Lesson 6: Jesus Is Healer

Overview:

Key Focus: Jesus healed all who came to Him, and He still heals.

Bible Story: Jesus Heals the Leper

Scriptures: Isaiah 53:5; Luke 17:11–19; Matthew 9:35, 12:15; Luke 9:5–6; Mark 16:17–18

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:24 (NKJV) Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Laundry basket or empty trash can
- A baby doll

Classroom Prep:

- Print out these 10 verses, each verse on a separate paper:
  Matthew 4:24, Luke 5:15,
  Mark 1:32–34, Matthew 8:16,
  Luke 4:40, Matthew 9:35,
  Mark 6:56, Luke 9:11,
  Matthew 12:15, Luke 6:19

Engage:

Make the following predictions: **I predict after church I will ___. I predict the temperature today will be ___. I predict you will like ___ movie.** Allow the children to respond to your predictions. **Some of my predictions I will get right because I am in charge of what I will do after church; I can look at my phone and get a good idea of what the temperature today will likely be; and I have a 50/50 chance of being right about whether you will like something or not.** Read Isaiah 53:5. **This was written hundreds of years before Christ died for our sins. It**

was not a prediction, but it was what God told the prophet, Isaiah. We know that God is eternal and knows all things. Then read the memory verse. **God had the power to tell people about Jesus being our Healer hundreds of years before it happened. We can trust thepromises of God. In today's Bible lesson, we will discover that God made a promise in the Old Testament that came true through Jesus' death and resurrection—and it's still true today!**

Memory Verse Activity:
Display and discuss the verse. Divide the class into four groups and assign a phrase to each group, but keep the last phrase for everyone to say together. Have the groups say their phrases and then finish the verse in unison. After a couple of times through the verse, switch the phrases and continue practicing the verse.

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 2:24 (NKJV) Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.

Bible Story:

In today's Bible story, we are going to talk about a disease, or a sickness, called "leprosy." A person with this disease was called a "leper." Leprosy affected a person's skin and nerve endings and would deform the body. Leprosy was terrible and other people could get the disease from being around a leper. If you had leprosy, you had to go to the priest to be checked out. If the priest said you had leprosy, you had to go away from the town and live out by yourself. Think how terrible that would be to have this disease that ruined your body, but worse than that was you couldn't be with your family or friends. Allow the children to comment on how lonely lepers must have been.

Read Luke 17:11–13. **As Jesus walked through the wilderness between two towns, He met how many lepers?** (10) **These men had to stay a long distance away from people who weren't sick with leprosy, but they could be around other lepers. The Bible doesn't say how these men recognized Jesus or knew about Him, but they called out loudly to Jesus. What did they ask Jesus?** (They asked Jesus to have mercy on them.) **There was no cure or medicine for leprosy. These men wanted Jesus to show mercy by healing them from their terrible disease. They must have heard about Jesus' miracles and hoped He would be compassionate and heal them.**

Read Luke 17:14. **Maybe Jesus heard them calling to Him before He could even see them. When Jesus saw that they were lepers asking for mercy, He told them to go do something, what?** (He told them to show themselves to the priest.) **Remember that I said a priest had to decide if they had leprosy when they first got sick, so a priest was the only**

person who could decide if they no longer had leprosy. This verse tells us when they were cleansed or healed of the disease—as they went. Have the children stand up and pretend to be the lepers walking to the priest. Ask them to show how they would react as they walk and notice that their skin is being healed.

Read Luke 17:15–16. **What did one man do when he realized his skin was healed?** (He returned and thanked Jesus.) **He was a Samaritan, and the Samaritans and Jews weren't friendly to each other. Did it matter to Jesus that the man was a Samaritan?** (No.) **Jesus healed everyone who came to Him for healing. Did it matter to the Samaritan man that Jesus was Jewish?** (No.) **God created only one race of people—the human race! Skin color or where a person is from doesn't matter—healing is for everyone, everywhere!**

Read Luke 17:17–19. **What surprised Jesus?** (Jesus was surprised that only one man returned to thank him.) **Why do you think the other men didn't thank him**? (Possible answers: They were too excited; they were hurrying to have the priest say they could see their families.) **What did Jesus say that made the man well?** (His faith made him well.) **Faith is believing that God's promises are real. The lepers had to have faith that Jesus healed them, and they showed their faith by heading off toward the priest. If they had doubted and stayed in the wilderness, they wouldn't have been healed because the men saw they were healed as they went. Faith needs action to show that you really believe.** Lead a cheer for the man's faith.

The first four books of the New Testament are full of Jesus' miracles. Read Matthew 9:35. **When Jesus healed people, each healing was different. He healed blind men, deaf people, and people who couldn't walk. He even raised people from the dead.** Read Matthew 12:15. **What word explains who Jesus healed?** (all) **In fact, many verses say that Jesus healed all the people who came to Him. If Jesus loved people so much to heal all who came to Him, do you think He still wants to heal people today?** (Yes.)

Let's see if Jesus is the only person who healed mentioned in the Bible. Read Luke 9:5–6. **Jesus had sent 72 of His followers out to practice what they had seen Him do. What did the followers do in every town they went to?** (They preached the gospel and healed.) **How were Jesus' followers able to heal people?** (Jesus gave them His power.) **Did Jesus put a time limit on healing?** (No.) **Did Jesus say that only His followers right then could heal people?** (No.) **After Jesus returned to heaven, there are many times the New Testament records that Jesus' followers healed people with the power of Jesus' name.**

If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, He lives in you, and He has given you a job to do. Read Mark 16:17–18. **Before Jesus went back to heaven, He told exactly how people would know if someone believed in Jesus. What was the last thing mentioned?** Read the verses again. (Jesus said His believers would lay hands on the sick and they would recover.) **Many people like to go to church, hear about Jesus, read the Bible, and give money to the church. They believe in Jesus, but they aren't showing the signs of a believer. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every Christian showed they were believers by laying hands on the sick and**

praying for them to be healed? (Yes.) **Is there any reason why children can't show they are believers and pray for the sick?** Allow several children to respond.

Bible Story Questions:

- **Why were 10 men out in the wilderness?** (The men had leprosy and had to stay away from people.)
- **Why did they call out to Jesus?** (They wanted Jesus to show mercy and heal them.)
- **What did Jesus tell them to do**? (Jesus told them to go to the priest who could check that they were healed.)
- **What happened when they obeyed Jesus and headed to the priest?** (Their skin was healed as they went on their way.)
- **What did one man do?** (The Samaritan returned to thank Jesus.)
- **What word describes who Jesus healed?** (Jesus healed ALL who came to Him.)
- **Was healing only for Jesus to do while He was alive? Explain your answer.** (No, healing is for everyone who believes in Him, and it is still for today.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Crumple all 10 Bible verse papers and lots of blank papers (could be scrap computer paper with something other than the Bible verse). Scatter the papers around the room and place the laundry basket in the center of the area. When you signal, have the children uncrumple and find a paper with a Bible verse. If they find a verse paper, they throw it and try to get it in the laundry basket. Keep playing until ALL 10 verses are in the laundry basket, have volunteers read them.

Discussion:

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Set out the baby doll and let the children take turns holding the "sick" baby. "Dear Jesus, please heal the baby. In Jesus' name, amen." Have everyone say, "Jesus healed the baby." Repeat this so that each child has a turn holding the baby.

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Lead a sword drill using the "Jesus healed them all" verses: Matthew 4:24, Luke 5:15, Mark 1:32–34, Matthew 8:16, Luke 4:40, Matthew 9:35, Mark 6:56, Luke 9:11, Matthew 12:15, and Luke 6:19. Call out the verse reference and have the kids race to find it in their bibles!

Worksheet:

Have the children use a blue colored pencil or marker to mark the path to the priest. Then have them use red to show the path the Samaritan man went to Jesus. Note that the path to Jesus

goes past the priest but the man didn't go visit the priest to be confirmed cleansed. On the back of their papers, have them draw a thank you card that the healed Samaritan man might have given to Jesus.

Affirmation/Declaration:
Healing is God's will.
Jesus healed all who came to Him.
I have healing power in me through Jesus' blood and in His name.

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
Although there are multiple healing testimonies available through social media, print, and on the Internet, most people choose to doubt the supernatural and trust their health to the medical world. As we live our faith and our biblical worldview, we will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. Encourage the children to pray for people to see God's love for them through His healing power.

Missions Connections:
Many cultures believe some sicknesses are put on people because of their sins. Some sick people are taken to village witch doctors or shamans because they haven't heard of Jesus, the Healer. Pray that missionaries will have many opportunities to boldly lay hands on the sick so they will recover and believe in Jesus.

Family Connection:
As a family, each day this week read about Jesus' healings: official's son John 4:46–53, man with leprosy Luke 5:12–14, paralytic lifted through the roof Mark 2:1–12, two blind men Matthew 9:27–31, deaf and dumb man Mark 7:31–37, crippled woman Luke 13:10–13, and a blind man John 9:1–11. Discuss how Jesus healed all who came to Him then—and now!

Make a list of people to pray their healing. Talk about how believing in Jesus the Healer is important. If possible, as a family, visit, call, or do an Internet meeting where you can pray directly with the person. If you can visit in person, practice Mark 16:18 and lay hands on the sick. Make a list of each person prayed for and write down each healing. Celebrate as a family that Jesus is the Healer!

Prayer Points:
Remind children that a certain age isn't required to pray for the sick. If any children don't feel well, have children around them lay hands on them as they repeat this prayer:

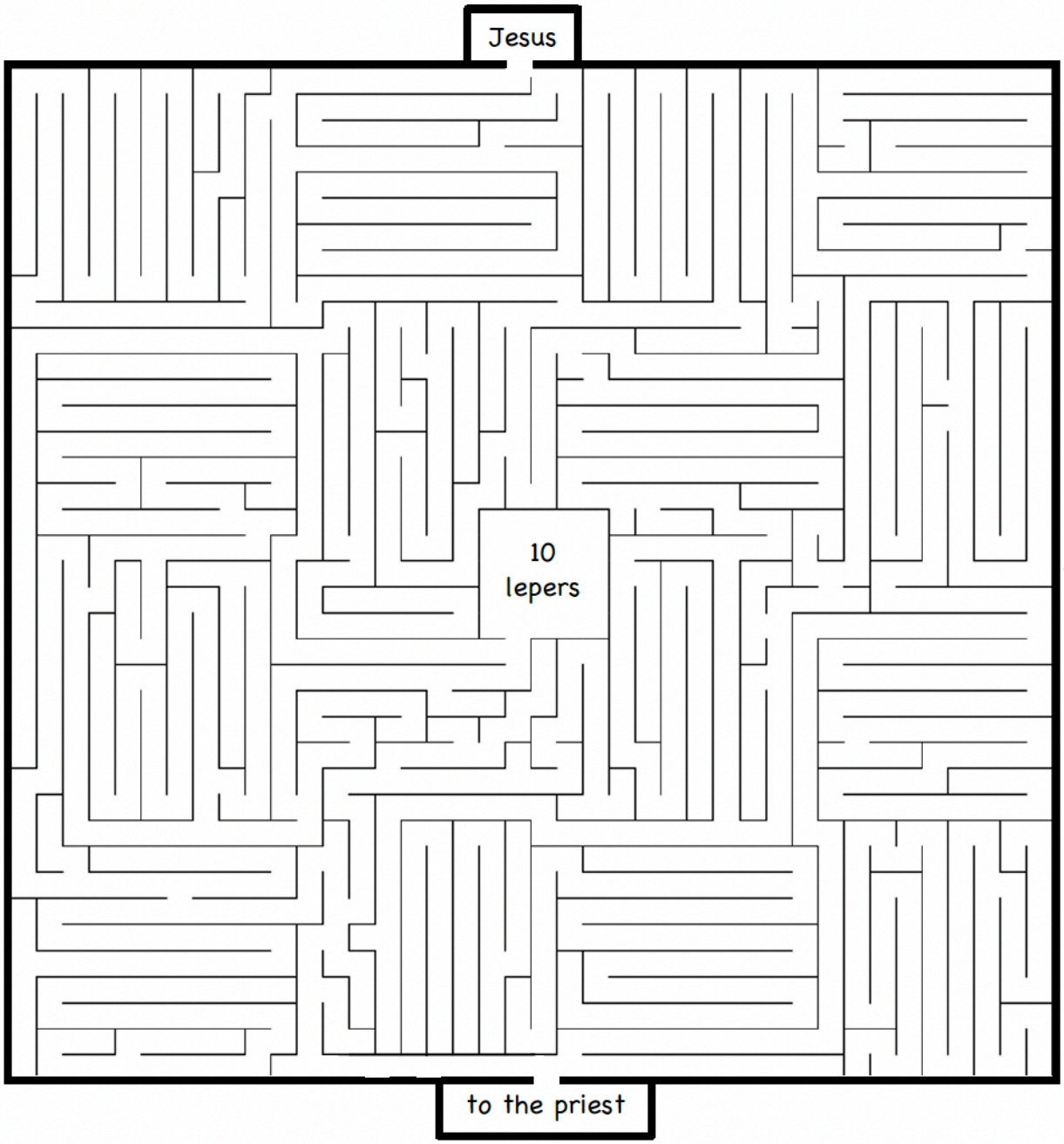
Dear God,
Thank You that You still heal people.
Thank You that You love ____.
Thank You that it is Your will to heal _____.
I am obeying Your Word
and laying hands on ____.
I know You keep Your promises to heal.
So, I thank You for healing ____.
In the name of Jesus, amen.

Invite them to join the "In the Name of Jesus Prayer for the Sick" club. Make a classroom poster and each week the children can write down who they prayed for and the healings that happened during the week.

Name _____

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Use blue to help the 9 lepers find their way to the priest. Use red to help the Samaritan leper go from the priest to thank Jesus.

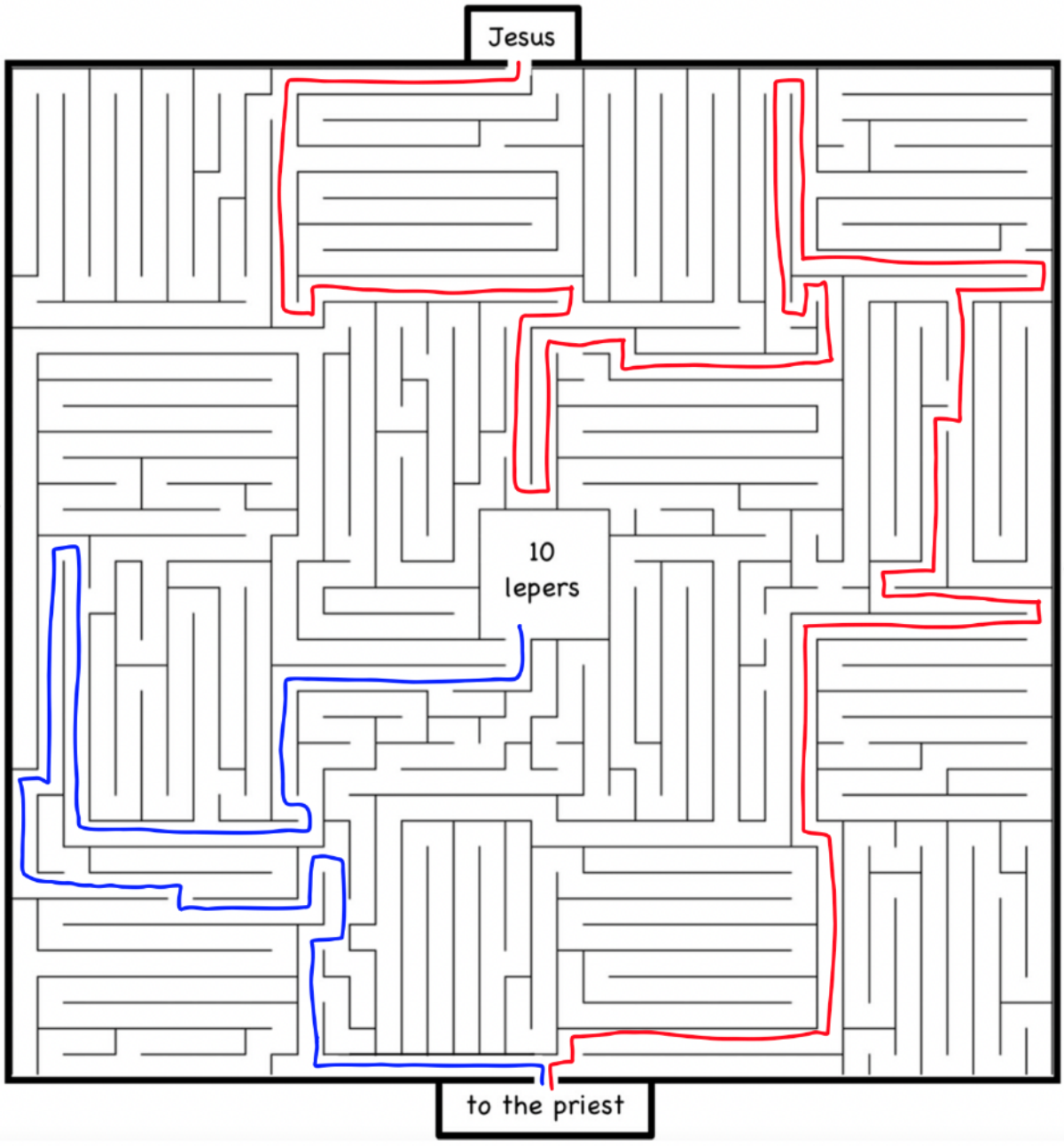


BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a thank you card from the healed Samaritan to Jesus.*

ANSWERS

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BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw a thank you card from the healed Samaritan to Jesus.*

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