



Healing the Officer's Servant

Lesson Aim: To see Jesus is in charge of everything, including healing; if He says we will be healed, then we will be healed.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORD

Bible Story: Matthew 8:5-10, 13

What He Has Done: Jesus healed the servant with words alone.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved."
 Jeremiah 17:14a

Unit 2: Jesus as the God of Healing			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
6	Healing the Officer's Servant, Matthew 8:5-10, 13	Jesus healed the servant with words alone.	To see Jesus is in charge of everything, including healing; if He says we will be healed, then we will be healed.
7	Healing the Friend, Mark 2:1-4, 11-12	Jesus healed the men's friend.	To learn friends bring one another to Jesus.
8	Healing the Sick Woman, Mark 5:24b-34	Jesus healed the sick woman.	To show Jesus can heal those whom doctors and medicine cannot heal.
9	Healing the Man's Ears and Tongue, Mark 7:32-37	Jesus healed the man who could not hear or speak.	To show we can use the ears and tongue God gave us to hear about God and to tell others about Him.
10	Healing the Ten Men, Luke 17:12-19	Jesus healed the ten men with skin diseases.	To remember Jesus wants to hear us thank Him.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 103. Please join us in praying, "Lord Jesus, You have been given authority and power to heal us. We thank You for Your love and compassion in choosing to heal us. Amen."

TEACHER'S TIP

THE WORSHIP. Music cements words and ideas into our memories. A simple tune can help children learn, remember, and love God's Word for a lifetime.



THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME		Welcome	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a smiling face
		Coloring Center: Healing the Officer's Servant	Coloring pages of the officer with his servant who Jesus healed, crayons
		Play-Dough Center: Jesus Heals	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		Activity Center: God's Helpers	Doctor kit, baby
		Puppet Center: Caring for Others	2-4 people puppets
		Preparing for Worship	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Heal Me, O Lord" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "I Am with You" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful" "We Love" Additional Song Suggestions: "Ha La La La (Shake a Friend's Hand)" "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 6
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Matthew 8:5-10, 13	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 8:8 Visuals: Picture of the Bible story, picture of a Bible-times Roman officer
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Officer's Servant Puppet	Small paper bags, sturdy skin-colored paper, eye stickers, yarn, label, glue, crayons or markers
		Game: Officer Says	None
		Game: The Healing Hour	None
		Snack: Soldier's Rations	Favorite snack
	Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 2, Lesson 6
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Matthew 8:5-10, 13	None
	Up to 10	Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes	Song: "Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes" or the teacher can sing or speak the rhyme
	Up to 10	Game: Quiet Praise, Loud Praise	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about Jesus' healing power

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WELCOME

WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a smiling face. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a smiling face help you remember Jesus heals you; He helps you get well.**

Teacher's Note: These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

COLORING CENTER: HEALING THE OFFICER'S SERVANT

SUPPLIES

Coloring pages of the officer with his servant who Jesus healed, crayons

DO

Children color while talking about the story.

TALK ABOUT

In today's story, we will hear about an officer and his servant who was sick. An officer is an important person in an army who leads soldiers. Which man in the picture do you think is the officer? (Children respond.)

The other man in the picture is the officer's servant. A servant is a helper. The officer asked Jesus to make his helper better. Jesus healed the man without even seeing him. Jesus could make the man better when no one else could.

PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: JESUS HEALS

SUPPLIES

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

DO

Children make smiley faces with the play-dough while discussing the theme of today's lesson.

TALK ABOUT

How do you feel when a friend is sick? (Sad, etc.) **Can you show me your sad face?** Ask various children to show you their "sad face." **How do you feel when your friend is better?** (Happy, etc.) **Can you show me your happy face?** Ask various children to show you their "happy face." **Can you make a happy face with the play-dough? We can praise Jesus for healing us. He gives us what we need to get well.**

THE WELCOME *continued...*

ACTIVITY CENTER: GOD'S HELPERS

SUPPLIES

Doctor kit, baby

DO

Children play with the doctor kit and baby as you talk about how God uses people to help heal us.

TALK ABOUT

Have you ever been sick? (Children respond.) **Did it take you long to get better?** (Children respond.) **Who helped you while you were sick?** (Children respond.) **Sometimes, God helps us get better through the help of moms, dads, doctors, nurses, medicine, and rest.**

PUPPET CENTER: CARING FOR OTHERS

SUPPLIES

2-4 people puppets

DO

Using the puppets, children act out ways they can help others.

TALK ABOUT

In our story today, a man cares for a sick friend by asking Jesus for help. God wants us to help our friends. Let's use the puppets to act out what we might do if a friend was sick. Assign the roles of sick friend and friend(s) to the children with puppets. Ask the friends what they might do to help their sick friend such as bring them a drink or food, read a book, sit with them, send a card or a gift, pray for them, etc. **What are some other ways you can help others?** (Children respond.) Have children act out other situations they suggest or suggest situations such as helping pick up toys, share a snack, take turns, etc.

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com)

"Heal me, O Lord,	(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.
and I	(I) Point to self.
will be healed;	(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.
save me	(save) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.
and I	(I) Point to self.
will be saved."	(saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.
Jeremiah 17:14a	Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORSHIP

Supplies: Praise music, optional: musical instruments

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



Today, we will hear that Jesus heals us. That means He helps us get well. Let's pray and thank Him for being our healer. Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear Jesus, thank You for comforting us when we are sick and for helping us get well. Amen.**



Our new Bible Memory Verse Song reminds us to pray and ask the Lord for healing. Remember that "Lord" is a special name for God. Let's learn our new song together. Sing: "Heal Me, O Lord."



Let's say our Bible Memory Verse together. Practice with the sign language.

**"Heal me, O Lord,
and I
will be healed;
save me**

(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.
(I) Point to self.

**and I
will be saved."**

(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.
(save) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.
(I) Point to self.
(saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.

Jeremiah 17:14a

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Jesus healed a man without even seeing him. He was healed the very moment Jesus said, "It will be done." If Jesus says we will be healed, then we will be healed. Let's thank Him for being our healer as we give our offerings to His church. Sing: "Give Thanks to the Lord" while collecting the offering.



Let's see if Delbert and Lello know about the man Jesus healed. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 6.



Sometimes Jesus heals us right away. Other times, He heals us along the way through doctors, medicines, and rest. Then, there are times when Jesus heals us when we meet Him in heaven, but no matter which way He chooses, He promises to heal us. Sing: "The Lord Is Faithful."



Jesus healed the officer's servant

THE WORD

Supplies: Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Matthew 8:8, picture of the Bible story, picture of a Bible-times Roman officer

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears. Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Our story today is about an officer and his servant who was sick. Show children the picture of the Bible-times Roman officer. **The officer was an important man in the army. He deeply cared for the people he knew. When his servant, one of his helpers, was sick, the officer went to find Jesus. He had heard Jesus could heal people. That meant Jesus could make people well when no one else could. Let's find out what happened.** Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 8:8.



WATCH THE WORD: MATTHEW 8:5-10, 13

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **An officer asked Jesus for help,**
- **"My servant can't get out of bed.**
- **He is so sick that he cannot move."**
- **"I'll go heal him," Jesus said.**

- **"He will be healed," The officer said.**
- **"If You say the word, it will be done.**
- **For just as it is with my soldiers,**
- **If I say 'come,' they will come."**

- **"It will be done just as you believed,"**
- **Jesus said, "Go and see."**
- **The servant was healed in that moment,**
- **Just as Jesus said he would be.**

What did the officer believe would happen when Jesus said his servant would be healed? (The servant would be healed.) Was the servant healed? (Yes!)



Everything happens as Jesus says it will

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: OFFICER'S SERVANT PUPPET

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Jesus healing the officer's servant.

Supplies: Small paper bags, sturdy skin-colored paper, eye stickers, yarn, label, glue, crayons or markers

Adaptation for Ages 2-3: This craft has been adapted from the curriculum for ages 4-5. The suggested wiggle eyes have been removed as they are a potential choking hazard for this age.

Prepare: Cut a 3-inch circle (adjust the size to fit the paper bag) for a head from skin-colored paper for a head. Glue the circle onto the bottom flap of the bag. Cut 3-inch lengths of yarn for hair. On a label, print:

**Jesus Healed the Officer's Servant
Matthew 8:5-10, 13**

Directions:

1. Attach the servant's eyes onto his head.
2. Draw the servant's mouth and nose.
3. Glue on yarn for hair.
4. Color the bag for the servant's robe.

Craft Discussion:

- **What happens when an officer tells his soldiers to do something?** (They obey.)
- **What happened when Jesus said the servant would be healed?** (Jesus healed him.)
- **Let's use our puppets to tell the story. Put your hand into your puppet.**
- **Make your puppet lie down. Pretend he is so sick that he cannot move. When I say, Jesus heals you", the servant will be healed. Move your hand up and down to help the servant dance for joy!**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: OFFICER SAYS

Purpose: Children will play a version of the traditional game "Simon Says" to show when the one in charge gives a command, it is obeyed right away.

Supplies: None

The officer in our story was in charge of soldiers who obeyed his commands. In this game, let's pretend you are the soldiers. When I say "Officer says," you obey right away.

Directions:

1. Children stand at arm's length from each other.
2. **When I say the words "Officer says," you obey the command right away. If you do not hear "Officer says," then stand as still as a soldier.**
3. Lead children through a practice. **Officer says ... touch your toes.** Children touch their toes.
4. Play the game using the following directions (or make up your own):
 - Stomp your feet.
 - Clap your hands three times.
 - Touch your knees.
 - Blink your eyes.
 - Put your finger on your nose.
 - Stand on one foot.
 - Place your hands over your ears.
 - Turn in a circle.

Teacher Tip: Praise children each time they obey the officer's directions correctly. If time allows, let children take turns as the officer giving directions.

GAME: THE HEALING HOUR

Purpose: To remind children the servant was healed at the time when Jesus said he would be.

Supplies: None

Jesus did not go and see the servant, but he told the officer his servant would be healed. When was the servant healed? (At the same time Jesus said he would be healed.) Let's see how the servant may have felt to be unable to move and then all of a sudden to be healed and able to move.

Directions:

1. All children pick a pose and hold it perfectly still as if they cannot move. **Stay still until I say the word, "stop." Then, you can move and together we will say, "Jesus heals you!"**
2. Chant this rhyme to the children while clapping your hands in time (beats are underlined):

Tick tock

Goes the clock;

The officer knows

The sickness will stop!

3. Let children know they can move. Together say, **"Jesus heals you!"**
4. Play as often as you like.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: SOLDIER'S RATIONS

Purpose: Children will pretend they are soldiers as they obey orders and enjoy a favorite snack.

Snack Suggestion: Favorite snack

As children come to the snack area, address them as "Soldier Mark," "Soldier Sarah," etc. Assign tasks. Talk about the snack as being their "soldier's rations." Count out the snack so each child gets the same amount.

Directions:

1. Serve the snacks and drinks.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who did the officer go to when his servant needed healing?** (Jesus.) **Who can we go to if we know someone who needs healing?** (Jesus.)
 - **Sometimes Jesus heals us right away. Sometimes He heals us along the way through doctors, medicines and rest. Sometimes Jesus heals us when we meet Him in heaven. But no matter which way He chooses, "Jesus heals you."**
 - **Do you know someone who is sick and needs healing?** Write down names. **Let's pray and ask Jesus to heal them. "Lord Jesus, You are the Healer. If you just say the word, they will be healed. Please heal list of names. Help us be patient as we watch how you do that. Amen."**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me	(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward. (I) Point to self.
and I will be saved."	(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward. (save) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.
Jeremiah 17:14a	(I) Point to self. (saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward. Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

PRAY

Let's pray together. Say a closing prayer with the children.

PLAY

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

DISMISSAL

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MATTHEW 8:5-10, 13

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **An officer asked Jesus for help,** (Clasp hands, as if pleading.)
- **“My servant can’t get out of bed.** (Point to door or exit.)
- **He is so sick that he cannot move.”** (Shake head sadly.)
- **“I’ll go heal him,” Jesus said.** (Point to self.)

- **“He will be healed,” the officer said.** (Fists move away from body.)
- **“If You say the word, it will be done.** (Thumbs up.)
- **For just as it is with my soldiers,** (Point to self.)
- **If I say ‘come,’ they will come.”** (Nod head as “yes.”)

- **“It will be done just as you believed,”** (Thumbs up.)
- **Jesus said, “Go and see.”** (Point to door or exit.)
- **The servant was healed in that moment,** (Fists move away from body.)
- **Just as Jesus said he would be.** (Point to heaven.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

“Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved.” Jeremiah 17:14a

GAME: HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES & TOES

Purpose: Children play a game to remember Jesus can heal us.

Supplies: Song: “Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes” or the teacher can sing or speak the rhyme

Our Bible Memory Verse says, “Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved.” Jesus can heal those whom doctors and medicine cannot. Can He heal your head? Touch your head. **Can He heal your shoulders?** Touch your shoulders. **Can He heal your knees and toes?** Touch your knees and toes. **Is there anything Jesus can’t heal?** (No!) **Let’s sing a fun song about the body parts Jesus can heal. Do the motions with me.**

Directions:

1. Play and/or sing the song while you lead the children in tapping each body part with both hands as it is mentioned.

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees, and toes!
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees, and toes!
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose!
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees, and toes!
2. At the end of the song, say the Bible Memory Verse together.
3. Play again. Each time you play, sing the song (or chant) and do the motions faster.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: QUIET PRAISE, LOUD PRAISE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"

Let's sing the Bible Memory Verse song very quietly; except, each time you sing the words "You are the One I praise," sing in your loudest, strongest singing voice.

Directions: Play or lead Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse song as follows:

(Quietly.) **Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed;**

Save me and I will be saved,

(Loudly.) **FOR YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE! YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE!**

OH, YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE! YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE!



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about Jesus' healing power.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 2, Lesson 6: Healing the Officer's Servant

PONDER! The officer asked Jesus to make his servant better (Matthew 8:5-10, 13). What happened when Jesus said the servant would be healed? (He was healed.) Jesus healed the servant with just His words.

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, You heal us. If You just say the word, we will be healed. Please heal name of someone who needs healing. Help us be patient as we wait to see how You will do that. Amen."

PLAY! The officer was in charge of his soldiers. Gather your family to play a version of Simon Says called "Officer Says." Obey orders only if the leader says, "Officer Says!" before giving the order.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

**"Heal me, O Lord,
and I
will be healed;
save me**

(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.

(I) Point to self.

(heal) Forcefully push fists up and forward.

(save) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.

**and I
will be saved."**

(I) Point to self.

(saved) Fists begin crossed in front of chest. Pull apart, ending with fists facing outward.

Jeremiah 17:14a

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.