



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.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Jesus heals you."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for You are the One I praise."
 Jeremiah 17:14

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."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a smiling face
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Jesus heals you."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Heal Me, O Lord" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert</i> and Lello 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 Visual: "Officer's Servant Puppet" craft sample
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Officer's Servant Puppet	Small paper bags, sturdy skin-colored paper, wiggle eyes or eye stickers, yarn, crayons or markers, glue
		Game: Officer Says	None
		Game: The Healing Hour	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"
		Snack: Soldier's Rations	Favorite snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 2, Lesson 6 Color This Story: "Jesus Healed the Officer's Servant"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Matthew 8:5-10, 13	None
	Up to 10	Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes	None
	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 heals you

THE 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. Today's Whisper Verse is "Jesus heals you."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Jesus heals you."

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

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- "Jesus"** Middle finger of one hand touches middle of the palm of other hand. Repeat with other hand (showing wounds in Jesus' hands on the cross).
- "heals"** The hands move from the body outward and close with a gesture of firmness (fists) to represent that the body is strong.
- "you."** The index finger of the right hand points forward as the arm moves forward from the body at waist level.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Jesus heals you," Acts 9:34. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help the 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.

It's Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus as the God of Healing. He is called our healer because Jesus heals us; He helps us get well. That reminds me of today's Whisper Verse, “Jesus heals you.” Let's try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: “Jesus heals you.” Include sign language.



In today's story, Jesus heals an officer's servant. Jesus can heal us, too. In our new Bible Memory Verse Song, we can praise Jesus and ask Him to heal us. Let's learn our new Bible Memory Verse Song together. Sing: “Heal Me, O Lord.”

Jesus healed the officer's servant without even seeing him. The servant was healed the very moment Jesus said, “It will be done.” The officer knew Jesus was in charge of everything, including healing. 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 officer and his servant. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 6.



It is important to remember this miracle because it shows us Jesus heals us. Sing: “I Will Remember.”



Jesus healed the officer's servant

THE WORD

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.

Last time, we learned Jesus fed the big crowd with only five small loaves of bread and two small fish. Today, we will learn about the miracle when Jesus used His words to heal the officer's servant. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Matthew 8:8.

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

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display the "Officer's Servant Puppet" craft sample. Other visual options include Color This Story or any related picture.

- 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 know about the power in Jesus' words? (If Jesus said it, it would be done.) **Let's find our answer in the Bible.** Read Matthew 8:8 from the teacher's Bible.

What else did the officer know about Jesus? (Jesus heals.) **Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Jesus heals you."** Include sign language or hand motions.



Everything happens just 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, wiggle eyes or eye stickers, yarn, glue, crayons or markers

Prepare: Cut a 3-inch circle from skin-colored paper for a head. Cut 3-inch lengths of yarn for hair. On the back of the bag, print:

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

Glue a paper circle head onto the bottom flap of each paper bag.

Optional: Cut holes in sides of bag through which children can put their thumb and pinky finger to represent the servants' arms.

Directions:

1. Glue the servant's eyes onto his head.
2. Draw the servant's mouth and nose.
3. Glue on yarn as hair.
4. Color 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.)
- **That's like our Whisper Verse! Let's say it with our motions right now!** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions.
- **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.**
- **Say our Whisper Verse.** Children repeat together, "Jesus heals you."
- **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 told Jesus that when he says that something must be done, his soldiers obey his command right away. 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: Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"

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.
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. Play the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord."
4. When the music begins, the children break their pose and dance to the music.

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 table, address them as "Soldier Mark," "Soldier Sarah," etc. Assign table-setting tasks. Talk about the snack in terms of the children getting their "soldier's rations." Count out the snack so each child gets the same amount.

Directions:

1. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
2. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions: "Jesus heals you." **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.)
 - **Do you know someone who needs healing?** Write down names. **Let's bow our heads, fold our hands, and ask Jesus to heal them. Prayer: 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.**
 - **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."**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Officer's Servant Puppet" craft. Use it to act out today's story at home.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Just as the officer asked Jesus to heal his servant, you can ask Jesus to heal someone you know.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Jesus Healed the Officer's Servant." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Heal Me, O Lord," as children color.



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 acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **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 ACTIVITIES

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved,
for You are the One I praise." Jeremiah 17:14

GAME: HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES, AND TOES

Purpose: To help children understand the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Can Jesus heal any illness? (Yes.) Can He heal any part of your body? (Yes.) Let's dance and sing about some of the body parts Jesus heals!

Directions:

1. Children sing (or chant) the following words as they use both hands to touch each body part:
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. 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! Read Matthew 8:5-10, 13 with your family. Talk about how Jesus healed the officer's servant. The officer believed Jesus was in charge of everything, including healing. If Jesus says we will be healed, then we will be healed. Do you believe that?

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 "Officer Says." Obey orders only if the leader says, "Officer Says!" before giving the order. (This game is played in the same way as the traditional game "Simon Says.")

Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse: Jeremiah 17:14

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for You are the One I praise."