Lesson 11: Power Gifts

Overview:

Key Focus: The three power gifts of the Holy Spirit are spiritual "hand" gifts focusing on actions or doing: the gift of faith, the working of miracles, and gifts of healings.

Bible Story: Power Gifts Involve Hands: Daniel, Samson, and Paul

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 2:4–5; Daniel 6:18–23; Judges 14:5–6, 19, 15:14–15, 16:27–30; Acts 19:12; Acts 4:29–30; 5:12–16, 14:9–10

Memory Verses: 1 Corinthians 2:4–5 (NKJV) And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, [5] that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. **Depending on your group, you might choose to memorize only one of the verses.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Wrapped box or gift bag containing a glove
- 3 index cards
- 2 balloons
- Scissors and tape or glue sticks

Classroom Prep:

• Blow up the balloons and tie them shut.
• Write one of the revelation gifts on each index card
the gift of faith
the working of miracles
the gifts of healings.

Engage:

Have the group stand together in an open area and compare the size of their hands as they arrange themselves in order from the smallest hands to the largest. **Our hands are very important to us and we use them every day.** Select several children to answer the question

and then have everyone return to their seats. **What do you like to do with your hands?** (Possible answers: play sports, do art, help my mom, put together puzzles)

Let's see how many powerful things are done with hands. Make a list of things, such as write books, do surgery, build things, etc. **Today we will learn about three more gifts the Holy Spirit gives believers in Jesus Christ. The working of miracles and gifts of healings power gifts involve doing something with your hands.**

Memory Verse Activity:
Display and discuss the verses. Divide the group into two teams and have them line up behind the leader and the leaders face each other with about two feet between them. As each word of the verse is said, the line leaders give "high fives" with both hands and then go to the end of the other line. Continue through the verse. Each time you go through the verse, you can change the hand motion to "low fives" or other motions involving hands.

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Bible Story:

Hold up the gift and choose a volunteer to unwrap the gift. Have the child hold up the glove anytime "do" or "hands" are mentioned and then hand the glove to the child beside them. Continue this pattern so the glove gets passed around the group during the Bible lesson. Select volunteers and give each an index card to hold up when that gift is explained.

Review the Memory Verses, or if the children didn't memorize both verses, read 1 Corinthians 2:4–5 to the group. **Today we have power gifts that involve action or <u>doing</u> something for the benefit of others and to show God's power at work for us or through us. One of the gifts involves God doing something, and the other two gifts involve the Holy Spirit <u>doing</u> something through the believer in Jesus Christ. Remember, these gifts are special "add-on, internal, power-pack booster" gifts the Holy Spirit gives to Christians who have received the baptism of the Spirit.**

Have the child holding "the gift of faith" card stand. **Everyone has faith.** Have the children stand up and give a signal to sit down. **Each of you just showed faith that the chair would hold you up. Believers who are baptized in the Holy Spirit can receive the gift of faith. The power gift of faith is different from the faith it takes to believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay for our sins. The gift of faith is a courageous feeling that you know God will <u>do</u> something about the situation you are in, and you don't have fear. There is a whole**

chapter of Hebrews 11 that lists many of the faith giants who believed God to help them in situations that seemed impossible. Let's look in the Bible to see who used the gift of faith.

King Darius had signed an evil law that some jealous men tricked the king into signing. The men were jealous that Daniel was the king's favorite. It would be similar to a school teacher with a favorite student and the other children are jealous. The law commanded that anyone who prayed to anyone other than King Darius would be thrown into the lion's den. Daniel prayed to God and was thrown into the lion's den. There was nothing the king could do about it. Read Daniel 6:18–23. **How did God react to Daniel's faith?** (God sent an angel to close the lion's mouths.) **God did the miracle based on Daniel's faith. How did the king show that he didn't have as much faith as Daniel?** (The king was sad and asked if God saved him.) **Show me what you think King Darius' face looked like when he saw that Daniel wasn't even injured.** Acknowledge the shocked looks. **Because Daniel believed God, his faith was rewarded and King Darius saw how great Daniel's God was. In fact. King Darius ordered all the people he ruled to know that Daniel's God is the living God.**

Have the child holding "the working of miracles" card stand. **These miracles are worked through a person. It is amazing that God uses people's hands to perform miracles so that His power is known and deliverance comes. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit came upon Samuel with power to do miracles.** Read Judges 14:5–6, 19. **How did Samson get the strength to do the miracle?** (The power gift of working of miracles came upon Samson by the Spirit of the Lord.) Read Judges 15:14–15. **Samson's enemies had caught him and tied him up with strong ropes. It would have been impossible for any person to get free from that situation. The verses show us the working of miracles came upon Samson because of the Spirit of the Lord. Samson was able to break the ropes and took a jawbone of a donkey and killed a thousand men. God worked a miracle through Samson's hands that day.** Read Judges 16:27–30. **Later, Samson was captured, made blind, and his strength left him. When Samson humbled himself and prayed to God, God used Samson one last time to do a miracle. His strength returned and he caused the pillars to break and everyone was crushed.**

Let's see if working of miracles is found in the New Testament. Read Acts 19:12. **God worked unusual miracles through Paul. Paul worked and his work apron or his handkerchief was given to people and they were healed or delivered from demons. Would you like someone to say that God worked unusual miracles through you?** Allow responses.

Have the child holding "the gifts of healings" card stand. **The words "gifts" and "healings" tell us there are more than one but we don't know how many gifts or types of healings there are. The gifts of healings seem mysterious. God is the source of healing, but the Holy Spirit gives gifts of healings that aren't defined or the same for each person.** Read Acts 4:29–30. **The disciples began to experience persecution for telling people about Jesus. What did they pray and ask for?** (The disciples asked God for boldness and for healings, signs, and wonders to be done in the name of Jesus.) **How do you think God would answer a prayer like that?** Allow responses. Read Acts 5:12–16. **How was their prayer answered?** (They did

signs and wonders with their hands and healed all who were brought to them.) **Notice that even Peter's shadow healed people when he walked past.**

Read Acts 14:9–10. **Paul had a different experience when he could see a man's faith. All Paul had to do was tell the man to get up—and the man was healed. We already read that God worked unusual miracles through Paul's hands. Let's see what one of those unusual healings was.** Reread Acts 19:12. **Paul's handkerchiefs were given to people and they were healed. God isn't limited. When the gifts of healings are being used, each healing might be very different. If all the healings were the same, people would think it was their power and not God working the miracle through them.**

The power gifts are very exciting but our minds can't understand how they work. We have to want the gifts and recognize that it is God's power and not us. When people see miracles, which the Bible sometimes calls these signs and wonders, people get set free from sicknesses and problems. When people see the power of God, they usually want to know more about God and learn about His love for them. The Holy Spirit shares these power gifts to be used to help others through healing and delivering them from problems. Has someone used any of these power gifts at church or have you heard about them being used? Allow responses and share any personal experiences with these gifts. **Remember, there is no age restriction on the gifts the Holy Spirit gives, so children can also have these gifts and that's why it is important that you learn about the Holy Spirit and the "add-on, internal, power-pack booster" gifts. Has there been a time when the Holy Spirit gave you one of the power gifts?** Allow responses. Cheer for the Holy Spirit giving power gifts.

Bible Story Questions:

- **What are the three gifts of revelation**? (The three power gifts are the gift of faith, the working of miracles, and the gifts of healings.)
- **Why does the Holy Spirit give power gifts?** (The Holy Spirit gives power gifts to show God's power and to help others through healing and deliverance.)
- **How was the gift of faith used to help others?** (Daniel's faith and God's miracle of closing the lion's mouths caused King Darius to tell everyone about Daniel's living God.)
- **How was the working of miracles used in the Old Testament?** (Samson's enemies were killed, and God worked unusual miracles through Paul's hands.)
- **How did the disciples use the gifts of healings?** (The disciples prayed and healed in different ways: they healed all brought to them, Peter's shadow fell on people and healed them, Paul saw a man's faith and spoke his healing, and Paul's handkerchief was given to people who were healed.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Divide the group into two teams. Mark off a starting line and a finish line and have the teams line up behind the starting line. Give a balloon to the first person in line for each team. The teams use their hands to keep hitting the balloon until it goes across the finish line. They can run the balloon to the next person in line. Continue until one team wins. Play again, but set the balloons at each starting line. This time no hands can be used. The players must blow the balloon to the finish line. After a team wins, talk about how it was easier to use their hands. Challenge the children to use their hands this week to help others.

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Designate three areas of the room: the gift of faith, the working of miracles, and the gifts of healing. Review the Bible stories or call out one of the power gifts and have the children run to that area. Name another and have them crawl to that area. Continue naming the gifts but change the way to move to that area.

Discussion:

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Read together Hebrews 11 and talk about the "Faith Hall of Fame" people and their situations.

Worksheet:

Set out scissors and tape or glue sticks. Read through the verses on the page together. Depending on your group, either assign references to children to read to the whole group, or divide into small groups to look up the references and share in their groups. On the back of their papers, have them draw an ad for the power gifts.

Affirmation/Declaration:
The power gifts show God's love and power.
They remind people how great God is.
I want the gifts of the Spirit so I can help others.

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:

The majority of people believe the only way something will happen is if they make it happen. How sad that the faith chapter of Hebrews 11 isn't well known to people and social media

doesn't proclaim testimonies of the living God. Encourage the children to use their power gifts so people can learn about God's healing and deliverance.

Missions Connection:
Many times, children's Bible stories stop before showing God's heart for all people to know and worship Him. The telling of the story of Daniel usually ends when he is delivered unharmed to the king. God's miracle was done so that King Darius would issue the decree so all people would know about the living God. Pray that missionaries will use the gift of faith to remind people about God's love and power. Remind the children that they are real missionaries only smaller and their using the gift of faith might help someone learn about God.

Family Connection:
Each day read about one of the Hebrews 11 people who showed faith in God to work miraculously. Talk about how your child can show faith in situations that he or she faces this week.

Prayer Points:
Ask the children if they used any revelation gifts: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, or discerning of spirits. Encourage them to continue to be aware of the gifts and look for the Holy Spirit to use those gifts in their lives.

We want to use these power gifts to help people know God's love for them. The Bible tells us we should desire the gift of faith, the working of miracles, and the gifts of healings. Begin training the children to develop a habit of thinking about the Holy Spirit's gifts and desiring them. Lead a prayer telling God that you desire this week to use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to show God's love. Encourage the children to pray this daily and share next week how God answered the prayer.

Name _____

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Cut out the Bible references below. Glue or tape them to the correct verse.

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Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.	So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God."

The Working of Miracles:

Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul.	And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

The Gifts of Healings:

... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.	By stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.

BONUS: *On the back of this page, draw an ad for the power gifts: the gift of faith, working of miracles, and the gifts of healings.*

cut here

Hebrews 11:1	Mark 11:22	Mark 16:15b
Acts 19:11	Acts 4:30	Acts 8:6



ANSWER

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