



Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind

Lesson Aim: To understand Jesus saves us from spiritual darkness.

THE WORSHIP

Who God is: Jesus as Savior

THE WORD

Bible Story: John 9:1-7, 13-25, 35-39

What He has done: Jesus saved the man from blindness and spiritual darkness.

Key Verse: John 9:5

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Isaiah 42:6-7

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

Unit 4: Jesus as Savior			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
17	Saving the Official's Son, John 4:46-54	Jesus healed the official's son with His words alone.	To understand the difference between trusting Jesus to perform miracles and trusting Jesus as your Savior.
18	Walking on Water, Matthew 14:22-34	Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning.	To see how this story connects with our habits of fear and the salvation of our souls.
19	Giving Sight to the Man Born Blind, John 9:1-7, 13-25, 35-39	Jesus saved the man from blindness and spiritual darkness.	To understand Jesus saves us from spiritual darkness.
20	Appearing to Thomas, John 20:24-31	Jesus appeared and proved to Thomas that He was the risen Lord.	To understand Jesus saves us from our doubts.
21	Appearing to the Disciples, Luke 24:36-49	Jesus opened the disciples' minds.	To see Jesus gives us the understanding to know He is the promised Savior and the power to spread the word.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Romans 8:28. Please join us in praying, "Lord, use our weaknesses and our difficult circumstances to bring glory to You! Help us understand that everything works together to show Your greatness. Amen."



Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Deliver the Light	Treasure Treat penlights, floor tape, timer, substitute: unlit candles for penlights
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Am the Way" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "For by Him" "Neither Death nor Life" "You Will Seek Me" (With All Your Heart) Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Standing on the Promises of God" "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		Worship Scripture Reading: John 8:12	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 19 Bonzai Brothers script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: John 9:1-7, 13-25, 35-39	Map—Jerusalem, Ancient Israel, Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discussion	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Isaiah 42:6-7	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Penlights (or photo of the Pool of Siloam), W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Am the Way," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Jiggly Lights	Flavored gelatin snacks, penlights
	Up to 10	Game: Bright and Dark	Small cross or paper cross shape
	Up to 10	Craft: "Light of the World" Candleholder	Small jars, colorful tissue paper or colored plastic wrap, glue, small paintbrushes or cloth, permanent markers, scissors, optional: votive candles
	Up to 10	The Apostles' Creed Study	Poster or individual copies of The Apostles' Creed
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: The Wave	Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Walking on the Word	2 Bibles, sturdy paper, Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Am the Way," CD player, floor tape, 2 containers
	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: Where is the darkest place you have ever been?

GAME: DELIVER THE LIGHT

Purpose: This version of tag introduces the story in which Jesus says He is the Light of the world.

Supplies: Treasure Treat penlights, floor tape, timer, substitute: unlit candles for penlights (Hold candle upside-down to show the "off" status.)

Prepare: Use floor tape to mark two "home bases" on opposite sides of the play area.

Today, we will discover how Jesus healed a man who was born blind. Because he was blind, he saw only darkness. When he was healed, he could see everything around him. Before He healed the man, Jesus said that He is the Light of the world. We will soon discover what that means. First, let's play a game where you must deliver light from one side of the room to the other.

Directions:

1. Form two teams of an equal number of players. Ask each team to stand behind its home base line. Give a penlight to each player on Team A.
2. On your signal start a timer; all Team A players turn on their penlights and attempt to cross the play area to Team B's home base line.
3. Players from Team B attempt to tag the Team A players.
4. Tagged players must turn off his/her light and return to their home base line to start over.
5. When no time remains on timer, count number of team members with lighted penlights behind the opposing team's home base line.
6. Teams switch roles, and repeat steps 2-5. Team B delivers penlights while Team A tries to tag them.
7. The team with the most players holding lighted penlights behind the opposing team's home base line in the allotted time is the winner.
8. Afterwards, collect penlights. They will be given later as Treasure Treats.

Game Variations:

Players who have arrived safely behind the other team's line have safely delivered their lights. They may then return to the play area and assist and defend teammates as they deliver their lights.

Make an equal number of copies of the Bible Memory Verse for each team. Each team must deliver all of the verse copies to the other team's home base. Players must still keep their lights lit to remain in play, but it is the message and not the lights that must be delivered. (Encourage the children to think of strategies, such as some are in charge of delivery while other players protect them.)



Jesus as Savior

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.



Today, we worship Jesus as our Savior. During worship, let's focus on the words of the blind man that Jesus healed. He said, "All I know is, I was blind, but now I see." Those are the words we sing in the hymn "Amazing Grace." Sing: "Amazing Grace" as the offering is collected.

Jesus showed the blind man that He was the Light of the world, and the Son of God; the man believed. Today, let's tell Jesus what the blind man told Him, "Lord, I believe." Sing Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Am the Way."

You may choose to sing songs that focus on Jesus, the Light of the world.



Read John 8:12.



As we give our offering today, let's ask God to use this money to help people see and believe that Jesus is the Light of the world who came to save us.



Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 4, Lesson 19.



Jesus healed the man born blind

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 that Jesus walked on water and saved Peter from drowning. Today, we will discover how Jesus used mud and water from the Pool of Siloam to heal the man born blind. The Pool of Siloam is still there; it is located just outside the city walls of Jerusalem. If a map of Israel is available, point to Jerusalem. If possible, display a photograph of the Pool of Siloam, which is still located outside Jerusalem's city wall.



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: John 9:1-7, 13-25, 35-39. **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: John 9:5.**

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.**

Today's story can be divided into three main parts. Let's begin by reading the first part of the story. Read John 9:1-7.

Many of the healed man's neighbors could not believe that he had really been healed. They took the man to show him to the Pharisees. The Pharisees were a group of Jewish people who strictly followed the religious rules. They said that Jesus broke God's law when He healed the man on the Sabbath because it was their holy day of rest. Listen carefully to what they did after speaking to the healed man. Read John 9:13-25.

The Pharisees argued with the man and then threw him out of the Temple. Let's see what Jesus did next. Read John 9:35-39.



Jesus is the Light of the world

THE WAY

What important question did the disciples ask Jesus about the blind man? ("Why was the man born blind?") **What was His answer?** ("This happened so that God's work might be shown in his life.") **What miracle work did God show in the blind man's life?** (Jesus healed the man's blindness.) **How did Jesus heal the blind man?** (Put mud on his eyes and told him to wash in the Pool of Siloam.) **How does this man's life still show God's work to this day?** (Children respond.)

How did the parents respond? (They kept quiet, avoided the subject, and pointed to their son to answer.) **What did they know would happen to them if they admitted believing Jesus was the Savior?** (They would be banished from the synagogue.) **In some lands today, by claiming Jesus as Savior a believer risks being physically hurt. In other places, the only risk would be feeling foolish or being treated as an outcast by friends or family. How do these compare to the place you live?** (Children respond.)

What did Jesus do after He heard that the healed man had been thrown out of the synagogue, which was a place of worship? (He found the man and talked with him.) **What did the man do when Jesus said He was God's Son?** (He said, "Lord, I believe," and worshiped Jesus.)

Jesus saved the man's eyes from darkness. He also saved the man from a life of darkness, separated from God forever. What do you think Jesus meant when He called Himself the Light of the world? (Children respond.) **What do you think the darkness stands for?** (Children respond.) **In the Bible, the darkness stands for a life separated from God.**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

Seven hundred years before Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world," Isaiah spoke God's words about His plan for His Son Jesus to be the Light of the world!



FIND IT FIRST > Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Isaiah 42:6-7. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Isaiah 42:6-7.

How is blindness, a prison, a dungeon, and sitting in darkness each a picture of life separated from God? (Children respond.)

Read John 1:5. Jesus knew some would not believe in Him, yet He came and died for us anyway. God gives faith to anyone who wants with all his or her heart to know the true God. It's as if Jesus opens the eyes of their hearts and minds to see and believe the truth. But those who do not want to know God are blind and are sitting in darkness unable to understand who Jesus truly is.

Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." Who is now left in the world to be His light? (Children respond.) **Jesus answers this question in Matthew 5:14-16. Read Matthew 5:14-16. What are some ways we can be like a light pointing others to Jesus?** (Give God the credit for the achievements and blessings. Resist pressure from friends to do wrong. Be kind. Tell others about Jesus. Share Bible verses, or bring friends to church, etc.)

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 penlight. Turn on your lights and shine them toward the ceiling. If possible, turn off the classroom lights. Each time you look at your light, remember that Jesus is the Light of the world. Show your light to others and tell them how Jesus healed the man of blindness and saved him from darkness.

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 #19. 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 healing the man born blind. 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 4 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Am the Way," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: JIGGLY LIGHTS

Purpose: Children will be reminded that the light of Jesus can shine through everything.

Snack Suggestion: Flavored gelatin snacks (either snack-sized clear cups or use a box mix to create gelatin shapes)

Optional Supplies: Penlights

Today, we are learning that Jesus is the Light of the world. For our snack, let's use our penlights to look at the color of our gelatin snacks. Show the children how to shine their penlights through the gelatin and onto a light colored surface, such as a wall, napkin, or sheet of paper. If possible, turn off the classroom lights. The light that appears on the other side of the gelatin will be the same color as the food.

Directions:

1. Serve the snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **"If you could see one thing in the world that you have not yet seen, what would it be?"**

GAME: BRIGHT AND DARK

Purpose: Children will remember Jesus shows us the way to God the Father.

Supplies: Small cross or paper cross shape

Jesus says He is the Light of the world. Just as light allows us to see the way to go, the Light of the world shows us the way to God the Father. In this game, the cross will stand for Jesus as the Light of the world. We will hide the cross and then describe the light to lead the Seeker to the cross.

Directions:

1. Choose a child as the "Seeker," who will search for the cross.
2. Seeker hides his or her eyes while the rest of the class hides the cross in the room or play area.
3. Seeker opens his or her eyes and searches for the hidden cross.
4. Children say "brighter" as the Seeker gets closer or "darker" as the Seeker gets farther from the cross, until it is found.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 until each child has a turn as the Seeker.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: "LIGHT OF THE WORLD" CANDLEHOLDER

Purpose: Children will make a votive candleholder to remind them that Jesus is the Light of the world.

Supplies: Small jars such as baby food jars or small jelly jars, colorful tissue paper or colored plastic wrap, glue, small paintbrushes or cloth, permanent markers, scissors, optional: votive candles

Prepare: Add water to paste or glue as a thinner.

We have just learned Jesus is the Light of the world. He shows the truth about Himself to those who believe in Him. We also talked about ways we can show the truth about Jesus to others. What were some of the ways we discussed? (Children respond.) **Let's make a light right now that we can use to tell others about how Jesus is the Light of the world.**

Directions:

1. Child receives glass jar, colored paper, paintbrush, scissors and jar cap of paste.
2. Cut small pieces from tissue paper or plastic wrap.
3. Use paintbrush or cloth to lightly coat the outside of the jar with thin paste.
4. Press cut pieces of tissue onto the pasted areas of the glass jar, until a patchwork of pieces (all one color or a mix of several colors) cover the outside of the jar.
5. Option: Choose to color sections of the glass with the markers or draw pictures on the glass or plastic wrap.
6. Teacher Tip: For fire safety, make sure that paper and plastic pieces are on the *outside* of the glass, and not near the opening.
7. Use permanent marker to write, **"I am the Light of the world"** near the upper rim of the jar.
8. Allow for drying time before handling.

Take your "Light of the World" candleholder home and give it to a friend or family member. Tell that person about the day that Jesus explained that He is the Light of the world and then healed the blind man!

GOT TIME? *continued...*

THE APOSTLES' CREED STUDY

Purpose: This 10 statement study assists in the understanding and memorization of the Apostles' Creed. It is divided into 2 parts: Part 1—The Father and The Son and Part 2—The Spirit and The Saints. While designed for ages 10 and above, discussions may be adapted to other age levels.

Supplies: Create a poster or provide individual copies of The Apostles' Creed for children. For related tips and activities, go to ResourceWell.org.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Statement 9, Part 2: The Spirit and the Saints

"(I believe in) the forgiveness of sins,"

As Christians, we believe in the forgiveness of sins. Sin is doing wrong in God's eyes. Let's say this next statement together: "I believe in the forgiveness of sins."

Volunteer reads Acts 10:43. **Before Jesus came to earth, God promised He would one day make a New Covenant with His people. A covenant is an agreement that usually includes a promise. In the Old Covenant, God promised if the people obeyed Him fully, He would make them His treasured possession. Unfortunately, they kept breaking the Old Covenant, because everyone disobeys God by doing wrong. Under the Old Covenant, what was the final punishment for sin? (Death.) What did Jesus do to take away our final punishment? (He died on the cross to redeem us.)**

Volunteer reads Hebrews 8:10-12. **God's New Covenant with His people promises that whoever believes in His Son, Jesus, will be forgiven. When Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins, He bought total forgiveness for all who believe.**

Does anyone have questions about this statement of the Christian faith? (Children respond.) Why do you think it is such an important part of our faith to believe in the forgiveness of sins? (So we know that our sins are erased and no longer separate us from a life forever close with God.) Recite The Apostles' Creed together.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

GAME: THE WAVE

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verses.

Supplies: Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Jesus was with God in the very beginning. Together they created everything in heaven and on the earth. As we say our Bible Memory Verse together, think about something amazing you have seen. Remember, God created everything and He created you, too!

Directions:

1. Assign one word or phrase from John 14:6 and Romans 10:9 to each child or group.
2. Direct each child/group to quickly stand and say the assigned word or phrase while raising both hands up to the sky, then down to the thighs, and finally sitting down.
3. Repeat three times, going faster each time.

GAME: WALKING ON THE WORD

Purpose: Children memorize the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verses.

Supplies: 2 Bibles or the Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse poster, sturdy paper, Unit 4 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Am the Way," CD player, floor tape, 2 containers

Prepare: Label the two containers "Boat 1" and "Boat 2." From sturdy paper, cut 40 paper footprints. Create two sets of 20 paper footprints, each with one of the following 20 phrases: I am/the way/and the truth/and the life./No one/comes to/the Father/except/through Me./If you/confess/with your mouth/"Jesus is Lord"/and believe/in your heart/that God/raised Him/from the dead/you will/be saved.

Optional: Laminate the paper footprints to protect them from tearing or substitute scrap linoleum flooring for the sturdy paper. To simplify for beginning readers, add symbols or pictures on the footprints. To increase degree of difficulty, create a footprint for each word instead of each phrase.

Our Bible Memory Verse is two different verses. John 14:6 quotes Jesus' exact words promising He is the only way to come to God the Father. Romans 10:9 explains the promise concerning what we must do to be saved. In this game, team members will work together to place the footprints in the right order. You may use a Bible. Then, each member will say step on the footprints while saying the phrases until he or she has reached the cross.

Directions:

1. Divide children into 2 teams. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as background music.
2. Place 1 set of 20 footprints in each "boat." Place the boats at one end of the play area.
3. Use floor tape to mark the shape of a large cross at the other end of the play area.
4. Teams race to place footprints in the correct order in a path from their boat to the cross.
5. When the footprints are in the correct order, each team member steps on the footprints, saying each phrase aloud, until they reach the cross.
6. The first team to have all its members reach the cross is the winner.

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.

Saving the Official's Son (Circa 30-33 A.D.) What did Jesus say when the official asked Jesus to heal his son? ("You may go. Your son will live.") The man trusted Jesus to keep His promise that the boy would live. On the man's way home, what news did the servants bring? (His son was healed.)

Walking on Water (Circa 30-33 A.D.) What did Jesus do when the disciples' boat was tossed by the wind and waves? (He came to them by walking on the water.) Peter tried to walk on the water but became afraid. What did Jesus do when Peter cried out, "Lord, save me"? (He reached out and saved him.)

Giving Sight to a Man Born Blind (Circa 30-33 A.D.) What did Jesus say when the disciples asked Him why the man was born blind? ("This happened so that God's work might be shown in his life.") How did Jesus heal the blind man? (He put mud on his eyes and told him to wash in the Pool of Siloam.)

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