice saying the verse really SLOW, and then practice saying it really FAST.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "We have a lot to thank God for today. After all, we get to serve Jesus, and **Jesus has the power to do the supernatural!** Jesus still heals just like He healed the man with leprosy. In fact, the Bible tells us to pray and ask God to heal us when we are sick. Before we pray, does anyone need God to heal them or someone in their family?"



IF THERE ARE CHILDREN WHO WANT TO BE PRAYED FOR, INVITE THE OTHER CHILDREN TO PUT A HAND ON THEIR SHOULDERS AS YOU PRAY.

SAMPLE PRAYER: "Jesus, we praise You for being able to do supernatural things. We ask that You would heal our friends like You healed the man with leprosy. Lord, we believe You have the power to heal. Thank You for loving us so much. We pray this in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen."

RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, have the children practice their memory verse, replay the ENGAGE game, or work on unfinished crafts. When parents come to pick up their children, give them a copy of the Monthly Parent Guide (downloadable).

PARENT GUIDE GOALS:

1. To provide engaging questions and activities for family discipleship.
2. To review what the children are learning each week.



LAMINATE OR PRINT THE PARENT GUIDE ON CARDSTOCK FOR A LONGER-LASTING PARENT RESOURCE.

Don't forget to tell each parent at least one encouraging thing about their child today!



