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BIG IDEA

Jesus cares about us when we are sick.

THE BIBLE

Jesus Heals the Leper: Luke 5:12-15

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Play-Doh Unbelievable Scenes
- **ACTIVITY** | Doctor, Doctor!

TEACHING TIME

- **MUSIC** | Worship time
- BIBLE STORY | Luke 5:12-15
- **ACTIVITY** | Spots On, Spots Off
- **PRAYER**

DISCUSSION TIME

- **DISCUSSION** | Discussion
- **ACTIVITY** | Circle Time
- **ACTIVITY** | Healing Hands
- MEMORY VERSE | John 14:6

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page of the Week
- **ACTIVITY** | Touching Without Hands
- **ACTIVITY** | Doctor Playtime

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Jesus Heals the Leper: Luke 5:12-15

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | Play-Doh Space Scenes

- Welcome to church! We're starting a new series today, and we're talking about things that are unbelievable! Do you like to play make-believe? Let's look for the things in these pictures that are not real. Each picture is going to have some things that are real and some things that are not.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print a few sets of the Unbelievable Scenes (in your Week 1 folder) and laminate them. Set out different colors of Play-Dough. Give the kids Play-Doh and tell them to use it to color in the things on their scene that are real (you could also use dry-erase markers with the older kids, instead of Play-Doh).
- It's fun to pretend with things that are not real, but the things we're going to learn about in our Bible story are real, even though they seem pretty unbelievable! All month long, we're going to learn about the miracles of Jesus.

ACTIVITY | Doctor, Doctor!

- The story we're going to hear today is about a time when Jesus healed someone who was sick. Who takes care of you when you're sick?
- Let's play a game where we will pretend we're doctors and nurses taking care of sick stuffed animals.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Gather the animals and dolls and pretend they are sick. Take turns wrapping limbs, taking temperatures, bandaging them and using the first-aid kit.
- Was it fun pretending to help the sick stuffed animals?
- When we're sick, we can get help from our parents or from doctors and nurses, but we can also get help from God. God cares about people who are sick.
- We're going to learn how Jesus helped and healed someone who was sick.

TEACHING TIME

MUSIC | Worship Time

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing with your preschoolers. You can sing any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like, "Praise the Lord," by KidSpring and, "Jesus Loves Me All the Time," by Singin Praise Kids.

THE BIG IDEA | Jesus cares about us when we are sick.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
 - Ask the kids to give you a drum-roll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
 - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections.)
 - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
 - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, read it out loud.
- This week's Big Idea: Jesus cares about us when we are sick.

BIBLE STORY | Luke 5:12-15

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before you tell the Bible story to the kids, put some dot stickers on yourself.
- Did you notice anything different about me? That's right, I have spots!
- In our Bible story today, we're going to learn about someone who was sick with a disease called leprosy. Because of the disease, he had spots and sores all over his body. No one wanted to be around him, because they didn't want to get the disease too. Let's listen to the story to see what Jesus did . . .
- Look up the story in your Bible and read it to your preschoolers.
- What did Jesus do to the man? He helped him and healed him from leprosy. There was no cure or medicine for leprosy, so it seemed impossible for this man to be healed, but Jesus is all powerful! He did a miracle.
- A miracle is something only God can do. There are so many miracles written in the Bible. All of the miracles were done to help others and show God's power.
- Why do you think Jesus healed this man? He healed him because he cared about him.
- Have you ever been sick? What do your parents do when you're sick? They probably take care of you, because they love you. Just like our parents care about us, Jesus cares about people who are sick.
- **Do you know someone who is sick?** If you do, you can pray for them and ask God to help them, heal them, and bring them comfort.

ACTIVITY | Spots On, Spots Off

• What did the disease leprosy make the man have all over his body? That's right, sores and spots. But did the spots stay on the man after he met Jesus? No, Jesus healed him and the sores disappeared. Let's play a game to help make the spots disappear from this stuffed animal.

- How do you think the man felt when Jesus healed him from leprosy? What do you think the man did?
- He was probably so happy! Remember, Jesus healed him because Jesus cares about people who are sick.

PRAYER

- Let's spend time with God in prayer. Today, we're going to thank God for helping us when we were sick, and we are also going to pray for people who are sick. **Who do you know that is sick?**
- Dear God, thank you for being our healer and our comforter. Today, we want to pray for the people in our lives who are sick. We ask you to heal them and help them, amen.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION | Snack and Discussion

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out a snack to all of your preschoolers and ask them to sit and listen while they eat. Your discussion will be more effective when they're busy sitting and snacking!
- What disease did the man in the Bible story have? (Leprosy.)
- What was the miracle in the Bible story? (Jesus healed the man who had leprosy.)
- What did Jesus do to heal him? (Jesus touched him.)
- How do you think the man felt after Jesus healed him?
- How does Jesus feel about people who are sick? (Jesus cares about them.)

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill a pillowcase with random items some you use when you're sick, and some you don't, such as: a Kleenex, a thermometer, a ball, a medicine bottle, a toy. Tell the kids to sit in a circle and pass the pillowcase around. They will reach in and quickly draw one item out of the pillowcase. If it's something you can use when you're sick, they will answer a question. If not, they will put it back and pass the pillowcase to the next person.
 - Have you ever been sick?
 - Have you known someone who was sick?
 - What can you do to help someone who is sick?
 - How does Jesus help sick people?
 - What do you want people to do to help you when you're sick?

ACTIVITY | Healing Hands

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Trace each kid's hand (or let them trace their own, if they can) on a piece of construction paper. Give them two band-aids and tell them to put the band-aids in the shape of a cross in the middle of their hand. Then let them color their pictures.
- The cross on your picture will remind you that Jesus is the healer for people who are hurt or sick. The hand reminds you that you can use your hands to help people who are sick.
- Take your picture home to remind you of our Bible story today.

MEMORY VERSE | John 14:6

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming Folder for ideas on how to help your preschoolers memorize Bible verses. Here are the hand motions for this month's memory verse . . .

I AM THE WAY (hold one arm out to the side),
THE TRUTH (hold the other arm out to the side),
AND THE LIFE (point both arms up).
NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER (shake one finger)
EXCEPT THROUGH ME (point up).

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids . . .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page of the Week

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid a Coloring Page, plus markers or crayons. As they color, remind them how much Jesus cares about people who are sick.

ACTIVITY | Touching Without Hands

- Jesus cared about the man in the Bible story so much that He touched him (even though he had a disease) so He could heal him. Jesus didn't have to touch him, but He chose to, because He cared. Jesus used His hands for healing.
- Since we're talking about healing hands, let's play a game, but you have to try NOT to use your hands.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a piece of paper and tell them to put it on their head and try to walk to the other side of the room without letting it fall or touching it with their hands.

ACTIVITY | **Doctor Playtime**

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give your preschoolers a doctor play set (or just bandages and band-aids) and let them play doctor. Remind them that Jesus cares about people who are sick.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.