

Preschool Summer
Lesson 12:
We Can Help Like the Peter

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Learn **Acts 3:1-9** – People praised God because Peter helped a man to walk
- 2) Do activities to remind them to thank and praise Jesus for all He does
- 3) Understand that it is good to help others

Accommodations: How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- Use lots of visuals and actions to keep children's attention.
- Allow them to color a page while you read the story if they are unable to stay focused for very long
- Break up the lesson if needed by singing songs or doing an "active" game in a different order if they need to get up and move around
- Help students stay focused by going through sheets in order and helping them follow by pointing to your page where they should be focused.
- Sit beside children who are fidgety to help them stay focused.
- Learn their names – the best way to get someone back on track is to call them by name
- Remember to say "Please" and "Thank you" this is important for them to learn and see displayed in your actions as well.

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – one per student
- Peter Helps Heal Color Page – one per student
- Things to Help People Move Visual Aids – one to share
- Happy and Sad Face Template – cut out before class and taped to Popsicle Sticks
- Popsicle Sticks – 2
- Tape for teacher
- I Can Help Color Page – one per student (to be made into puzzle later)
- Scissors for teacher
- Peter Heals Man Visual Aid – one per class to share

Optional Activities

- Storybook or visuals of this story to show kids (if available)
- Cane, small crutches, wheel chair, if possible, or get a few small smooth sticks or doweling rods to use as canes – for class to take turns
- Soft ball to roll – one per class to share
- Snack – Fruit slices – enough for each child
- Napkins
- Cups with water
- Puppet to tell students the real events from the Bible

Lesson:

1) Introduction to lesson:

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Let each child put a sticker beside their name. Have them sit around the table.

While waiting for others to show, you can talk about different ways we have been helped and can help others. Examples include: helping mom with putting away dishes, cleaning up toys, helping brothers or sisters carry something, helping find some toy or item that was lost, giving a hug when someone is hurt or crying, etc.

Say: **We are going to learn that we are helpers. Helping makes everyone happy and makes Jesus happy too! We will learn about a man named Peter who helped a man who could not walk. Let's do some rhymes and songs to get us started to remind us that helping is good!**

I Want to Help

I want to help in every way!
With ears, eyes, and mouth, (*point to each*)
With feet, (*bend down and touch feet*)
And hands (*clap hands*)
I want to help today!

Big Enough Song

Tune: London Bridge

I am glad I'm big enough,
big enough, big enough,
Big enough to come to church; Just
like Jesus!

I am glad I'm big enough,
big enough, big enough,
Big enough to come and help; Just like
Jesus!

A Helper I Will Be!

Tune: Farmer in the Dell

A helper I will be, a helper I will be.
There's work to do, there's work to do
In my family.

I love to help my mom; I love to help my dad.
I love to help; it makes God glad.
A helper I will be.

I Love Jesus

Tune: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Adapted from Sylvia Tester

I love Jesus – I can say,
I will love Him everyday.
While I work and while I play.
I will love Him every day.
I love Jesus – I can say,
I will love Him everyday.

I will use my helping hands.
I will use my helping hands.
Pick up toys and share with friends.
I'll be Jesus helper friend.
I will use my helping hands.
Pick up toys and share with friends.

I will use my helping eyes.
I will use my helping eyes.
Look for things to do to care.
I'll be Jesus' helper everywhere.
I will use my helping eyes.
I will look for things to care.

I will use my helping ears.
I will use my helping ears.
Listen when my mommy calls.
I'll be Jesus' helper to all.
I will use my helping ears
To listen when my mommy calls.

I will use my helping mouth.
I will use my helping mouth.
I will tell of Jesus' love.
I will tell of God above.
I will use my helping mouth
I will tell of Jesus' love.

We just sang some songs about helping. Jesus wants us to be helpers. In our Bible it says we should be helpers. It makes God and Jesus and others happy when we help!

Show students pictures of different ways people may need help to walk. See visual aids. Or, if you have access show crutches, wheelchairs, or canes that you may have. Let children try to use them. Ask:

Have any of you seen someone using one of these? Hold up and point to one of the objects. A person uses this when he or she can't walk or if they have trouble walking. Our Bible story today is about a man who couldn't walk. This poor man didn't have a wheelchair to help him get around. All he could do was sit at the door of the temple (the Jewish place to worship God) and beg for money.



**What do you think it would be like to use this as the only way to get around?
Would it be easy or hard?**

Could you run fast using crutches...cane...wheelchair?

It would not be fun not to be able to walk or run or jump.

How can you help someone in a wheelchair?

How can you help someone on crutches?

You are big enough to help. You can be a friend to someone who is having trouble walking. You can ask if they need anything. Jesus is happy when we help others!

2) Peter Helped a Man to Walk

10 minutes

*Optional: Have visual aid/ or story book pictures ready to show children.

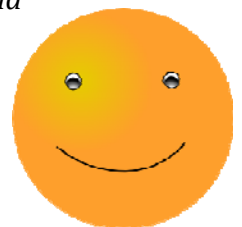
*Have Happy and Sad Faces made in advance. See Template for directions.

When all arrive say to students, **"We have been learning that we are helpers. Today our story is about Peter who helped a man who could not walk. You can be a helper right now too, by listening to the Bible. Let's see how Peter, thanks to Jesus, helped this man.**

Read Acts 3:1-9

Now Peter and John went up together to the temple ... And a certain man who had never been able to walk was carried and laid daily at the gate of the temple to ask for help from those who entered the temple; who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for money. And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them—walking, leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God.

Good listening everyone. Now we are going to listen again to the story but this time when you see me show the happy face, you should smile. When you see the sad face, you should frown. Let's practice together:



Show happy face – children should smile (demonstrate by smiling as well)

Show sad face – children should frown (demonstrate by frowning as well)

The Bible Story: One day Peter and John were going to the big temple to pray to God. As they were walking through the gate, a man who couldn't walk was sitting on the ground. (Show sad face/Children look sad.) This man sat here every day asking people for money.

When the man held out his hand and asked Peter and John for money, Peter said "I don't have any money (sad face); but I do have something better I can give you." (Happy face).

Peter said to the man, "In the name of Jesus, get up and walk!" Then Peter reached down his helping hand and took the man's hand. As Peter helped the man up, the man's legs and feet were made strong and he stood up! (happy face) The man began to jump! And then the man praised God! (show happy face again.) Peter helped the man who could not walk because Peter loved God and wanted to help. Peter was Jesus' helper.

If able, allow children to stand and give them commands: **Jump up and down, walk around, smile, march, say "Thank you God!" This is what the man who could now walk was doing after Peter helped him!**

Thank you for being good helpers by listening. Now, let's all be good helpers and sit back down so we can do the next fun activity!

3) Peter Helps a Man to Walk Color Time

10-15 minutes

Hand out one page to each child with crayons. Read the words and allow children to color the page.

Say: **This is Peter and John talking to the man who could not walk, from our Bible story. It looks like Peter is trying to help.**

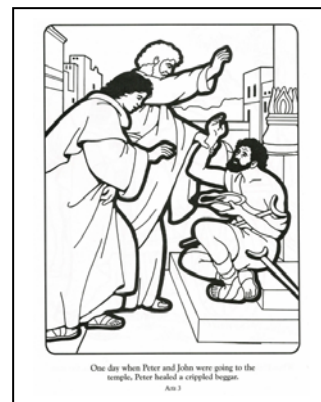
Ask the students the questions as they color:

Who are the people in the picture? Peter and John and the man who could not walk.

What is Peter doing?

How is Peter helping?

What are ways we can be helpers too? Clean house, sweep, do what mom asks us to, help make our beds, put our toys away, give a hug to someone who is hurt, be friendly and kind to someone new we meet, etc.



As you do this activity say:

_____ is a good helper, she/he is putting away her/his crayons.

_____ is a good helper, she/he is sitting quietly waiting for her turn.

_____ is a good helper, she/he is listening quietly.

_____ is a good helper she/he is doing what was asked.

We are all good helpers just like Peter.

4) I Can Help Like Peter Puzzle

10 minutes

Hand out one sheet per child with crayons. Tell the children:

We are going to make a puzzle out of this picture. First we are going to color it, then I will cut it into sections and you can see if you can put it back together again!

Let children scribble color while you talk about the picture:

What is this child doing?

Have you ever helped that way?

How do you help at home?

How can you help at Sunday school?

How can you help when worshipping God at church services?

Can we point to the boy who is helping?

He is a helper. You can be a helper too by putting all the crayons away so we can make your picture into a fun puzzle!

Take each child's picture and ask if they would like you to cut it into puzzle pieces for them so they can put it back together. Cut the pictures of those children who are interested into 4 or 6 rectangle pieces (keep shape simple so it is easy to put together again). Let children put their picture back together again. Encourage other children who did not want their picture cut to watch and encourage those who are trying.



When done, say: **just like the boy in the picture, we can be helpers too! Let's be good helpers this week and help our families at home and help at worship services. Ask your mom how you can help at home and at services today.**

Let's sing some songs about being big enough to help.

Big Enough Song

Tune: London Bridge

I am glad I'm big enough,
big enough, big enough,
Big enough to come to church; Just
like Jesus!

I am glad I'm big enough,
big enough, big enough,
Big enough to come and help; Just like
Jesus!

A Helper I Will Be!

Tune: Farmer in the Dell

A helper I will be, a helper I will be.
There's work to do, there's work to do
In my family.

I love to help my mom; I love to help my dad.
I love to help; it makes God glad.
A helper I will be.

5) Optional: I Can Help Follow Along Game

5 minutes

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: I am going to say "Helpers" and then an action word. I want you to follow and do what I say. Just like Peter was a helper, we are going to follow along and be helpers too by doing what I say, ok? Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job.

Helpers – help sweep the floors
Helpers – help dust the chairs
Helpers – pray to God
Helpers – give someone a hug
Helpers – help someone who is hurt by putting on a bandage
Helpers – help set the table
Helpers – help by listening to mom and go to bed on time
Helpers – help by listening when we read the Bible
Helpers – sit down!

Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.

6) Optional: I'm a Good Helper - Roll the Ball Game 5 minutes

During class, tell the kids, **"Let's all sit on the floor in a circle. While we are in the circle we are going to pass the ball to one another, as you pass the ball gently to a person and the person gets the ball; I want them to say, "I am a good helper!"**

You can only pass the ball to someone who hasn't had a turn yet, if someone catches the ball that already had a turn, you must give it to someone who hasn't so we call get a chance to play, ok?"

Remember, the person who gets the ball, must say "I am a good helper!"

Make sure each child gets a turn before doing another round or moving on to another activity.

7) Optional: Follow the Leader – I Can Help Game 5 minutes

Have students line up behind you. Tell them they are going to play follow the leader – we are going to follow each other and be good helpers. Have teacher assistant (if you have one) go at the back of the line so he/she can watch the children and keep them in line. March around the room doing different actions that they are to follow as you go, examples sweep the floor, bend down to help someone who fell, pick up toys, etc. The idea is to get the children to follow you. When finished, tell them **"Good job – you followed and were good helpers just like Peter. Let's remember that it is good to follow God and do what He says. He tells us to be good helpers. You are big enough to be good helpers!"**

8) Sing

Choose songs especially about helping.

9) Optional – Snack: Fruit Pieces 5 minutes

Have a small container with fruit pieces washed and cut before class. Also provide each child a glass of water. Explain that, **"Today we learned that we can help – just like Peter. We can help people feel better, we can help our family with chores and cleaning up, we can help today by handing out fruit slices!"** Ask a child who is sitting quietly if they would like to take a piece and hand it to the child sitting next to them. Thank them for being helpful when they do. Next, let another child take a piece and hand it to someone who doesn't have one, thank them for being a good helper. Keep going until every child has handed out a piece to someone. If someone doesn't want any remind them to say "No thank-you" and then have the child handing it out, give it to someone

else (maybe you.) Once everyone has shared and helped, continue giving children another piece or two while you discuss what they learned today. **Let's talk about all the ways we learned about helping and ways we can help while we eat our snack.** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss any questions while snacking!

10) Close in prayer

Ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray, then say: Thank You God for the world You made and for showing us people in the Bible who followed Jesus and were good helpers. Thank You Jesus that You bless us and provide for us! You are always very helpful to everyone. Thank you for providing our food, clothes, family, homes and friends. We love you. Help us to be good helpers everyday! In Jesus name, Amen.