



Peter and John Defend Jesus' Name

Lesson Aim: To understand the power of the name of Jesus.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: The Spirit Who Gives Us Power

THE WORD

Bible Story: Acts 3:6-8; 4:1-4, 7-12, 18-21

What He Has Done: Jesus healed the man who could not walk when Peter called on His name.

Key Verse: Acts 4:12

THE WAY

Christ Connection: Exodus 20:7

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord Almighty." Zechariah 4:6b

"I will pour out My Spirit on all people." Joel 2:28a

Unit 1: The Promise of the Spirit			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	The Promise of the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:3-11	Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit	To know the Holy Spirit's power helps us to be witnesses.
2	Pentecost: The Holy Spirit Comes, Acts 2:1-8, 32-33, 36-39, 41	Jesus kept His promise to send the Holy Spirit.	To know that all who believe in Jesus receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
3	Peter and John Defend Jesus' Name, Acts 3:6-8; 4:1-4, 7-12, 18-21	Jesus healed the man who could not walk when Peter called on His name.	To understand the power of the name of Jesus.
4	The Stoning of Stephen, Acts 6:5a, 8; 7:54-60; 8:1-3	God strengthened Stephen to defend and die for the faith.	To trust the Holy Spirit will help us be faithful.
5	Philip and the Ethiopian, Acts 8:26-31, 34-40	God led Philip to teach the Ethiopian about Jesus.	To know the Holy Spirit makes us ready to tell others about Jesus.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Acts 3-4. Please join us in praying, "Thank You for giving us faith in Your name. Keep it sacred in the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts. Heal our children this week. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Meet & Greet	None
		Game: Healed and Ready	Coins, paper cups, markers
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Not by Might" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "At the Name of Jesus" "For God So Loved the World" "I Am the Way" "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "Father, I Adore You" "Spirit of the Living God"
		Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 28:7	Bible
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	Lesson 3 Commander Cosmos script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	Read the Word: Acts 3:6-8; 4:1-4, 7-12, 18-21	Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	Discuss the Word	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		Christ Connection: Exodus 20:7	
		Golden Bowl	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
	Final 5	Final Five Minutes	Treasure Treat—Sandal tie (strip of leather or twine), W ³ s, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Not by Might"
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Snack: Bandages	Fruit leather or any snack that can be wrapped around a finger
	Up to 10	Game: "Walk, Jump, and Praise" Musical Chairs	Chairs or paper plates, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Not by Might"
	Up to 10	Craft: In Jesus' Name	Extra-sturdy paper or cardboard, twine or shoe lace or thin leather strip, scissors, pencils, glue, optional: assorted craft supplies
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Memory Verse Hand Motions	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster
	Up to 10	Bible Memory Verse Activity: Around the World	Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, 25 pictures of the earth, labels or slips of paper
	Up to 5	Bible Timeline Review	Date with story title or name printed on card

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: When was the last time you were sick or hurt?

GAME: HEALED AND READY

Purpose: To help children realize the difficult life of the man who could not walk and prepare them to hear how, through Peter, Jesus changed the man's life.

Supplies: Coins, paper cups, markers

Directions:

1. Choose one child to be Freeze. Choose another child to be the Healer.
2. Give a cup and marker to the remaining children and ask them write their names on their cups.
3. Have each child with a cup find a place on one side of the play area to put their cup.
4. Spread the coins on the floor all around the play area.
5. On your signal, children collect one coin at a time and put it into their cup.
6. As children collect coins, Freeze tries to tag them. If children are touched by Freeze, they must sit down on the floor and remain motionless.
7. Children who have been tagged cannot move or collect coins until the Healer touches them and says, "**You are healed.**"
8. Continue playing until all the coins are collected.

How did you feel when you were tagged and couldn't collect coins? (Children respond.) **Today, we will read about a man whose feet and ankles were lame. That means he could not walk. In those days, because he could not walk, he could not get a job to make money to buy food. Instead, he had to beg for money. How do you think it would feel to be unable to walk and to have to beg for money?** (Children respond.) **Let's find out what happened to the man.**

Limited Space Option: Have children sit in a close group. Children pass coins around the group, each keeping one coin until they have all collected one coin. Once all children have one coin, the children may keep another coin when it passes and so on. Freeze and Healer walk through the group to touch the other children. If a child is touched by Freeze, he or she cannot touch, pass, or keep a coin until touched by the Healer. Continue until all coins are collected.

Limited Space Option: This game uses only one coin and no cups. Have children stand. Choose a child to be Freeze. Freeze close his or her eyes. Silently give the coin to one child and choose another child to be the Healer. Freeze opens his or her eyes. On your signal, all the children walk around the room. The child with the coin passes the coin to another child without being seen by Freeze. If Freeze tags the child with the coin, that child cannot move until the Healer secretly touches him or her. If Freeze figures out who the Healer is, the game is over. Play again, as time allows.

Teacher Tip: If a child in your group is confined to a wheelchair, this is a good opportunity to ask him or her to talk about the challenges of using a wheelchair.



The Spirit who gives us power

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.



We worship the Holy Spirit who gives us power. Sing the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Not by Might." **In today's Bible story, we will learn that when Peter called on the name of Jesus, the man who couldn't walk was healed. The name of Jesus is the most important name of all because Jesus is the only one who can save us. His name is above every other name.** Sing: "At the Name of Jesus."

After he was healed, the man in today's story walked, jumped, and praised God. Let's use our bodies and our voices to sing praise to God today. You may choose to sing songs that focus on praising the name of Jesus—if possible, include physical motions, jumps, claps, etc.



Read Psalm 28:7.



Let's give Him thanks and praise now as we give our money offering to the church. Sing: "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" while collecting the offering.



Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 1, Lesson 3.



Peter and John defend Jesus' name

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 after Jesus was taken up to heaven, He kept His promise to send the Holy Spirit. What did the Holy Spirit give the apostles power to do that day? (To speak in many different languages.) **Today, we will find out what happened when Peter called on the powerful name of Jesus to heal the man who could not walk.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Peter and the Lame Man. For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

This was one of the first acts the apostles Peter and John did after Jesus sent the Holy Spirit. They were in Jerusalem. If a map is available, point out Jerusalem, Israel. **It all began when a man who could not walk begged Peter and John for some money. Let's find out what happened.**



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: Acts 3:6-8; 4:1-4, 7-12, 18-21. **Let's see who can Find Acts 4:12 First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Acts 4:12.**

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.** Read Acts 3:6-8.

The people were amazed and so they came running to Peter and John. Peter explained it was not through their own power that the man was healed; it was by the name of Jesus. Peter told them God raised Jesus to life, and He was now in heaven at God's right hand. Let's see what happened next. Read 4:1-4, 7-12, 18-21.



The name of Jesus

THE WAY

What did Peter and John do on their way to the temple? (Healed a man who could not walk by the name of Jesus.) **Why was calling on the name of Jesus the best gift Peter could give the man?** (Jesus alone has the power to meet the man's true needs: faith in Jesus and the healing of his feet and ankles.)

When the crowd came running toward them in amazement, Peter told them God raised Jesus from the dead and the man was healed by the name of Jesus. What did the religious leaders do when they heard Peter and John were teaching this? (Put them in jail.) **Were Peter and John thrown in jail for healing or for teaching that Jesus rose from the dead?** (Teaching that Jesus rose from the dead.)

When they were thrown in jail, did that stop people from believing their message? (No. That day, after seeing the miracle, the number of believers grew from 3,000 to 5,000.) **What did the religious leaders ask them?** ("By what power or what name did you do this?") **Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit when he gave his answer. What did Peter say about salvation?** (Salvation is found in no one else but Jesus. "There is no other name in heaven by which we are saved.")

At the end of our prayers, believers often say, "We pray this in the name of Jesus." This is said because Jesus is the name of our only Savior. Jesus is the name of the One who has the power to answer the prayer. Jesus is the name of the One who gets all the credit and the glory for answering it.

Because there were so many witnesses to the man being healed by the name of Jesus, the religious rulers couldn't decide how to punish Peter and John. They had to release them. What did Peter and John say when they were told to stop speaking in the name of Jesus? (They asked if it was better to obey man or obey God. They chose to obey God and continue telling others about Jesus.) **Afterward, the believers prayed together asking God to do miracles and wonders through the name of Jesus and to help them speak boldly about Him.**



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

CHRIST CONNECTION

1500 years before Peter called on the name of Jesus for healing, God gave a commandment about the use of His name. It is one of the Ten Commandments. Let's read it now.



FIND IT FIRST > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap.** Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Exodus 20:7. **Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it.** Read Exodus 20:7.

It is important to respect God's name and use it correctly. What are some correct ways to use the names for God such as Lord, God, Jesus, or Holy Spirit? (We can use God's names when we are talking to Him in prayer, speaking about Him to others, worshiping, or quoting the Bible.) **Ask God this week to help you only speak His name in ways that please Him. Ask Him to help you speak boldly about Him as Peter did.**

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'm going to 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 sandal tie (piece of leather or twine). After the man was healed, he walked, jumped, and praised God. This sandal tie stands for new things the man could now do with his feet. Hang this sandal tie in your home, on a jacket, or on a bag as a reminder of the healing that comes when we call on the name of Jesus.

W³: Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible. Distribute W³ Journal Entry #3. 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, make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of Peter and John watching the healed man walk, jump, and praise God.

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 1 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Not by Might," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: BANDAGES

Purpose: Children will eat a snack that reminds them of the healing in today's story.

Snack Suggestion: Fruit leather or any snack that can be wrapped around a finger

What did the man who could not walk want from Peter and John? (Money, silver and gold.)
Peter gave the man something much better than money; he healed the man in Jesus' name!

When you get hurt, you may need a bandage. Let's pretend this fruit roll is a bandage. Wrap it around your finger and then eat the tasty bandage! Think about what it would have been like to see the amazing miracle of the man being healed. What is the most amazing thing you have seen?

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. Child prays to thank God for the snack.
3. Ask each child to answer this question: **"What is the most amazing thing you have seen?"**

GAME: "WALK, JUMP, AND PRAISE" MUSICAL CHAIRS

Purpose: Children will play a version of Musical Chairs while experiencing the man's joy at being healed.

Supplies: Chairs or paper plates, Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song "Not by Might"

What three things did the man do after he was healed? (Walked, jumped, and praised God.) **If you had been the man in this story, what would you have done when Peter healed you in Jesus' name?** (Children respond.) **How would you have felt about Jesus?** (Children respond.) **Why do you think the man walked, jumped, and praised God?** (Children respond.) **Let's play a game to help us remember our story.**

Directions:

1. Place chairs (facing outward) or paper plates in a circle using one less chair/plate than the number of children playing.
2. Play the Bible Memory Verse Song as children walk around the circle.
3. When you stop the music, children must sit on a chair/plate. The child without a seat is out and assists you with the game (playing music or removing chairs/plates).
4. Remove one chair/plate and play again. This time, have children jump around the circle.
5. For the third round, children praise God by clapping as they walk around the circle.
6. Rotate the actions between walking, jumping and clapping for each round until only one child remains in the game.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

CRAFT: IN JESUS' NAME

Purpose: Children create a Jesus' name craft to give to someone they are praying for God to heal.

Supplies: Extra-sturdy paper or cardboard, twine (or shoe lace or thin leather strip), scissors, pencils, glue, optional: assorted craft supplies

Prepare: Cut the extra-sturdy paper or cardboard into large rectangles. For younger children, use pencil to write Jesus' name in large, capital letters on the rectangles.

By whose name was the man in today's story healed. (By the name of Jesus.) **Peter had no money to give the man, but Peter had faith in Jesus. He knew that only Jesus could heal the man's feet and ankles.**

In today's craft, we will use twine (or shoe lace or thin leather strip) **for a sandal tie to represent the new things the healed man could do with his feet.**

Directions:

1. Write "**JESUS**" in large, capital letters on the sign.
2. Cut pieces of the twine (or shoe lace or thin leather strip) to match the pencil letters.
3. Glue on the pieces of twine.
4. Optional: Decorate the sign with assorted crafts supplies.

Display it in your home to remind you to ask Jesus to heal others. Remember, Jesus always answers our prayers. He will heal us right away, along the way, or in heaven one day.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the Lord Almighty.” Zechariah 4:6b
“I will pour out My Spirit on all people.” Joel 2:28a

GAME: MEMORY VERSE HAND MOTIONS

Purpose: Children learn the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster

This year, we are going to learn about God’s promises. Our new Bible Memory Verse tells us one of God’s promises. God promises to pour out His Spirit on all people. We can’t do the great things God wants us to do by just using our own might and power. We need God’s help, so He promised to send us a special helper—His Holy Spirit. Let’s learn some motions to help us remember Zechariah 4:6b and Joel 2:28a.

Directions:

1. Children stand in a circle.
2. As you say the Bible Memory Verse together, demonstrate the corresponding actions:
 - **Not by might** (Flex arm muscles up.)
 - **Nor by power** (Flex arm muscles down.)
 - **But by My Spirit** (Point to heaven.)
 - **Says the Lord Almighty** (Sign for the word “Lord”: Make an “L” shape with thumb and index finger, cross “L” shape from shoulder to hip as royal sash.)
 - **I will pour out** (Pretend to hold up a jug and pour.)
 - **My Spirit** (Point to heaven.)
 - **On all people** (Spread arms wide.)
3. Assign each child (or a group of children) one phrase and action.
4. Seat children in a circle.
5. In order, each child (or group) quickly stands, says and does their motion, and then sits.
6. Repeat step 5 and challenge children to be faster each time.

Option: Divide the children into two teams and make it a race.

GAME: AROUND THE WORLD

Purpose: Children learn the meaning of the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster, labels or slips of paper, 25 pictures of the earth (Pictures can be computer printouts, magazine cutouts, or your own sketches. They do not need to be identical.)

Prepare: Display Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse poster. Write one word or verse reference of the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse on a label or slip of paper. Attach each label to an earth picture. Place the earth pictures word side up and in a large circle approximately 1-foot apart from each other.

Directions:

1. Each child takes a turn stepping on the pictures in order, saying each word as he or she steps.
2. Each time the children repeat the game, turn over some of the pictures so children must remember the missing words when they step on those pictures.
3. The goal is for the children to continue playing until all the pictures are upside down and they are able to remember all the words of the Bible Memory Verse without looking at the poster.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

Prophets & Promises Part One studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Acts through Revelation. Specific dates and a confirmed chronological order of all events covered in Lessons 1-21 are not available. Events will be ordered as they appear in the Bible. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

Jesus Ascends (Circa 33 A.D.) After Jesus proved to many people that He was alive, He was taken up into heaven. What did Jesus tell His apostles just before He was taken up? (To wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to give them power. They would be His witnesses.) **What is a witness?** (Children respond.) **A witness is someone who has seen something and then tells others about it.**

The Holy Spirit Comes (Circa 33 A.D.) God kept His promise and sent the Holy Spirit to the apostles waiting in Jerusalem. People all over the world were already gathered there for a Jewish festival called Pentecost. **Why do you think the Holy Spirit came while the city was filled with people visiting from other lands?** (So those people could go and tell the people in their part of the world what they had seen and heard.)

Peter and the Lame Man (Circa 33 A.D.) A man who could not walk begged Peter and John for money; Peter gave the man something better. **Whose name did Peter call on to heal the man?** (Jesus.) **What did the man do after he was healed?** (He walked, jumped, and praised God.) **Why do believers today pray in Jesus' name?** (Jesus is the one who has the power to answer prayer.)

How to create a Bible Timeline from Acts through Revelation:

1. Download and print the Bible Timeline for Prophets & Promises (available at www.resourcewell.org).
2. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
3. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
4. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below.
5. To review, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Acts – Revelation: Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.) > Jesus Ascends (Circa 33 A.D.) > The Holy Spirit Comes (Circa 33 A.D.) > Peter and the Lame Man (Circa 33 A.D.) > The Stoning of Stephen (Circa 33 A.D.) > Philip and the Ethiopian (Circa 33 A.D.) > God Changes Saul's Heart (Circa 33-34 A.D.) > Saul Escapes from Damascus (Circa 33-34 A.D.) > Peter and Tabitha (Circa 34-37 A.D.) > Peter Visits Cornelius (Circa 38 A.D.) > Peter Escapes from Prison (Circa 41-44 A.D.) > Barnabas and Paul (Circa 46-47 A.D.) > Paul Visits Macedonia (Circa 48-49 A.D.) > Paul and Lydia (Circa 48-49 A.D.) > Paul and Silas in Prison (Circa 48-49 A.D.) > Priscilla and Aquila (Circa 49-54 A.D.) > Paul's Third Journey (Circa 52-57 A.D.) > Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem (Circa 57-59 A.D.) > Paul and King Agrippa (Circa 57-59 A.D.) > Paul and the Shipwreck (Circa 60 A.D.) > Paul Imprisoned in Rome (Circa 62 A.D.)