

MIRACLES

JESUS HEALS THE SICK



MIRACLES

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

UNIT 2 - PRE-K

In the *Miracles* unit, we focus on four major healings Jesus performed while on earth. Each week, the kids will be learning that Jesus does miracles of healing in the Bible but also in their own lives. The verse the class will be memorizing is found in Job 5:9—“He does great things too marvelous to understand. He performs countless miracles.” Be sure to emphasize that Jesus is our powerful, miracle-working God; no sickness is too big or too small for Jesus to heal! Join in with the children as they discover how miraculous Jesus really is!

WEEK 1

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (one per class), *Get Well Bingo* Activity Pages (5 versions/1 per child), *Get Well Bingo Calling Cards* Activity Page (1 per class), Bingo Counters (16 counters per child), *Thermometer Activity Pages* (1 per child printed on Cardstock), Red Pipe Cleaners (2 per child), Scissors, Liquid Glue, Crayons

WEEK 2

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Wall Tape (1 roll per class), Permanent Marker (1 per class), *Jesus Heals a Woman* Activity Page (1 per child), Crayons

WEEK 3

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Spin Tops or Coins (1 per child), Clear Bowl with Water (1 medium sized bowl per class), *Healing at the Pool* Book Activity Page (1 page per child), *Story Images* Activity Pages 1-2 (1 per child) Glue Sticks, Crayons

WEEK 4

LESSON MATERIALS: Puzzle Piece (1 per class), Toilet Paper (1 roll per class), *Lazarus Raised to Life* Activity Page (1 per child), Small Strips of Construction Paper (20 per child), Glue Sticks

MIRACLES

UNIT 2 - JESUS HEALS THE SICK

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JESUS HEALS A FEVER

BIBLE PASSAGE

Mark 1:29-31 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does miracles.

FOCUS VERSE

“He does great things too marvelous to understand. He performs countless miracles.”

Job 5:9 (NLT)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | *Get Well Bingo* Activity Pages | *Get Well Bingo Calling Cards* Activity Page |
Bingo Counters | *Thermometer* Activity Page | Cardstock Paper | Red Pipe Cleaners | Scissors |
Liquid Glue | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Have you ever been really sick? Tell me about it.
- If you could give one gift to every kid in the world, what gift would you give? Why?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Singing worship songs is one of my favorite things to do! Did you know, though, that there are other ways to worship God? We also worship with our thoughts [what we think about], our words, and our actions [what we do]. Can you give me an example of how you could worship God with your thoughts? Your words? Or your actions? [Wait for responses.] Those are great ideas! For now, let’s worship with our voices by singing, but I hope you’ll remember that we can worship God in other ways too.”

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather your class together for prayer.



IF YOU DO NOT NORMALLY PRAY BEFORE YOU START TEACHING, NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO BEGIN! STARTING THE DAY IN PRAYER REMINDS THE CHILDREN THAT THEY HAVE A GOD WHO WANTS TO TALK WITH THEM, HEAR THEIR NEEDS, AND HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, thank You for loving us enough to show us how wonderful You are. Teach us more about Your Son, Jesus, through our story. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW – 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Today marks the start of some brand new lessons called Miracles. Hmm... Who can tell me what a ‘miracle’ is? [A miracle is something incredible and wonderful that only God can do!] Each week we will hear about a different miracle that Jesus did while He lived on Earth. There may be some stories you have never heard, so listen closely. It is going to be great! Now, who wants to put up this week’s puzzle piece?” Have a child put the puzzle piece on the wall.

TRANSITION: Say, “Let’s play a game together to begin!”

ENGAGE – 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Get Well Bingo* Activity Pages (5 versions/1 per child) | *Get Well Bingo Calling Cards* Activity Page (1 per class) | Bingo Counters (16 counters per child) |

Say, “Being sick is no fun, is it? Well, for today’s game, we are going to play *Bingo*. This isn’t ordinary *Bingo*, though. These *Bingo* boards are full of pictures of things that make us feel better when we are sick. Let’s play *Get Well Bingo*!”



CUT THE *GET WELL BINGO CALLING CARDS* ACTIVITY PAGE ALONG THE SOLID LINES BEFORE PLAYING. *BINGO* COUNTERS CAN BE COINS, COTTON BALLS, POM-POMS, ETC.

GAME GOAL: To place counters on the *Bingo* boards until a person/pair gets four-in-a-row.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Give each child a *Get Well Bingo* Activity Page and several counters.
- Mix up all of the *Get Well Bingo Calling Cards* and draw one at random. Show and name the symbol to the children.
- After you announce each calling card, have the children place a counter on the corresponding symbol. (Continue this process until someone gets four-in-a-row.)
- The first child/children to get four symbols in a row wins. Play again as time remains.

MODIFICATION: If some of your children find this game too difficult, pair the children up so they can help one another.



IF YOUR CLASS IS STRUGGLING WITH HOW TO PLAY, MODEL WHAT YOU DO AS THE CALLING CARDS ARE BEING READ.

TRANSITION: Say, “What a fun game of *Get Well Bingo*! We are getting ready to read about someone who is very sick and needs something more than medicine to get well. Let’s find out what Jesus does!”

LEARN – 10 MINUTES

Say, “Did you know that **Jesus does miracles**? Well, it is a good thing that He does because in our Bible

story today there is a woman who needs to be made better again. Let's read about an amazing miracle that Jesus does for a woman who is very sick with a fever." Read Mark 1:29-31 (ICB).

²⁹ Jesus and his followers left the synagogue. They all went at once with James and John to the home of Simon[c] and Andrew. ³⁰ Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. The people there told Jesus about her. ³¹ So Jesus went to her bed, took her hand, and helped her up. Immediately the fever left her, and she was healed. Then she began serving them.

Say, "Wow! **Jesus does miracles!** What an amazing story!"

Ask, "Why do we call what Jesus did for this woman a miracle? [Wait for responses.] Yes! Because Jesus made her body completely well in an instant! He healed her like only God can because Jesus is God! Jesus can do anything! He has all the power!"

TRANSITION: Say, "The passage says, 'Immediately the fever left her' because **Jesus does miracles.** Jesus can heal sick bodies immediately [right away], even today! Isn't it amazing that **Jesus does miracles?** What a fantastic story!"



THE MORE YOU STICK TO YOUR ROUTINE, THE BETTER YOUR KIDS WILL FOLLOW THE LESSON.

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "I need everyone's help to talk about what we learned in our story together."

1. Who does miracles?

Response: **Jesus does miracles.**

2. Does Jesus only do miracles for His disciples or really important people?

Response: No! This woman was Simon's mother-in-law. He healed her because He loves her. Jesus wants to do miracles for everyone.

3. What miracle did Jesus do for Simon's mother-in-law?

Response: Jesus healed her of a fever.

4. Did Jesus need to give Simon's mother-in-law medicine to heal her?

Response: No! Jesus didn't need to use medicine. The way he healed her was a miracle.

5. Can you think of any other miracles Jesus performed while He lived on Earth? How are they like this miracle? How are they different?

Response: Answers will vary.

6. Do you have a friend or family member you want Jesus to heal?

Response: Answers will vary. (Either stop and pray for these needs now or write them down and remember to pray for them during REFLECT.)

7. What do we learn about Jesus from our story?

Response: **Jesus does miracles,** Jesus heals fevers, Jesus takes care of us, Jesus is our Healer, Jesus is all-powerful, etc.



TRY WRITING THE CHILDREN'S ANSWERS ON A WHITEBOARD OR POSTER SO THEY CAN SEE THE ANSWERS THEY ARE CALLING OUT.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great discussion! Remember, **Jesus does miracles** just like He did for Simon's mother-in-law. He can do miracles in your life too."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Thermometer Activity Pages* (1 per child) | Red Pipe Cleaners (2 per child) | Scissors (1 per child) | Liquid Glue | Crayons |

Say, "Today, we will make a craft to remind us that Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law from a fever. Did you know that the best way to tell if you have a fever is to take your temperature? We do that with a thermometer! Our thermometer craft will help us remember that **Jesus does miracles.**"



PRINT THE TWO *THERMOMETER* ACTIVITY PAGES DOUBLE-SIDED ON ONE PIECE OF CARDSTOCK. ONE SIDE OF THE CARDSTOCK WILL READ "**JESUS DOES MIRACLES**" AND THE FLIP-SIDE WILL READ "FEVER." BE SURE TO PROVIDE ONE FOR EACH CHILD.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Give each child a *Thermometer Activity Page* (printed double-sided on cardstock), two red pipe cleaners, and scissors. Provide one bottle of glue for every table.
- One side of the thermometer will say "Fever," and the flip side will say, "**Jesus does Miracles.**"
- Instruct the children to color the title words on each side of the cardstock.
- Next, flip to the thermometer that says, "Fever." Measure, cut, and glue a red pipe cleaner to extend over the 102 degrees line. (If you have another adult helping you, have them walk around and make sure the children are using the correct side of the page.)
- Next, have everyone flip to the side of the thermometer that says, "**Jesus does Miracles.**" On this side of the thermometer, help the kids measure, cut, and glue the second red pipe cleaner to align around 98 degrees to show that the temperature is normal.
- Retell the story and have the kids act it out using their thermometers.



TO HELP THE LITTLE ONES ALONG ON THIS CRAFT, YOU CAN MEASURE AND CUT THE RED PIPE CLEANERS IN ADVANCE.

TRANSITION: Say, "**Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He? Now, we can use our crafts to remember our story. Make sure you retell our story to an adult or sibling using your *Thermometer Activity Pages*! Tell them what you learned about Jesus today!"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "**Jesus does miracles**, which means He is a miracle-worker. Our memory verse this month talks all about how amazing Jesus' miracles are. Jesus never gets tired of performing great miracles for those He loves."

"He does great things [give two thumbs up] too marvelous [open eyes really wide] to understand [point to head]. He performs countless [count on fingers] miracles." Job 5:9 (NLT) (hold your hands out like a book)

CHALLENGE: Engage your kids in the memory verse by asking a few questions:

1. What kind of miracles does Jesus do?
2. What does “marvelous” mean?
3. Why can **Jesus do miracles**?

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “Jesus did an amazing miracle for Simon Peter’s mother-in-law. He healed her fever because Jesus is God, and **Jesus does miracles**. The good news is that Jesus can heal anything! Isn’t that amazing? There is no limit to what Jesus can do.”



USE THIS MOMENT TO PRAY FOR SPECIFIC REQUESTS. TEACH YOUR KIDS AND BELIEVE WITH THEM THAT JESUS CAN DO MIRACLES FOR THEM.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Jesus, we are grateful that You love us so much. You can heal things from the smallest paper cut to the worst sickness. You are amazing and so powerful. Today, we want to pray for [insert the children’s requests here]. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*

RELEASE —

If there is extra time before parents arrive, use the spare time to drive home the Big Idea, **Jesus Does Miracles**. You could also use this time to sing songs about Jesus’ power. (Hillsong Kids’ song “Supernatural” is an excellent fit for this month. Find it on YouTube.) If our kids learn nothing else except how powerful and loving our God is, today’s goal will be accomplished.

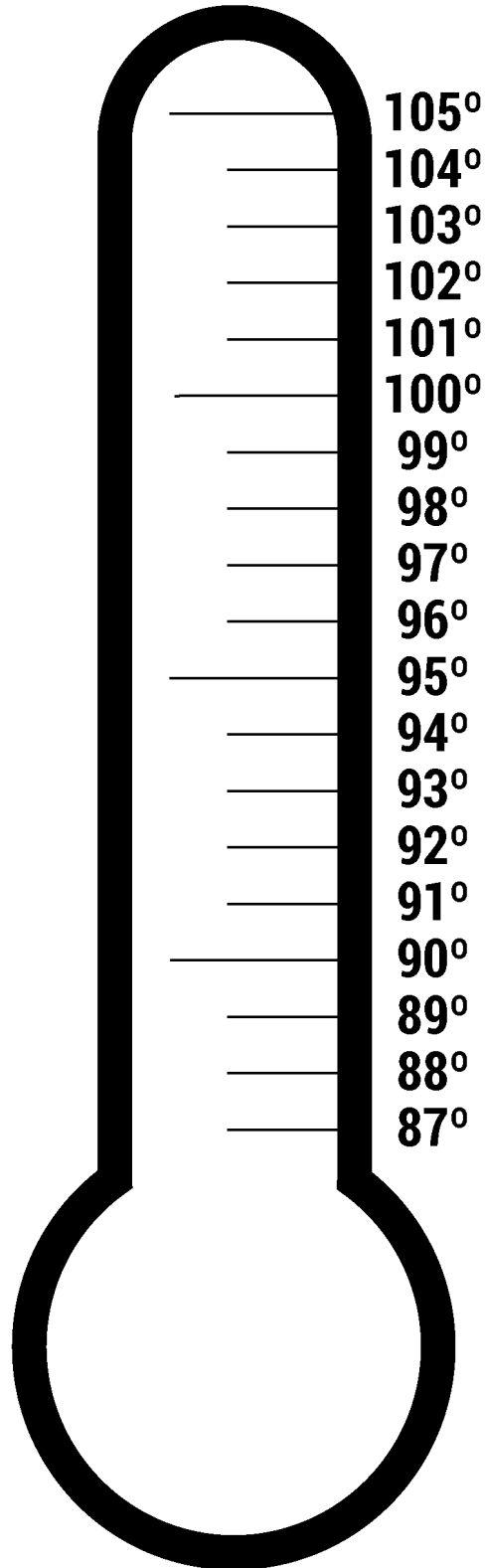


JESUS HEALS A FEVER

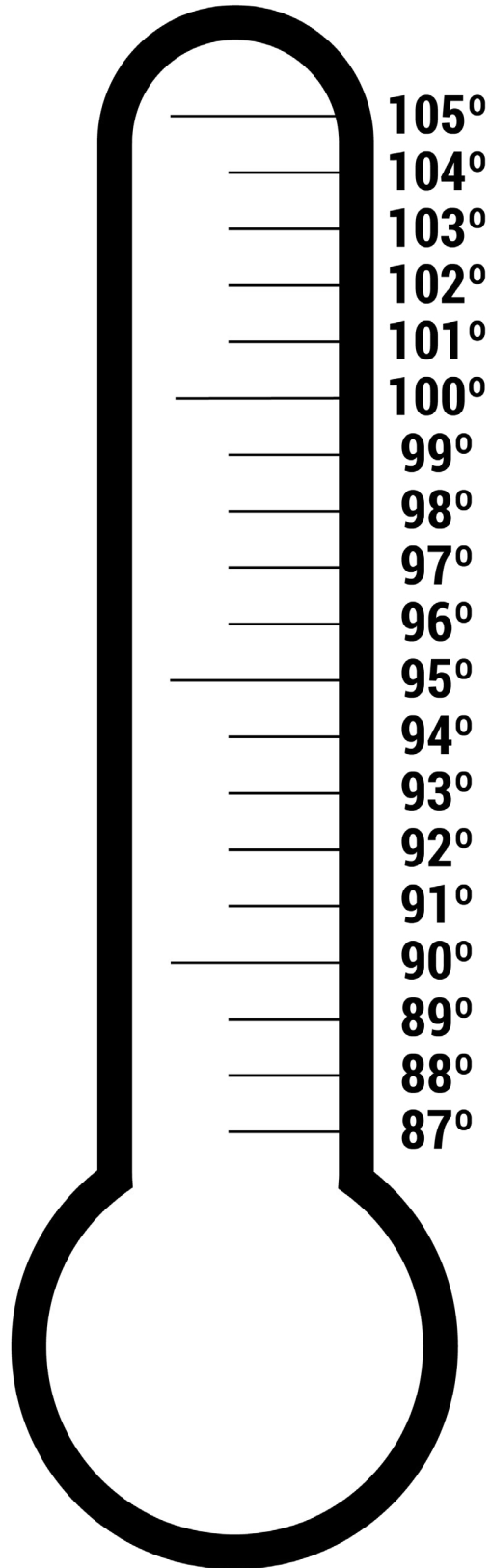
WEEK 1

MIRACLES

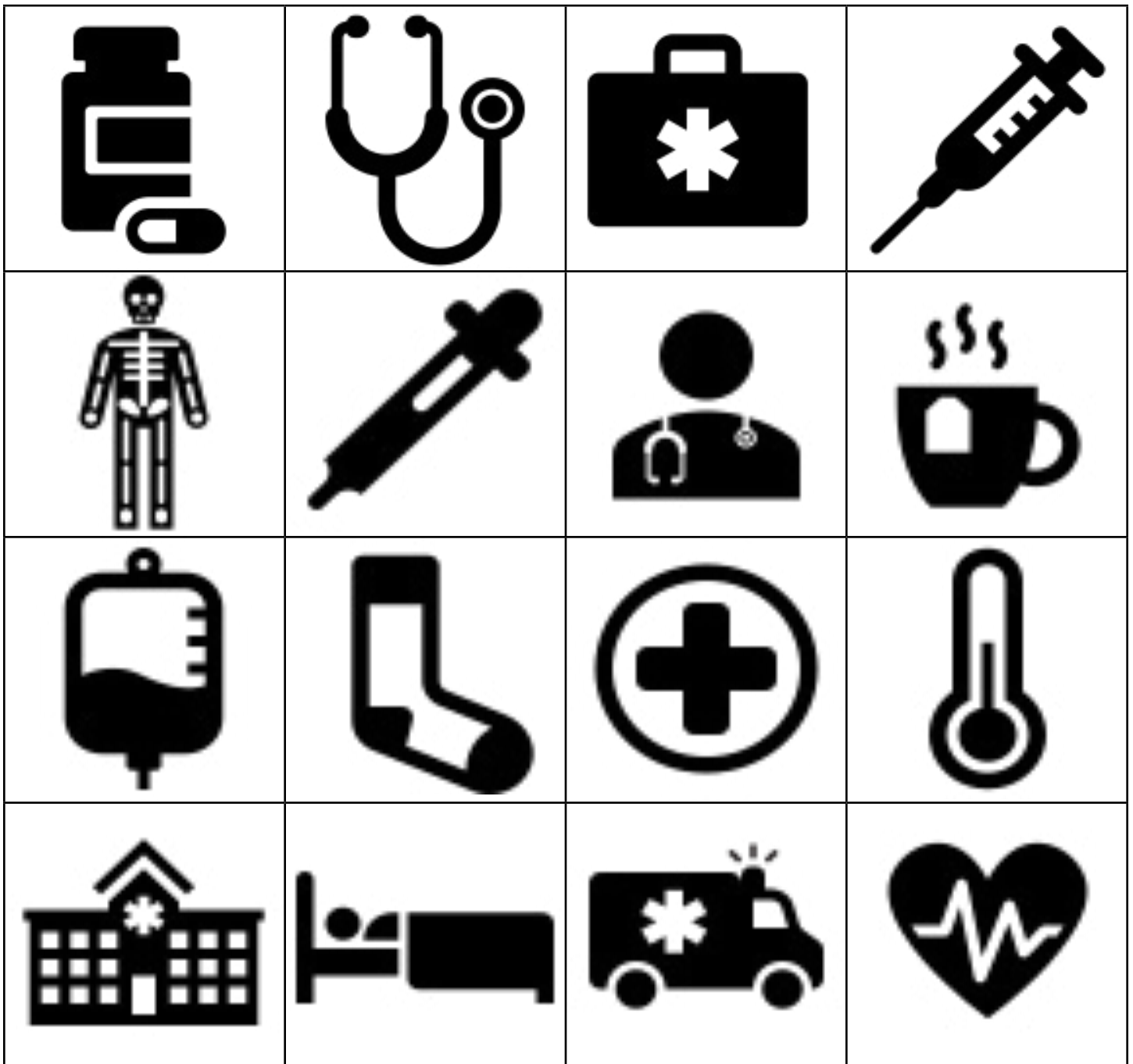
JESUS DOES MIRACLES



FEVER



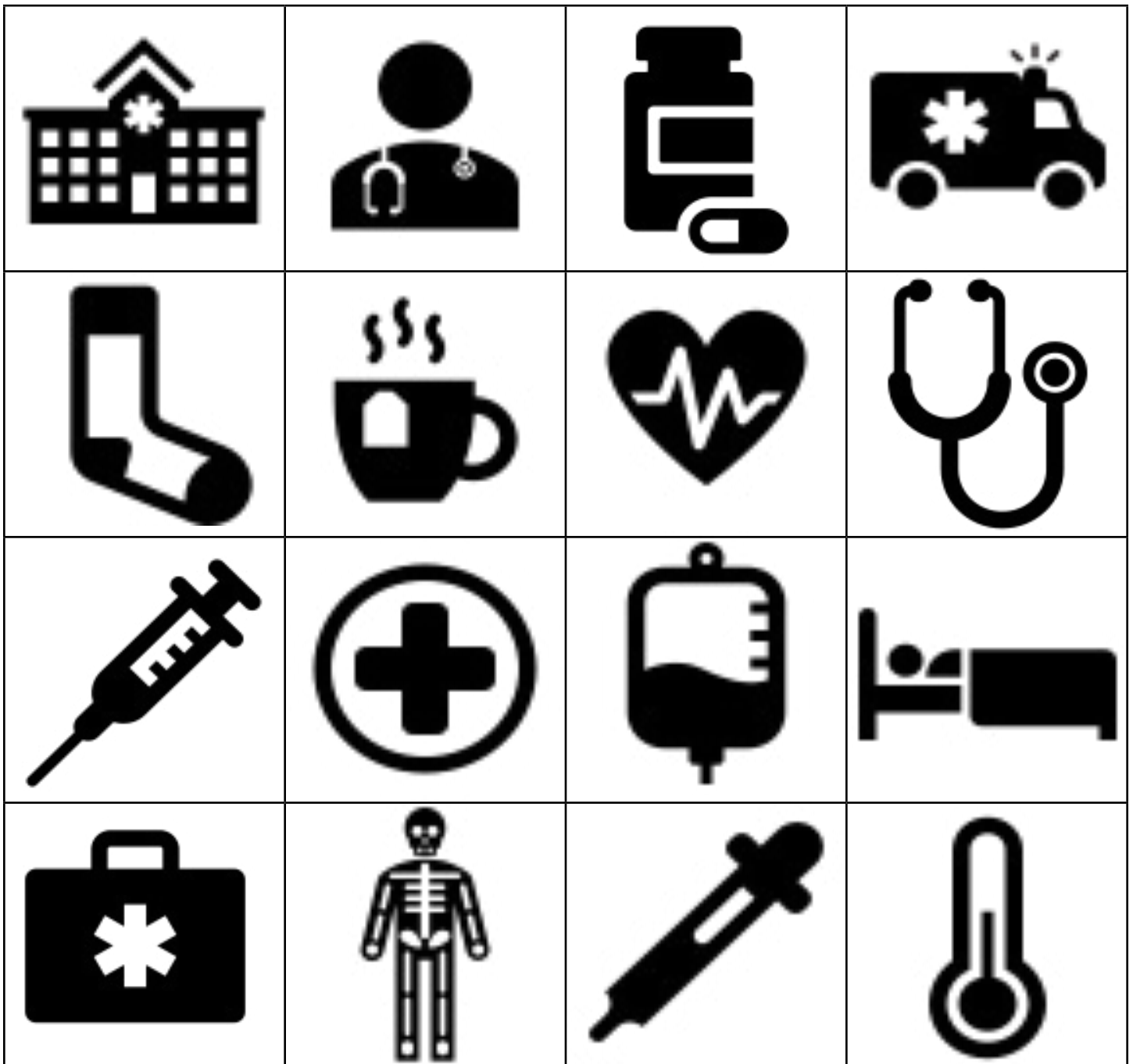
GET WELL BINGO



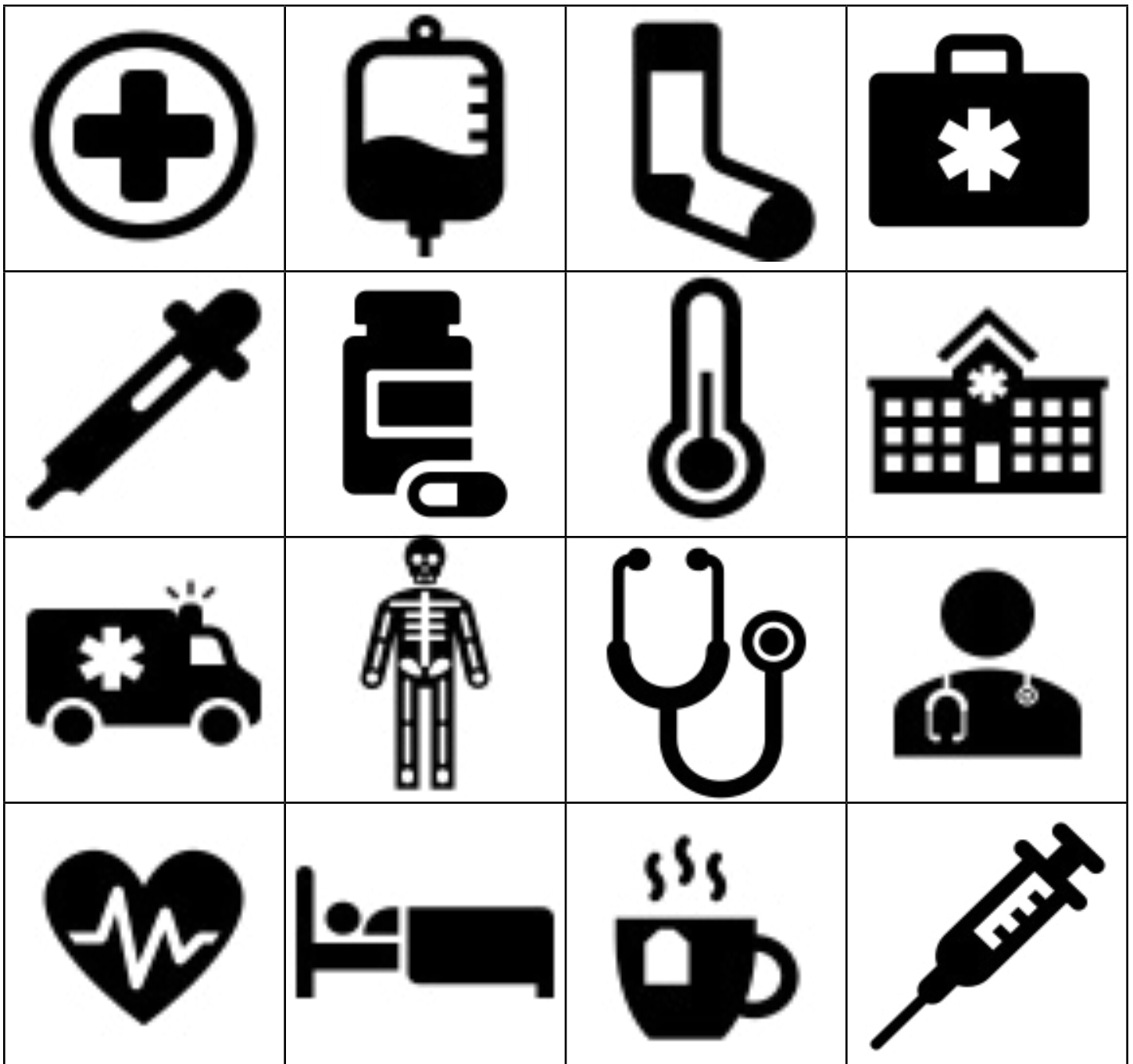
GET WELL BINGO



GET WELL BINGO



GET WELL BINGO



GET WELL BINGO



GET WELL BINGO CALLING CARD



IV BAG



FIRST AID KIT



BED



CROSS



HEART



DROPPER



STETHOSCOPE



SKELETON



THERMOMETER



HOSPITAL



DOCTOR



SOCK



PILL BOTTLE



AMBULANCE



HOT TEA



SYRINGE/SHOT

JESUS HEALS A WOMAN

BIBLE PASSAGE

Mark 5:24-34 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does miracles.

FOCUS VERSE

“He does great things too marvelous to understand. He performs countless miracles.”

Job 5:9 (NLT)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Wall Tape | Permanent Marker | *Jesus Heals Woman* Activity Page | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Would you rather have super-sight or super-hearing?
- If you could read the thoughts of any animal, which one would you choose? Why?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “The Bible says to ‘Worship the Lord Your God and serve Him only’ [Luke 4:8]? God commands us to worship Him, and we get the incredible pleasure and joy of doing that today and every day. We train our hearts to put God first as we worship together, so let’s sing to God now.”

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray together with your class.



DON'T SKIP THIS SECTION. EVEN IF YOU, AS A LEADER, ARE UNCOMFORTABLE PRAYING ALOUD, USE THIS TIME TO SIMPLY TALK TO JESUS. YOU CAN USE THE SAMPLE PRAYER WRITTEN BELOW TO GUIDE YOU.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “*Jesus, we are so excited to learn more about You. Help my friends see who You really are. Show Yourself to us in a new way today. In Jesus’ name, Amen.*”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “Who remembers what we are talking about this month? [Wait for responses.] Right! We are talking about Miracles—specifically miracles Jesus did while He was on earth. Can anyone tell me

about a miracle Jesus did?" (Wait for responses.)



IF THE CLASS IS HAVING A HARD TIME COMING UP WITH A MIRACLE, TRY DEFINING THE WORD "MIRACLE" TO THEM OR USE THE PUZZLE PIECES TO "JOG" THEIR MEMORY.

Say, "Great! Last week, we talked about how Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law from a fever. Does anyone remember that story? This week, we will learn about a time when Jesus healed someone of something MUCH worse than a fever. We know that Jesus heals because **Jesus does miracles**—big and small. Who wants to put up our puzzle piece for the day?" Have a child put the puzzle piece on the wall.

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's play a game together to get us ready to hear our story."

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Wall Tape (1 roll per class) | Permanent Marker (1 per class) |

Say, "The game we will be playing challenges us to reach really high! Who thinks they can reach really high? Great! Who thinks they can reach the highest? Oooooohhh! Let's find out in our game called, *REACH FOR THE SKY!*"

GAME GOAL: To reach as high as you can by jumping with your arms up.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Starting from the floor, tape a vertical line straight up the wall to about six feet high.
- One at a time, have each kid stand perpendicular to the wall beside the tape line, reach their hand up, and jump.
- The teacher will stand at the tape and mark how high each person reaches. (Mark a line on the tape with the child's initials indicating how high they reached.)
- Whoever has the highest mark wins.

CHALLENGE: If you have time, play the game again to see if each child can beat their own reach. Let them compete against themselves.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job reaching as high as you can! Did you *REACH FOR THE SKY*? Well, today's story is about reaching too, but the woman we are going to read about does not reach up high; she reaches down low! That sounds strange doesn't it! Let's read and see what I'm talking about."

LEARN — 10 MINUTES

Say, "The woman in today's story needs a miracle. No doctor could help her or make her better. The only thing she had left to do was to reach for Jesus. Thankfully, whenever we reach for Jesus, we know He will be there to help us! Let's read about this amazing miracle together." Read Mark 5:24-34 (ICB).

READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE OR RETELL IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS.



THIS IS A GREAT STORY TO ACT OUT. ACTING IT OUT WILL HELP THE STORY COMPREHENSION OF YOUR KINESTHETIC LEARNERS (THOSE WHO LEARN BEST THROUGH MOVEMENT).

²⁴ So Jesus went with the ruler, and many people followed Jesus. They were pushing very close around him.

²⁵ A woman was there who had been bleeding for the past 12 years. ²⁶ She had suffered very much. Many doctors had tried to help her. She had spent all the money she had, but she was not improving. She was getting worse. ²⁷ When the woman heard about Jesus, she followed him with the people and touched his coat. ²⁸ The woman thought, "If I can even touch his coat, that will be enough to heal me." ²⁹ When she touched his coat, her bleeding stopped. She could feel in her body that she was healed.

³⁰ At once Jesus felt power go out from him. So he stopped and turned around. Then he asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

³¹ The followers said, "There are so many people pushing against you! And you ask, 'Who touched me?'"

³² But Jesus continued looking around to see who had touched him. ³³ The woman knew that she was healed. So she came and bowed at Jesus' feet. Shaking with fear, she told him the whole story. ³⁴ Jesus said to the woman, "Dear woman, you are made well because you believed [had faith]. Go in peace. You will have no more suffering."

Say, "Wow! **Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He? What an amazing story!"

Ask, "Why did the woman reach for Jesus? [Wait for responses.] The woman knew that her only option was to be healed by Jesus. Doctors tried to help her, but she was only getting worse. Jesus was her only answer. Aren't you glad that Jesus is more amazing and more powerful than any sickness and that **Jesus does miracles**? The woman reached out for Jesus, and He healed her right away. In the same way, when we reach for Jesus, He is always there to help us! Do you believe **Jesus does miracles**?"

TRANSITION: Say, "What a miraculous [review this word from last week] story! **Jesus does miracles!**"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's take some time to discuss the details of our story."



IT IS CRUCIAL THAT OUR CHILDREN HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ANALYZE AND THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY HEARD. DISCUSSION HELPS WITH THIS PROCESS.

1. Who does miracles?

Response: **Jesus does miracles.**

2. Why did this woman seek out Jesus?

Response: The woman had been bleeding for twelve years, and no one (not even the doctors) could help her. Jesus was her only hope of getting healed.

3. How did Jesus help the woman?

Response: Jesus did a miracle for her. Jesus healed her body when she touched the edge of His robe (coat). Jesus has the power to heal.

4. Do you reach for Jesus when you need Him to do something miraculous for you?

Response: Answers will vary.

5. If I ask God to heal someone, and nothing happens, does that mean I did something wrong?

Response: No, while God does call us to have faith (even faith as tiny as a mustard seed – see Matthew 17:20), He doesn't answer all our prayers the way we want even when we have a lot of faith. We can assure our children, though, that Jesus loves them, hears them, and will never leave them. (See Deut. 31:8, Psalm 23, and Matt. 28:20.)

6. What do we learn about Jesus from our story?

Response: **Jesus does miracles**, Jesus is powerful, Jesus wants us to have faith, Jesus is with His people in their suffering, Jesus loves us, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "I love this time when we get to talk deeper about our story. Remember, Jesus does miracles just like He did for this woman, and He can work miracles in your life too."

RESPOND – 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Jesus Heals Woman* Activity Page (1 per child) | Crayons |

Say, "The activity we will be doing is about how the woman with the bleeding disease reached out and touched the coat of Jesus. She received healing because **Jesus does miracles**. Who is ready to start our project?"

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Give each child a *Jesus Heals Woman* Activity Page and crayons.
- Instruct the children to color the *Jesus Heals Woman* Activity Page. Prompt the children to practice retelling today's Bible Story to one another while they color.

TRANSITION: Say, "**Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He? Now, we can use our activity page to remember that Jesus did a miracle for the woman who touched Jesus' robe. Use your project to retell the story from today to someone at home or school."

MEMORIZE – 5 MINUTES

Say, "Jesus is so good to us! He does so many amazing miracles with the power of God! Let's practice the verse that reminds us of how great Jesus' miracles are." Recite it once with the actions, have the kids join you, then let them try it by themselves.

“He does great things [give two thumbs up] too marvelous [open eyes really wide] to understand [point to head]. He performs countless [count on fingers] miracles.” Job 5:9 (NLT) (hold your hands out like a book)

CHALLENGE: A unique way to “spice” up your verse memorization time is to learn the sign language for some of the keywords in this verse. Use www.handspeak.com to find the signs.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, **“Jesus does miracles!** Can everyone say that with me? Great! Jesus is always there when we reach for Him. How can we reach for Jesus today? [Wait for responses.] Yes! We can pray! He was there for the woman in today’s story, and He will be there for you too! Do any of you need Jesus to do a miracle for you or someone you love? [Wait for responses.] Thank you for sharing that need with us. Let’s pray for our friends together. I’m so glad Jesus does miracles, aren’t you?”



REMINDE THE CHILDREN THAT IF JESUS DOESN'T HEAL WHEN THEY ASK, IT DOESN'T MEAN THEY DID ANYTHING WRONG OR THAT JESUS DOESN'T LOVE THEM. WE TRUST JESUS KNOWING HE LOVES US EVEN WHEN HE DOESN'T RESPOND THE WAY WE HOPE.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *“Jesus, I am so grateful we serve You because You are always there for us when we need You. You even do amazing miracles because You love us. Today, we pray for _____. Thank You for hearing our prayers. Remind us to come to You with all of our needs. We pray this all in Your name, Jesus. Amen.”*

RELEASE — 5 MINUTES

One way to fill extra time is to keep practicing the memory verse. You can do this by playing memory games and making up songs. You can also work on building relationships by asking the children questions, playing games with them, or worshipping together.



JESUS HEALS A WOMAN

WEEK 2

MIRACLES



JESUS HEALS AT THE POOL

BIBLE PASSAGE

John 5:1-15 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does miracles.

FOCUS VERSE

“He does great things too marvelous to understand. He performs countless miracles.”

Job 5:9 (NLT)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Spin Tops or Coins | Clear Bowl | Water | *Healing at the Pool Book* Activity Page | *Story Images* Activity Pages | Glue Sticks | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Who loves you? How do they show you they love you?
- What's your favorite thing to do when you play outside?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Did you know that all of the angels in heaven are worshiping God right now [Revelation 4:8]? Did you know that God wants the same from us? Today, we get to worship God like the angels! What an amazing gift! Let's sing together.”

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Pray over your kids before starting class.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “*Jesus, I pray over the minds of all of our friends today. Please open their understand to Your Word. Thank You, Jesus. Amen.*”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “This month, we have been talking about Jesus' Miracles! Does anyone remember one of the miracles we have talked about over the past few weeks? [Wait for responses.] Great! In the first week, we learned that Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law of a fever. Then, last week, we read how Jesus healed a woman of a bad blood disease. The most important lesson from both of these stories, though,

is that **Jesus does miracles!** Now, who will volunteer to hang up our next puzzle piece?" Have a child put the puzzle piece on the wall.

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's get ready to play a game about the story."

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Spin Tops or Coins (1 per child) |



IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR CHEAP SPIN TOPS, TRY SEARCHING ONLINE OR AT A DOLLAR STORE.

Say, "The game we will be playing today is all about swirling. Can someone tell me what the word 'swirl' means? [Wait for responses.] Right! It means to spin! We are going to see how long we can keep our spin tops turning in a game I like to call *Swirl, Spin, Stir!* Who wants to try it?"

GAME GOAL: To be the one who keeps their spin top (or coins) swirling the longest.

HOW TO PLAY:

- Start the game by giving everyone one spin top. (To make the tops spin best, use a hard surface like cement flooring or a tabletop.)
- When you say, "Swirl, Spin, Stir," each person must spin their spin top and then pull their hands away from it.
- Whoever's top spins the longest wins.
- Replay as time or interest remains.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job playing, *Swirl, Spin, Stir!* You guys did such a great job spinning your tops! Today, we are going to learn about a swirling pool of water called the Pool of Bethesda. Are you ready to hear our story? Me too!"

LEARN — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Clear Bowl (1 per class) | Water (enough to fill the bowl halfway up) |

Say, "The passage we will be reading today is about a man who was sick for a very long time. He really needed a miracle! Have you ever been sick for a long time? It does not feel good at all. Well, this man was sick for 38 years! Wow. What would be hard about being sick for that long? [Wait for responses.] Let's see how Jesus helped this man." Read John 5:1-15 (ICB). (Bethesda, Bethzatha and Bethsaida are all titles referring to this same body of water.)



HELP THIS STORY COME TO LIFE BY FILLING A CLEAR BOWL WITH WATER AND SWIRLING IT AROUND TO SHOW THE KIDS WHAT THE POOL MIGHT LOOK LIKE IF IT WAS STIRRED BY THE ANGELS.

¹ Later Jesus went to Jerusalem for a special Jewish feast. ² In Jerusalem there is a pool with five covered porches. In the Jewish language it is called Bethzatha [or Bethesda]. This pool is near the Sheep Gate. ³ Many sick people were lying on the porches beside the pool. Some were blind, some were crippled, and some were paralyzed [and they waited for the water to move. ⁴ Sometimes an angel of the Lord came down to the pool and stirred up the water. After the angel did this, the first person to go into the pool was healed from any sickness he had]. ⁵ There was a man lying there who had been sick for 38 years. ⁶ Jesus saw the man and knew that he had been sick for a very long time. So Jesus asked him, "Do you want to be well?"

⁷ The sick man answered, "Sir, there is no one to help me get into the pool when the water starts moving. I try to be the first one into the water. But when I try, someone else always goes in before I can." ⁸ Then Jesus said, "Stand up. Pick up your mat and walk." ⁹ And immediately the man was well. He picked up his mat and began to walk.

The day all this happened was a Sabbath day [the day of holy rest]. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "Today is the Sabbath. It is against our law for you to carry your mat on the Sabbath day." ¹¹ But he answered, "The man who made me well told me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'" ¹² Then they asked him, "Who is the man who told you to pick up your mat and walk?" ¹³ But the man who had been healed did not know who it was. There were many people in that place, and Jesus had left. ¹⁴ Later, Jesus found the man at the Temple. Jesus said to him, "See you are well now. But stop sinning or something worse may happen to you!" ¹⁵ Then the man left and went back to the Jews. He told them that Jesus was the one who had made him well.

Say, "Wow! **Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He? What an amazing story!"

Ask, "What did Jesus do for the man who had been sick for 38 years? [Wait for responses.] Jesus was so kind to the sick man. He noticed the man had been sitting by the pool for a long time and that he could never make it into the water in time to be healed. But **Jesus does miracles!** Jesus didn't have to help the man into the water to heal him. Jesus looked at him and told him to stand up and go home, and he was healed immediately! Isn't that awesome? Jesus is so much more powerful than any sickness or hurt we have. Nothing is too hard for Jesus because **Jesus does miracles.**"

TRANSITION: Say, "What an amazing story about Jesus healing this man!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about the story together."

1. Who does miracles?

Response: **Jesus does miracles.**

2. Why did this man need Jesus' help?

Response: The man had been sick for 38 years and could not get into the pool fast enough to ever be healed.

3. What do you think this man's life was like before he met Jesus?

Response: Answers will vary.

4. Why do you think Jesus chose to heal this man?

Response: Answers will vary.

5. How would you feel if you were this man?

Response: Answers will vary.

6. What do we learn about Jesus from our story?

Response: **Jesus does miracles**, Jesus loves helping, Jesus is powerful, Jesus is God, Jesus can heal immediately, Jesus notices every person, Jesus sees us when we are hurting, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "I love our talks about our stories. Remember, **Jesus does miracles** just like He did for the man at the Pool of Bethesda, and He can do miracles in your life too."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Healing at the Pool Book* Activity Page (1 page per child) | *Story Images* Activity Pages 1-2 (1 per child) | Glue Sticks | Crayons |

Say, "Did the pool heal the man in today's story? [Wait for responses.] No, Jesus healed him! Today, we will make a book that will help remind us that **Jesus does miracles**. Let's paste the characters and pictures into our storybook!"



CUT OUT THE *STORY IMAGES* FROM THE *STORY IMAGES* ACTIVITY PAGES PRIOR TO CLASS. BE SURE TO HAVE ALL FOUR *STORY IMAGES* FOR EACH CHILD.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Give each child a *Healing at the Pool Book* Activity Page, one of each of the *Story Images*, and crayons.
- Let the children color all of the *Story Images* first.
- Next help the kids fold their *Healing at the Pool Book* Activity Page (on the dotted line) with the words "The Healing at Bethesda" on the front of the book cover.
- Underneath the words "The Healing at Bethesda," have the kids glue down their pool.
- Next, the children will open their *Healing at the Pool Book* and glue down the sick man to the left inside page, and glue down Jesus to the right inside page (to the right of the man laying on the mat).
- Finally, instruct the children to turn to the back side of the book and glue down the healed man holding his mat.
- Encourage kids to use their books to retell the story from today to someone in the class.

TRANSITION: Say, "**Jesus does miracles!** He healed the man with just one word. Jesus is so great!"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, “Who remembers our memory verse for this month? I’ll give you a hint: It’s all about how Jesus does miracles that are remarkable. Does anyone want to say it by themselves? [Wait for responses.] Great! Now, let’s say it all together.”

“He does great things [give two thumbs up] too marvelous [open eyes really wide] to understand [point to head]. He performs countless [count on fingers] miracles.” Job 5:9 (NLT) (hold your hands out like a book)

CHALLENGE: Try putting this month’s verse to a well-known song to help the kids remember it. If you choose a popular song, the children will remember this Scripture passage when they hear it played.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, “Are you grateful that **Jesus does miracles**? Me too! Jesus can heal anything! Jesus can also heal hearts, minds, and families. In fact, Jesus wants you to pray to Him any time you need help—even if it is something super small [Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 121:2, Matthew 7:7, 1 Peter 5:7]. Who needs Jesus to help them? Nothing is too small or too big for Jesus to help with!”



SHARE ABOUT A TIME WHEN JESUS DID A MIRACLE IN YOUR LIFE. DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY!

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Jesus, thank You for being our Helper and our Healer. You know what is best for us, and You love us so much. We know You will never let us down. Thank You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

RELEASE —

Help the kids finish crafts and clean the room before parents arrive. If you have lots of extra time, encourage the kids to play *Swirl, Spin, Stir* again, or give them free time that will allow you to continue building deep relationships with them.



JESUS HEALS AT THE POOL

WEEK 3

MIRACLES

THE HEALING AT BETHESDA





JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

BIBLE PASSAGE

John 11:32-44 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

Jesus does miracles.

FOCUS VERSE

“He does great things too marvelous to understand. He performs countless miracles.”

Job 5:9 (NLT)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | Toilet Paper | *Lazarus Raised to Life* Activity Page | Small Strips of White Construction Paper | Glue Sticks |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- How would you feel if it was summer or winter all the time? Which would you like more?
- What does a perfect day look like for you?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Genuine worship is more about what comes from our hearts than our mouths. So, let's help our children learn, from an early age, what it means to worship God out of love. Say: “Are you ready to worship Jesus? Let's worship Him and show Him how much we love Him!”



IF SOME OF YOUR KIDS DON'T SHOW INTEREST IN WORSHIP, TAKE A MOMENT AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO PRAY AND ASK JESUS TO HELP THEM SHOW THEIR LOVE FOR HIM IN WORSHIP.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Start your lesson time with a prayer.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Jesus, thank You for being with us all the time. We want to tell You that You are welcome here as we learn and grow to love and know You more. We love You, Jesus. In Your name, Amen.”

REVIEW – 5 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Puzzle Piece |

BACKGROUND: Say, “So far, we have talked about three of Jesus’ miracles. Who remembers one of the miracles we talked about this month? [Use the weekly puzzle pieces to refresh their memories. They learned about Jesus healing a woman with a fever, a woman with a bleeding problem, and a man by the Pool of Bethesda.] We’re going to learn about one more miracle this month. Let’s see which miracle that is!” Choose someone to put up the next puzzle piece.

TRANSITION: Say, “It is time to play a game that will help us prepare our minds and bodies for the story.”

ENGAGE – 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | Toilet Paper (1 roll per class) |

Say, “The miracle we will learn about today has to do with a man named Lazarus who died! When someone died in Jesus’ time, they wrapped the body in pieces of cloth and placed it in a tomb [grave]. For today’s game, we are going to wrap someone from the class with toilet paper ‘cloths.’ Are you ready?”

GAME GOAL: To work as a class to wrap one child with toilet paper to cover their entire body (from head to toe).

HOW TO PLAY:

- Rip the entire toilet paper roll(s) into strips of four to five squares.
- Choose one person to be Lazarus (the body that gets wrapped). “Lazarus” only job is to lay still while everyone covers him with toilet paper.
- When you say, “Go,” the children will take one strip at a time and cover “Lazarus” until they have completely covered his body (except for the mouth and nose).
- If you have extra time, choose another person to be covered and reuse the toilet paper strips.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job wrapping up some of our friends! The great thing about today’s story is that the dead man [Lazarus] wrapped in cloths does not stay wrapped up for long because **Jesus does miracles**. Let’s find out more now!”

LEARN – 10 MINUTES

Say, “The passage we are about to read is about a man named Lazarus. Can everyone say ‘Lazarus’? I’m so excited to tell you his story! Now, before we begin, it is important to know that Lazarus died and had been dead for four whole days [John 11:17]. He was wrapped up in cloths [like the game] and laid in a tomb [or grave]. But that is not where the story ends because **Jesus does miracles!** Let’s listen to what Jesus does for Lazarus.” Read John 11:32-44 (ICB).

READ THE PASSAGE BELOW OR TELL IT IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

³² But Mary went to the place where Jesus was. When she saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother [Lazarus] would not have died." ³³ Jesus saw that Mary was crying and that the Jews who came with her were crying, too. Jesus felt very sad in his heart and was deeply troubled. ³⁴ He asked, "Where did you bury him?" "Come and see, Lord," they said. ³⁵ Jesus cried. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how much he loved him." ³⁷ But some of them said, "If Jesus healed the eyes of the blind man, why didn't he keep Lazarus from dying?"

³⁸ Again Jesus felt very sad in his heart. He came to the tomb. The tomb was a cave with a large stone covering the entrance. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Move the stone away." Martha said, "But, Lord, it has been four days since he died. There will be a bad smell." Martha was the sister of the dead man. ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they moved the stone away from the entrance. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. ⁴² I know that you always hear me. But I said these things because of the people here around me. I want them to believe that you sent me." ⁴³ After Jesus said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out. His hands and feet were wrapped with pieces of cloth, and he had a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take the cloth off of him and let him go."

Say, "Wow! **Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He? What an amazing story!"

Ask, "Why was the miracle for Lazarus so great? [Wait for responses.] The story says that Lazarus had been dead for four days! That is a long time! That means that he died and was buried days before Jesus even arrived. No one can come back to life after being dead that long without the power of God! Fortunately, we know that **Jesus does miracles**! Nothing is too hard for Jesus—even raising someone from the dead! **Jesus does miracles**, doesn't He?"

TRANSITION: Say, "Do you believe that **Jesus does miracles**? I do!"

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Let's talk about the story together."

1. Who does miracles?

Response: **Jesus does miracles.**

2. How long had Lazarus been dead before Jesus came?

Response: Lazarus had been dead for four whole days.

3. Why do you think we played the game where we wrapped our friends in toilet paper?

Response: We wrapped our friends in toilet paper to help us think about how amazing it is that Jesus brought Lazarus back to life.

4. Why did Jesus cry?

Response: Jesus loved Lazarus and his family. The people's pain made Jesus sad.

5. Did Jesus need to touch Lazarus' body to heal him?

Response: No! When Jesus called Lazarus' name, he came out of the tomb. Jesus' power is strong. Nothing is too hard for Him.

6. Do you think this miracle seemed impossible for Lazarus' family and friends?

Response: Answers will vary.

7. What do we learn about Jesus from our story?

Response: **Jesus does miracles**, Jesus gets sad when those He loves are hurting, Jesus loves people, Jesus is powerful, Jesus can heal us, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Now, let's do an activity to help us remember how amazing our story was."

RESPOND — 10 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Lazarus Raised to Life* Activity Page (1 per child) | Small Strips of White Construction Paper (20 per child) | Glue Sticks |

Say, "It is not hard to believe that **Jesus does miracles** after hearing about what He did for Lazarus! Do you remember when Lazarus walked out of the tomb wrapped in cloth? Well, we are going to wrap Lazarus up in cloths for our craft today! It will help us remember our story better! Let me show you how we are going to do it."



BEFORE THE LESSON, CUT SMALL STRIPS OF CONSTRUCTION PAPER FOR THE "WRAPPING" ON LAZARUS.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Give each child a *Lazarus Raised to Life* Activity Page, 20 Small Strips of White Construction Paper, and a glue stick.
- The kids will glue the strips of paper to Lazarus' body, avoiding his face, to make it look like Lazarus is wrapped in cloth but alive.

TRANSITION: Say, "Now, you can use your craft to tell your family that **Jesus does miracles!** Don't forget to tell your family that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead! This sounds like His most amazing miracle so far! What do you think?"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Let's practice our memory verse together. Some of you will remember it now because we have practiced the same verse all month! Who would like to try it all by themselves?"

"He does great things [give two thumbs up] too marvelous [open eyes really wide] to understand [point to head]. He performs countless [count on fingers] miracles." Job 5:9 (NLT) (hold your hands out like a book)

CHALLENGE: Provide a variety of ways for the children to show they've memorized the verse. Some children love to be center stage, so allow those kids to say the verse in front of the class. Others will prefer to share it with you or a partner one-on-one, while others may want to draw a picture about the verse. Be creative and allow for lots of opportunities for children to share what they are learning!

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Aren't you grateful that Jesus is powerful and that **Jesus does miracles**? I know I am! Did you know that Jesus said that His people would also do miracles [John 14:12]? God works through His people, and so sometimes, when we pray, He chooses to heal. That means we should always pray whenever we or someone we know is sick. God even calls kids, like you, to pray for sick people and see them healed! Isn't that amazing!"

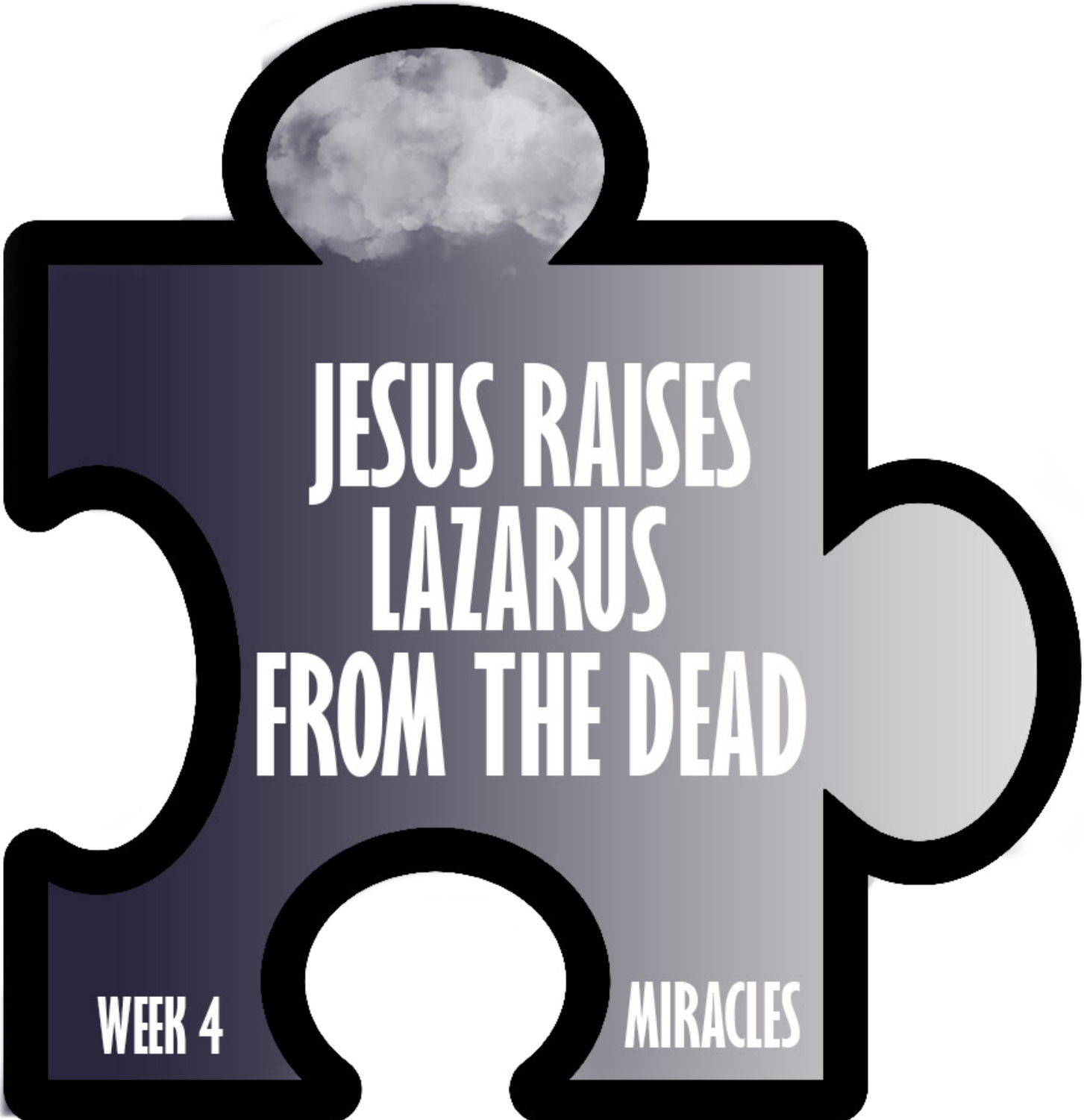


THIS IS A GREAT MOMENT TO ASK IF THERE IS SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ASK JESUS TO BE THEIR LORD AND SAVIOR FOR THE FIRST TIME. GOD WANTS ALL PEOPLE TO KNOW HIM (1 TIM. 2:3-4; 2 PET. 3:9). IF YOU ARE NOT SURE HOW TO LEAD A CHILD TO GOD, START BY READING ROMANS 10:9-10.

SAMPLE PRAYER: *"Jesus, we are so glad You love us and hear us when we pray. Help us to always believe in You and to come to You first when we need help. We love You! In Jesus' name, Amen."*

RELEASE — 5 MINUTES

Don't know what to do with extra lesson time? Try acting out the story. Many kids are eager to role play, so allow them to do something they love while also receiving the bonus of story retention and comprehension. Keep Bible character costumes in your class for times just like this!



**JESUS RAISES
LAZARUS
FROM THE DEAD**

WEEK 4

MIRACLES

