

Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind- John 9:1-12

THE POINT

Focus:

- Jesus is able to overcome the brokenness of the world.
- Jesus is able to provide physical healing.

Application:

We trust that God has power over the physical world and the spiritual world

Last Week: Jesus and the Rich, Young Ruler

2 Weeks Ago: Jesus shares the Good News with Nicodemus

HEART CONNECTION (8-10 MINUTES)

MATERIALS:

- Play-Doh or modeling clay
- plastic table cloth

Content:

Invite the children to each make an object from nature out of the clay. After a few minutes, have them *gently* go around with their eyes closed and try to “see” the other children’s objects with their hands. Remind them to be gentle and not smash or destroy each other’s work!

In our story today, we’ll learn about someone who could never see. He experienced the whole world through his other senses like hearing, touching, and smelling. Now that we’ve used our touch-sense, let’s use our hearing-sense to listen to the story...

STORY CONNECTION (7-10 MINUTES)

MATERIALS:

- Picture of the healing- this can be from a Bible story book, shown on an iPad or tablet, or printed from the internet (like this one from Jesus Mafa, depicting a Masai representation http://www.sermonsfromseattle.com/images/born_blind_04.jpg)

Optional: This is not a very active lesson, so some children might need a fidget toy or other item to help them keep their hands busy. Busy hands often allow for an engaged mind! In a pinch, you can use pipe cleaners or cotton balls- both are quiet and inexpensive.

Instructions:

Have everyone close their eyes.

Have you ever imagined what it would be like to not be able to see?

What are some of the things that you might miss looking at?

Can you imagine what it would like to never be able to see?

In our story today, a man who has never been able to see meets Jesus!

What do you think might happen?

For our story today, we're going to keep our eyes closed until I say to open them!

Have the children sit in a circle for the story This helps include children who might feel shy, and it helps each child feel equally engaged. It reassures children that they are seen and welcome in the community.

For younger or easily distracted classes, consider leaving out verses 4 and 5 which are fairly abstract.

John 9:1-11

class has eyes closed

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. 5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

6 After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. 7 “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

Open your eyes! Take a minute to let them reenact the excitement! What do they see

Show picture or pictures of the healing from print-out or Bible Story book.

8 His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” 9 Some claimed that he was.

Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

10 “How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

11 He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

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WONDER CONNECTION (3-5 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: None.

I wonder what it was like to see for the first time.

I wonder what it was like to feel the mud on his face.

I wonder what everyone thought when they heard it was Jesus that healed him.

What do you wonder?

SPIRIT CONNECTION (7-10 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: Coloring supplies: paper, crayons, pencils, hard drawing surfaces (floor, clipboard, or a table).

Take a few minutes to talk quietly with the Lord while you draw, write, or just think inside your heard. Talk with God about the story today. This is a quiet time for you to spend with the Lord, not with your neighbor or anyone else.