



Healing the Deaf and Mute Man

Lesson Aim: To hear the salvation message, to be invited to respond to it, and to share it with others.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 7:32-37

What He has done: Jesus healed the deaf and mute man.

Key Verse: Mark 7:37

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Ezekiel 11:19-20

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." Psalm 103:2-5

Unit 2: Jesus as the God of Healing			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
6	Healing the Centurion's Servant, Luke 7:2-8; Matthew 8:10-13	Jesus healed the centurion's servant with His words alone.	To study Jesus' relationship with Gentiles and Jews as revealed in the story of the centurion's servant.
7	Healing the Paralyzed Man, Mark 2:1-12	Jesus healed and forgave the paralyzed man.	To challenge children to bring their friends to Jesus for healing of their bodies and souls.
8	Healing the Sick Woman, Mark 5:24b-34	Jesus healed the sick woman.	To challenge children to reach out to Jesus with their unsolvable problems.
9	Healing the Deaf and Mute Man, Mark 7:32-37	Jesus healed the deaf and mute man.	To hear the salvation message, to be invited to respond to it, and to share it with others.
10	Healing the Ten Men, Luke 17:12-19	Jesus healed the ten men with leprosy.	To see how what Jesus does for us and the praise He expects from us changes us for the better.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Matthew 13:16, 17. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for opening our ears and eyes that we may know You. Use our voices so Your children may know You. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Silent Hunt	Individually wrapped candies, coins, or slips of paper
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	"Invitation to Salvation: Heal My Heart" available at ResourceWell.org Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Heal Me, O Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" "Give Thanks" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: Romans 10:9	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 9 Bonzai Brothers script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Mark 7:32-37	Map—Region of Decapolis near Sea of Galilee, Israel, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Ezekiel 11:19-20	
		Golden Bowl	
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Heart with a cross on it (foam or paper), Children's Guide for New Believers, W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise the Lord, O My Soul," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Loud Crunchers	Crunchy snack (apples, celery, carrots, potato or banana chips)
	Up to 10	Game: "Speak His Praise" Balloon Bounce	3 inflated non-helium balloons
	Up to 10	Craft: Heart Cross	Cardboard, yellow and red sheets of craft foam or sturdy paper, scissors, glue, pencils, yarn, hole punch, permanent markers, labels
	Up to 10	Discussion: Justified in Our Hearts	Bible open to Romans 10:9-10, whiteboard or poster board, marker
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Brainstorm	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Hot Potato Scramble	Sturdy brown paper, Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise the Lord, O My Soul," CD player, Bible Memory Verse poster, timer
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Timeline

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.
Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite sound?

GAME: SILENT HUNT

Purpose: Children will lead a search in silence to see the challenges of being unable to communicate.

Supplies: Individually wrapped candies, coins, or slips of paper

In today's story, we will learn how Jesus healed a man who was both deaf and mute. That means he could not hear or talk clearly. But first, let's play a game called "Silent Hunt." This is going to be a difficult game because you must give each other instructions without talking. Think you can do it? Let's give it a try!

Directions:

1. Divide children into pairs. One partner is the Searcher and the other is the Friend.
2. Give each Friend a piece of candy.
3. If you have a large group or a small classroom, you may want to have just a few pairs play at the same time.
4. Ask the Searchers to close their eyes while the Friend hides the candy.
5. After hiding the candy, the Friends stand in the middle of the room.
6. Without speaking or using his or her hands, the Friends direct their partners to the hidden candy.
7. After the Searchers find the hidden candy, the partners switch roles and play again.

How did it feel to not be able to speak or hear directions? (Children respond.) **How did that make it hard to search for the candy?** (Children respond.) **Friends, how did you help your Searcher partners find the candy?** (Children respond.) **What do you think would be difficult about being deaf or mute?** (Children respond.) **Let's find out how Jesus healed the man who was deaf and mute.**



Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORSHIP

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 music as children move to the designated area.

The Seven Stars of Lent

If this lesson is taught during the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter), we recommend the Seven Stars of Lent activity at ResourceWell.org under Children - Other Resources. Choose one star for each week of the Lent season.

Today, we worship Jesus as the God of Healing. Sin separates our hearts from God. If we admit our sins and believe in Jesus as our Lord, He comes and heals our hearts, making us close with God forever. Explain salvation by using "Invitation to Salvation: Heal My Heart" available at ResourceWell.org under Children—Other Resources.



In today's story, Jesus took the deaf and mute man away from the crowd and healed him. Today, you will have time to be alone with Jesus in prayer. If you have never invited Jesus to come into your heart and you would like to do that now, let's pray the ABC Prayer together. Lead children in the ABC Prayer (or a similar prayer of salvation) with you now.

ABC PRAYER (Admit – Believe – Come)

Lord Jesus,

I Admit I am a sinner.

I Believe You are the Lord who died to take my sins away.

Please Come into my heart and I'll follow You forever.

In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

When you pray a prayer like that to Jesus, He will heal your heart and you will no longer be separated from God. He forgives you for all of your sins. The Holy Spirit comes into your heart, and you will be close to God forever.



You may choose to sing songs that focus on salvation.

After Jesus healed the deaf and mute man, the people said, "Everything He does is good." As we give Him our offerings now, let's praise Him for all His benefits—the good things He does. Sing Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" as the offering is collected.



Read Romans 10:9.



Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 9.



Jesus healed the deaf and mute man

THE WORD

Teacher Tip: As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."

Last time, we learned how Jesus healed the sick woman. Today, we find out about the healing of a deaf and mute man. The people brought him to Jesus when He came into the region of the Decapolis. If a map of Ancient Israel is available, point to the Decapolis region that includes ten cities located near the southeastern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

The man in this story was deaf and mute. Deaf means the man could not hear; mute means he could not speak. It is likely that he could not speak because of his deafness or because his tongue did not work correctly.



Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you. Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Mark 7:32-37. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Mark 7:37.**

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

This story has many details describing what Jesus did to heal this man. So, let's listen carefully. Read Mark 7:32-37.



Jesus can heal our hearts

THE WAY

Why did the people bring the deaf and mute man to Jesus? (For healing.) **Where did Jesus take the man?** (Away from the crowd.) **Jesus wanted to talk alone with him. Sometimes we focus so much on something that it is as if it crowds our life. Even good things like activities, games, toys, television, sports, schoolwork, and music can distract us like a busy crowd. What is making your life busy or crowded lately?** (Children respond.) **What are the things your heart has focused on more than on Jesus?** (Children respond.)

Imagine Jesus came and took you aside to spend time with you. What do you think He would say to you? (Children respond.) **What would you say to Him?** (Children respond.)

What did Jesus do to heal the man? (He put his fingers into the man's ears. He spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and said, "Ephphatha!") **"Ephphatha!" means "be opened." Jesus is the only one who can open our ears, eyes, and hearts in a way that we can listen and know what we must do to be saved. We would never hear or understand Him without that miracle.**

Jesus explains how He heals the hearts of those who are open to Him. Listen as I read what Jesus said. Read Matthew 13:15-17. How has Jesus opened your ears to listen to Him? (Children respond.) **How has he opened your eyes and your heart to know Him?** (Children respond.)

Everyone who comes to Jesus has experienced a miracle. Jesus opens our eyes, ears, and mouths. Jesus can heal us from sickness, loneliness, worrying, and from habits of sinning (doing wrong in God's eyes). Jesus can also heal our hearts from being separated from God.



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Nearly six hundred years before Jesus healed the man's ears and tongue, Ezekiel spoke about God's plan to heal our divided hearts and bring us close to Him.



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Ezekiel 11:19-20. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Ezekiel 11:19-20.

Sin separates us from God. Jesus came to heal us and give us an undivided heart—a heart that loves God and wants to follow His ways. Review the heart symbol used in "Invitation to Salvation: Heal My Heart" (See THE WORSHIP segment of this lesson).

Let's take 60 seconds of silence for each of you to be alone with Jesus and listen for what He wants to tell you. If you have never asked Jesus to come into your heart, and you want to do so, you can use this time to ask Him to open your heart and heal the place where sin separates you from God. You can pray it in your own words or come pray the ABC Prayer with me. Provide one minute of silence for prayer. The ABC Prayer is located in THE WORSHIP or in the Children's Guide for New Believers (available at Resourcewell.org).

THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

GOLDEN BOWL

Teacher Tip: Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.

Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You ____, ____, ____. Read names in Golden Bowl.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

TREASURE TREAT: Today, your Treasure Treat is a heart with a cross. You can use it to tell others about the way Jesus heals our hearts. Giving His life on the cross made the way for our hearts to be close with God forever. Supply any child who prayed the ABC prayer of salvation with a Children's Guide for New Believers available at ResourceWell.org.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #9. Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!

OFFERING OF ART: Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Jesus touching the man's ears to heal them. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

PRAYER REQUESTS: As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise the Lord, O My Soul," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: LOUD CRUNCHERS

Purpose: Children will eat a snack while enjoy the gift of hearing.

Snack Suggestion: Crunchy snack (apples, celery, carrots, potato or banana chips)

When Jesus healed the man who could not hear or speak, the man could suddenly hear everything! Let's eat a loud, crunchy snack. Before we discuss our question for today, listen quietly to each other eat. Think about how thankful the man must have been to hear people talking and eating.

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If you were the healed man, what would you have said first?"**

GAME: "SPEAK HIS PRAISE" BALLOON BOUNCE

Purpose: For children to praise God for His healing and saving power each time they touch a balloon.

Supplies: 3 inflated non-helium balloons

Prepare: Display the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse poster.

How did the friends help the deaf and mute man? (Brought him to Jesus and asked Jesus to touch him.) **What did Jesus do?** (Touched the man's ears and tongue and healed him.) **What did the man and his friends do next?** (They told everyone Jesus healed the man.) **When Jesus does something for us, we want to speak out and tell everyone! Our Bible Memory Verse tells us several things that Jesus does for us. Let's speak praises about Jesus by shouting out our Bible Memory Verse.**

Directions:

1. Children stand in a large circle.
2. Tap a balloon into the air and say the first word of the Bible Memory Verse.
3. Children tap the balloon when it comes to them to keep it from touching the ground.
4. Each time a child touches the balloon, he or she shouts the next word.
5. Continue playing until you have completed the verse.
6. To add difficulty, add more balloons into the game as you play.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: HEART CROSS

Purpose: Children will make symbolic hangers they can use to tell others about Jesus.

Supplies: Cardboard, yellow and red sheets of craft foam or sturdy paper, scissors, glue, pencils, yarn, hole punch, permanent markers, labels, optional: assorted craft decorations (stickers, glitter, etc.)

Prepare: Print the words to THE WORSHIP scripture: Romans 10:9 on a label. Cut a 10-inch length of yarn for each child. From cardboard, create templates of the heart and the cross.

Options: Attach a magnet on the back instead of using yarn. Decorate the heart cross with assorted craft decorations (stickers, glitter, etc.).

Friends brought the deaf and mute man to Jesus for healing. You can bring your friends to Jesus too. What are some ways you can do this? (Pray for a friend, talk with a friend about Jesus, tell a friend a Bible story about Jesus.) **Let's make a heart cross to help our friends understand what Jesus has done for us all. The cross is a symbol of God's forgiveness because Jesus paid for our sins on the cross. The heart is a symbol of Jesus' love for us.**

Directions:

1. Children trace the heart shape onto the red foam and cut it out.
2. Children trace the cross shapes onto the yellow foam and cut it out.
3. Glue the cross onto the center of the heart.
4. Stick a Romans 10:9 label onto the back of the heart.
5. Punch a hole in the top of the heart.
6. String a length of yarn through the hole and knot the ends together to make a loop.

Hang your heart cross in a place your friends will see it. Tell them what Jesus has done for us all.

DISCUSSION: JUSTIFIED IN OUR HEARTS

Purpose: For children to understand justification.

Supplies: Bible open to Romans 10:9-10, whiteboard or poster board, marker

Prepare: On a whiteboard or poster board, print: **Justified = JUST-AS- IF-I'D never sinned.**

We read a portion of this scripture in today's worship time. Now let's read Romans 10:9-10 and listen for the word "justified." Read Romans 10:9-10.

Justified is like the word "justice." What does the word justice mean? (Children respond.) **Justice means to make or show that something is right, just as it is supposed to be. The verse says we are justified in our hearts when Jesus saves us. That means Jesus makes our hearts right before God. To be justified is to be freed from the punishment of our sin. We are justified because we belong to Jesus. (Display poster.) God looks at us differently when we belong to His Son, Jesus. When you belong to Jesus, you can say, "When God looks at me with Jesus in my heart, He sees me "JUST-AS-IF-I'D never sinned."**

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.” Psalm 103:2-5

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE BRAINSTORM

Purpose: Children will discuss the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Our new Bible Memory Verse comes from Psalm 103:2-5. Let’s read each line together from the poster. After each line, raise your hand if you can tell us what it means.

- **Praise the Lord, O my soul** (Let the deepest part of you tell God how great He is!)
- **And forget not all His benefits** (Don’t forget all the wonderful things God has done for you.)
- **Who forgives all your sins** (Jesus forgives all our wrong doings.)
- **And heals all your diseases** (Jesus can heal anything and anyone.)
- **Who redeems your life from the pit** (He paid for your life by dying on the cross.)
- **And crowns you with love and compassion** (His love and caring is like a treasured crown.)
- **Who satisfies your desires with good things** (He makes you happy with good things.)
- **So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.** (Your strength is refreshed.)

Teacher Tip: For an extra challenge, form eight teams. Assign a different phrase to each team. Have teams discuss the meaning of the phrase and create a poster to help them describe the meaning to the rest of the children. Teams take turns explaining their posters.

GAME: HOT POTATO SCRAMBLE

Purpose: In this variation of the Hot Potato game, children quickly pass their paper potatoes around the circle and then put the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse in order once the music stops.

Supplies: Sturdy brown paper, Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song “Praise the Lord, O My Soul,” CD player, Bible Memory Verse poster, timer

Prepare: Divide the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse into five or more phrases. From sturdy brown paper, cut a paper potato for each phrase. Write a different phrase on each potato. Add symbols or pictures for non-readers. Display Bible Memory Verse poster.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. Repeat the Bible Memory Verse several times together.
3. Scramble the order of the paper potatoes (“hot potatoes”). Distribute the hot potatoes.
4. Play the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song “Praise the Lord, O My Soul.”
5. As if the potatoes are too hot to hold, each child quickly passes the hot potatoes to the child on his or her left and receives another hot potato from the child on his or her right.
6. Continue passing the hot potatoes around the circle until the song is stopped.
7. Periodically stop the song. When the music stops, the children with a hot potato race to the center of the circle and place them in the correct order of the Bible Memory Verse.
8. Play again, as time allows.
9. **Optional:** Time the children and challenge them to get a faster time each round.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part One studies the miracles of Jesus, which took place during His public ministry (Circa 30-33 A.D.). This list is not chronological, as the Bible does not give a definitive order of the miracles. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Healing the Paralyzed Man (Circa 30-33 A.D.) How did the four men help the man on the mat? (They brought him to Jesus by lowering him through the roof into the room where Jesus was teaching.) What two miracles did Jesus do when He saw the faith of the man's friends? (He forgave the man's sins and healed his body.)

Healing the Sick Woman (Circa 30-33 A.D.) How many years had the woman been waiting for healing? (12 years.) What happened to her body when she touched Jesus' clothes? (She was healed right away.) How did Jesus know someone had touched Him? (Some power had gone out from Him.)

Healing the Deaf and Mute Man (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Why did the people bring the deaf and mute man to Jesus? (For healing.) Where did Jesus take the man? (Away from the crowd.) What did Jesus do to heal the man? (He put his fingers into the man's ears, spit and touched the man's tongue, looked up to heaven, and said, "Ephphatha!")

How to create a Bible Timeline for the Miracles of Jesus:

1. Print each footprint on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the footprint for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.
Children can follow in Jesus' footsteps as they review past lessons.
4. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated footprint.

The Miracles of Jesus: (Circa 30-33 A.D.) Changing Water into Wine > Filling the Nets > Calming the Storm > Healing Jairus' Daughter > Feeding the Five Thousand > Healing the Centurion's Servant > Healing the Paralyzed Man > Healing the Sick Woman > Healing the Deaf and Mute Man > Healing the Ten Men > Banishing an Evil Spirit > Saving the Official's Son > Walking on Water > Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind > Raising Lazarus > Riding into Jerusalem > The Miracle of Easter > Appearing to the Disciples > Appearing to Thomas > Appearing on the Shore > Ascending into Heaven