

THE KING OF KINGS



MIRACLES OF JESUS

SUNDAY SCHOOL
SESSION #1

JESUS HEALS
A BLIND MAN

JESUS' POWER
...TO HEAL



SU Scotland

mofac ANGEL KOVA

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SESSION #1

JESUS HEALS A BLIND MAN

JOHN 9:1-7, MARK 8:22-26

ICEBREAKER

WHO SAID THAT?

Have the children sit in a circle and choose a fun word together (e.g. 'bananas'). If the group doesn't know one another well or has a visitor, make sure everyone introduces themselves first. One child sits in the middle with eyes closed or blindfolded while the others quietly change seats. The leader picks one child to say the fun word—whispered or in a disguised voice. The child in the middle has three guesses to work out who spoke. Repeat as time allows.

READ

The King of Kings is very faithful to Scripture, sometimes incorporating details from multiple gospels in its retelling of different events and miracles. Make sure the children know that just because some things in the clip might be slightly different than the passage, it doesn't necessarily mean they 'did it wrong'. Rather, each gospel gives us different details about the same events—just like fans seeing different angles of the same goal in a football match—and *The King of Kings* wanted to incorporate many of these details. If you have a mature group, you could read from multiple accounts, as listed in the key scriptures section above.

JOHN 9:1-7

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'

'Neither this man nor his parents sinned,' said Jesus, 'but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.'

After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. 'Go,' he told him, 'wash in the Pool of Siloam.' (This word means 'Sent'). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

WATCH

Watch the clip of *The King of Kings* and see if you notice any differences from what we read. (Remember, some of these differences are because the gospel writers give different details.) If you have a very keen group, you can hand out papers for the children to make notes on what they notice in the clip.

IMAGINE

You can use the following script, or read the Scripture again, inviting the children to imagine what they see, feel, smell and hear throughout. Read slowly, pausing after each question to allow the kids to imagine themselves in the scene. The imagining can be done in quiet, or you can take responses as you go.

If you have children for whom sitting still is challenging, consider handing out a fidget toy or having them draw the scene while you read the following lines: →



IMAGINE CONT.

“ Now I want you to imagine that you are there, just like the little boy Walter imagines himself watching Jesus do this miracle. Jesus can use our imagination to help us understand the story better. So let’s pray, Holy Spirit, please help us to really see what it was like to be there with you. Now everyone, close your eyes, fold your hands in your lap and take a deep breath...

You are in the village in ancient Israel, on the very same road where Jesus heals the blind man. What do you see around you on the road? What do you hear and smell in the village?

Where is Jesus? Are you close to him, or far away? Where are his disciples? Where is the blind man? Look at the blind man, how does he look to you? Now the disciples are asking Jesus a question, pointing at the blind man. What does Jesus’ face look like as he answers? How does Jesus feel right now?

Now Jesus is talking to the blind man—what is his body doing? Does he say anything to the blind man? Now Jesus spits on the ground and mixes it with dirt... what does it look like? What would the mud feel like? How do the disciples feel about it? What noises do they make? What about the blind man—what does he feel as Jesus puts the muddy mixture on his eyes? What does he see when he opens his eyes again?

After the man stands up and goes, Jesus turns to you. Where are you standing? What do you say to Jesus? What does Jesus say to you?

What did everyone imagine? Have a time of open sharing where the children describe what they imagined. Be sure to highlight whether this time of imagining gave them any insights or new ideas about the Bible story.

DISCUSSION QUESTION:

Why did the disciples think that the blind man or his parents must have done something bad (sinned)? Do bad things only happen to bad people?

The disciples thought this man was blind because he had done something wrong, but that wasn’t true. God loved the blind man and wasn’t punishing him, but had a good plan for his life, even a plan to heal him! Many people think that bad things only happen to bad people, and good things only happen to good people. But that is not what the Bible teaches. Good and bad things can happen to us all, and no matter what happens, we should have faith that God loves us and is in control.

Jesus showed the blind man, and shows us too, that he has God’s power to heal.

TAKEAWAY SURPRISE!

For each quiz question, prepare a takeaway tub filled with something silly or fun. Line the inside of each tub with paper or baking parchment so the children can’t see what’s inside. For added fun, label the lids with made-up curry or takeaway dish names. Inside each tub, hide a small surprise—this could be a sticker, a biscuit or sweetie, a 2p coin, a piece of fruit, or a very small toy (nothing to →

DISCUSSION

QUIZ



QUIZ CONT.

inspire jealousy). Random household items will make the kids laugh, as it's the 'lucky dip' surprise that will make these prizes fun.

Q: What do the disciples ask Jesus about the blind man?

A: Was it this man's sin or his parents' sin that caused him to be blind?

Q: How long had the man been blind?

A: All his life—he was born blind.

Q: What is Jesus' answer to the disciples?

A: Neither, 'but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.'

Q: In the video (and Matthew 9:28), what does Jesus ask the blind man before healing him?

A: 'Do you believe I am able to do this?'

Q: What does Jesus use in healing the blind man?

A: He puts mud on his eyes.

Q: Where does he tell the blind man to go?

A: To wash in the Pool of Siloam.

Q: In the video (and Matt 9:30) what does he ask the blind man not to do?

A: Not to tell anyone about what Jesus has done for him.

Q: Why does Jesus ask the blind man not to tell anyone about the miracle?

A: This question is open-ended. Accept thoughtful answers about how Jesus' miracles were signs of God's power and not for gathering crowds.

CRAFT

MAKING SLIME

In today's story, Jesus made some mud out of spit and dirt, which does sound a bit yucky! But the mud he made wasn't magical—it was the blind man's faith that made the miracle possible. Let's also make some 'mud' to remember the story, and to remind us that faith (not mud) makes miracles possible!

(See recipe on next page) Use the takeaway tubs from earlier to store the children's slime so they can take it home.

PRAYER

Jesus, thank you for what you did for the blind man, and that we got to experience it happening through your Word. Help us to have faith like that blind man, trusting that you still love us and have a good plan for us, even when bad things happen. Amen.



SLIME RECIPE

This recipe will make enough slime for one or two children. We recommend making one batch of slime at home beforehand to determine how much of each ingredient will be needed during the session for your group.

INGREDIENTS

- ✓ 100 ml PVA glue (children's white craft glue)
- ✓ ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- ✓ gel food colouring
- ✓ 1–3 teaspoon(s) contact lens cleaning solution (must contain boric acid)
- ✓ glitter (optional)
- ✓ airtight containers

METHOD

1. Pour the glue into a bowl.

2. Stir in the bicarbonate of soda until it is fully mixed.

3. Add food colouring.

Add a drop or two of gel food colouring in your chosen shade. For pastel tones, use just a little; for a more vivid look, add a bit more. Stir thoroughly until the colour is evenly distributed.

4. Incorporate the contact lens solution.

Start by adding one teaspoon of contact lens solution and stir briskly for about a minute. It might seem runny at first, but keep mixing—it will soon begin to thicken into slime. If it's still too sticky, gradually add up to two more teaspoons, stirring between each addition. When the slime starts pulling away from the sides of the bowl and forming a ball, you're on the right track.

5. Knead your slime.

Once the slime has come together, remove it from the bowl and knead it with your hands. It will feel sticky at first, but after a minute or so of kneading, it should become smooth and stretchy without sticking to your hands. If you would like to add glitter, sprinkle it in now and knead it through. Store the finished slime in an airtight container.



UP NEXT...

SESSION #2: JESUS CASTS OUT UNCLEAN SPIRITS