

LESSON



A Hole in the Roof

SERVICE We serve God when we care for others.

References

Luke 5:17-26; *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 267-271.

Memory Verse

"There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother" (Proverbs 18:24, NIV).

Objectives

The children will:

Know that God is pleased when we are willing to serve others.

Feel a desire to help others.

Respond by finding ways to help other people.

The Message



We serve God when we help others.

Getting Ready to Teach

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

The friends of a sick man want Jesus to heal him. It is difficult for them to get through the crowd to Jesus, but they succeed by lowering their friend through the roof of the house where Jesus is speaking. Jesus sees how much the man's friends have helped him, and He heals the man. Jesus tells him to take his mat (bed) and go home. The man leaves the house praising God.

This is a lesson about service.

Helping others is one way we serve God. And when we try very hard to help someone in need, we are God's helpers. If we want to help others and ask God to show us the best way to be helpful, He will show us how to help them.

Teacher Enrichment

"It was to manifest His power to forgive sins that the miracle was performed. . . .

THREE

Program Outline			
LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	ongoing	Greet students at door; hear pleased/troubled	none
1 Readiness Options	up to 10	A. <i>Prayer Request Box</i> B. <i>Be Kind to Animals</i> C. <i>Helping Others Game</i>	paper circles; pencils, colored pencils or markers, crayons small animal or toy stuffed animal beanbag or wadded paper, pictures of children helping others
* Prayer and Praise*	up to 10	See page 33. *Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.	prayer request box
2 Bible Lesson	up to 20	Experiencing the Story	none
		Bible Study	Bible, <i>Little Voices Praise Him</i>
		Memory Verse	Bible
3 Applying the Lesson	up to 15	<i>I Can Help</i>	medical supplies, cleaning supplies, adult helpers, flowers, groceries (see activity)
4 Sharing the Lesson	up to 15	<i>Pack a Box</i>	box; items to pack for people in need: blanket, toys, clothes, food, etc. (see activity)

"The palsied man was entirely helpless, and, seeing no prospect of aid from any quarter, he had sunk into despair. Then he heard of the wonderful works of Jesus. . . .

"When he repented of his sins, and believed in the power of Jesus to make him whole, the life-giving mercies of the Saviour had first blessed his longing heart. Jesus had watched the first glimmer of faith grow into a belief that He

was the sinner's only helper, and had seen it grow stronger with every effort to come into His presence" (*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 267, 268).

Room Decorations

Have pictures of healthy foods, children washing hands, sleeping, crossing the road carefully, etc., posted on the bulletin board.

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome

Welcome students at the door. Ask how their week has been—what they are pleased/troubled about. Encourage them to share any experiences from last week’s lesson study. Have them begin the readiness activity of your choice.



Readiness Activities

Select the activity most appropriate for your situation.

A. Prayer Request Box

Continue the activity used last week. Provide paper circles, four to five inches (10 to 12 centimeters) in diameter.

Say: **Draw a picture of someone you can help or someone we will pray about. An adult helper will write your name on the back and also the name of the person for whom you want to pray. Then fold your pictures and put them in the box.**

You Need:

- paper circles
- colored pencils, markers, and/or crayons

Debriefing

Allow response time as you say: **Tell us about the person you want to pray for. This week we are going to learn that we serve God when we try to help others, as well as when we pray for them.**



We serve God when we help others.

Say that with me.

B. Be Kind to Animals

Show a small animal to the group (kitten, rabbit, puppy, or whatever is available, or toy stuffed animal).

Demonstrate how to handle the animal, then let the children take turns.

Say: **It is important that we take care of our animal friends. Often they cannot take care of themselves.**

Can anyone think of some ways we can help small animals? (feed them, give them water, play with them, take them for walks, etc.)

You Need:

- small animal —real or toy

Debriefing

Say: **We serve God when we try to help others. How have we helped this animal today?** (by showing it that we love it or care about it)



We serve God when we help others.

C. Helping Others Game

Show pictures of children or adults helping others. Place the pictures on the floor.

Say: **Let's play a game called "helping others." We will take turns throwing the beanbag on a picture. Then you tell us about the picture your beanbag lands on.** (Teacher demonstrates, then children take turns.)

Debriefing

Ask: **Do you want to help others? What are some other ways we can help people?** (setting the table at mealtimes, sharing toys, giving someone a drink of cool water, etc.) **Here's something to think about today:**



We serve God when we help others.

Say that with me.

You Need:

- pictures of people/ children helping others
- beanbag or wadded paper ball

PRAYER AND PRAISE



Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). Allow time for sharing experiences from last week's lesson study and review the memory verse. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs (for the whole month)

"Prayer Song" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 19)

"I Talk to Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 228)

"A Little Talk With Jesus" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 227)

"Let's Give the Lord Our Praise" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 219)

"He's Able" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 93)

Mission

Use a story from *Children's Mission*.

Offering

Say: **Let's sing our offering song as we put our money in the _____** ("Giving," *Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 285).

Prayer

Say: **(Child's name), please go to the Prayer Request Box and pick out one of the circles.** Read the prayer request and talk with the children about praying for that person/thing. Offer a brief prayer.

*Prayer and Praise may be used at any time during the program.

2

Bible Lesson

Experiencing the Story

The leader will read the story, and the children will copy the adult helpers, who will respond as described below:

When you say:	Children will:
Jesus	Raise both hands and say, “Praise the Lord!”
sick people	Hold head and say, “Oh, no!”
friend(s)	Shake hands with someone (or other appropriate hands-free greeting).

People everywhere heard that **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) could make **sick people** (“Oh, no!”) better. So everywhere **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) went big crowds came to hear Him teach, and many people came to be made well.

One day **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) was talking to some people in a house. A lot of important teachers had come to hear Him that day. They crowded close together in the little house with others who also wanted to hear **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”). Some **sick people** (“Oh, no!”) had come too. They wanted **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) to make them better. But the house was so crowded that some of them couldn’t get inside.

One man who couldn’t walk, who couldn’t even move, wanted **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) to make him better. He had **friends** (*shake hands*) who decided to help him. They put him on a mat to carry him to **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”), but when they got to the house they couldn’t get in because it was so

crowded. What could they do?

Would they go home again? Oh, no. They really wanted their **friend** (*shake hands*) to be made well. What could they do? Someone had an idea. Carefully four men carried their **friend** (*shake hands*) up the outside steps onto the flat roof of the house. They laid him down and then lifted off some of the tiles to make a big hole in the roof. Then they gently lowered their **friend** (*shake hands*) down through the hole into the middle of the crowd, right in front of **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”).

Jesus (“Praise the Lord!”) knew that the man wanted to be made better. He knew that his **friends** (*shake hands*) believed that **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) could heal him. They had worked hard to help their sick **friend** (*shake hands*). Before the man could even ask to be made better, **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) said, “Your sins are forgiven.” The teachers in the crowd were shocked. **Jesus** (“Praise the Lord!”) knew their thoughts. Then He said to the man who had been healed, “You can get up now. Take your mat and go home.”

The man didn’t waste a minute. He jumped up, grabbed his mat, and went home praising God. The people in the crowd were amazed. They said to each other, “We have seen wonderful things today.”

Debriefing

Say: **The friends in this story helped the man who couldn’t walk. They not only tried to help him get to Jesus, but they did not give up, even though it might have been easier to take him back home. Would you like to have friends like that? Would you like to be a friend like that? Even though you are small, there are many ways you can**

be a friend and help others. Tell me some ways you can help others. (pick up my toys, give hugs, smile at people to cheer them up, etc.) **Remember . . .**



We serve God when we help others.

Bible Study

You Need:

- Bible
- Little Voices Praise Him*

Sing "I Open My Bible Book and Read" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 27) or "I Open My Bible Carefully" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 28).

Open your Bible to Luke 5:17-26. Point to the text and say: **This is where we find today's story in God's Word, the Bible.** Read aloud the last part of verse 24 and verse 25.

Debriefing

Say: **Jesus loves to help people, and He wants us to help people too. Tell me some ways we can help others. Remember,**



We serve God when we help others.

Memory Verse

Open your Bible to Proverbs 18:24 and say, **Here is where our memory verse is found.** Read the text aloud. Then teach the children the following motions:

You Need:

- Bible

"There is a friend

Link arms with someone.



who sticks

Press palms together.



closer than a brother."

Step closer to each other.



Proverbs 18:24

Palms together; then open.



3

Applying the Lesson

I Can Help

You Need:

- adhesive bandages
- ace bandage
- cotton balls
- real or artificial flowers
- disinfectant
- child-sized broom
- child-sized rake
- adult helpers
- paper bag full of grocery items
- household cleaning items

Have several adults ready to role-play different situations such as those listed below. Ask the children to watch each scene, then tell or show how they could use the items to help the adult.

Use the following or make up scenes appropriate to your situation and culture.

Adult

Child

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| finds a cut | cleans with disinfectant and cotton ball |
| falls down | helps them get up |
| drops bag of groceries | helps pick them up |
| "twists" ankle | wraps with ace (or other) bandage |

- | | |
|---|--|
| is sick in bed | gives flowers |
| is tired | offers a chair |
| rakes or picks up leaves or yard debris | uses child-sized rake to help |
| cleans house | uses broom or other cleaning items to help |

Debriefing

Say: **Even though you are small, you can do something to help someone who needs help. Do you want to be like Jesus? Do you want to help others? Remember,**



We serve God when we help others.

Say that with me.

4

Sharing the Lesson**Pack a Box**

Say: **There are people all over the world who need our help. Some have had too much rain in their area; others have not had enough rain. Some have lost their homes due to floods or fires. Our sharing activity today is to pack a box for a child like you who needs our help. What are some things that you would like to put in the box?** Allow the children to look at the items and choose things to put in the box.

Debriefing

Say: **I see that you have put a toy in the box. How will that help a child like you?** (It will give them something to play with.) Say: **I see that you have put some food in the box. How will that help a child like you?** (They won't be hungry.) Continue the discussion in the same manner for other items the children put in the box. Tell (or let the children decide) where you will deliver the box so another child will be helped.

You Need:

- children's clothing
- nonperishable food items
- a small blanket
- soap, toothpaste, comb
- toys
- a cardboard packing box

Closing

Sing "Good-bye to You" (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 45).
Pray and have children repeat after each phrase: **Thank You, Jesus, for teaching us to try to help others. Amen.**

STUDENT LESSON

A Hole in the Roof

References

Luke 5:17-26;
The Desire of Ages,
 pp. 267-271

Memory Verse

“There is a friend
 who sticks closer
 than a brother”
 (Proverbs 18:24,
 NIV).

The Message

We serve God
 when we help
 others.

Some things you just can't do by yourself. And when you need a friend to help you, you're always glad when one is there. But would your friends cut a hole in a roof for you?

It didn't take long for word to spread. People everywhere soon heard that Jesus could heal sick people. Everywhere He went, big crowds came to hear Him teach and to be made well.

One day Jesus was teaching in a house. A lot of people had come to hear Him. Many of them were important teachers who had come from all parts of the country. They all crowded very close to Jesus.

Other people had come to see Jesus too. They had come to be healed. But the house was so crowded, they couldn't get in. They just couldn't get close enough to Jesus to ask Him for help.

One man was paralyzed. He couldn't walk. He couldn't even move by himself. He was there because he had friends who had carried him on his mat. But so many people were in the house that they couldn't get in! What could they do?

This man's friends were not about to give up. They were determined to get him in to see Jesus, even if the crowd wouldn't let them through. One of them had an idea.

The next thing he knew, the paralyzed man was being lifted up to the flat roof of the house. His friends tied a rope

to each corner of the mat he was lying on. Then they began taking the roof apart! Before he knew it, the paralyzed man lying on his mat was being lowered through a hole in the roof! And he was coming down in the middle of the crowd, right in front of

Jesus.

Jesus knew what the man wanted. He wanted to be made well.

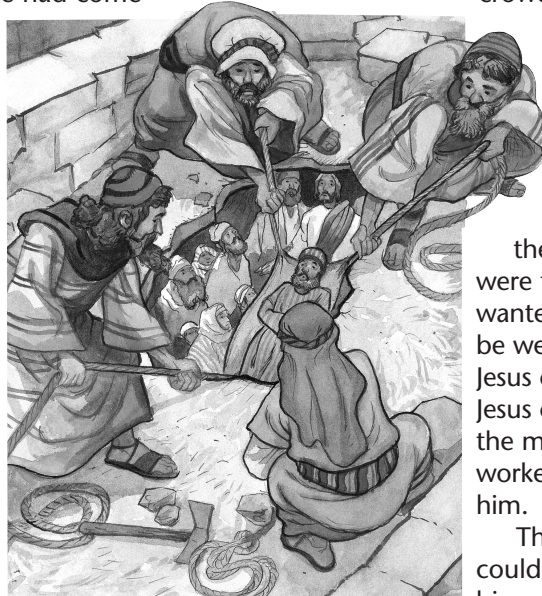
He knew what the man's friends were thinking. They wanted their friend to be well. They believed Jesus could heal him. Jesus could tell that the man's friends had worked hard to help him.

The man, who couldn't even sit up by himself, watched Jesus. He didn't even have to

ask to be healed. Jesus said to him, “Your sins are forgiven.” And then Jesus said to him, “Get up, take your mat, and go home.”

At once the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and went home praising God. Soon people everywhere heard that Jesus could make sick people well. Everywhere Jesus went, big crowds came to hear Him teach, and many came to be made well. He helped them all.

Jesus wants you to help others too. He will help you do so. Just ask Him.



Do and Say

Sabbath

Each day this week read the lesson story and use the following to review the memory verse.

“There is a friend . . . Link arms with child.

who sticks Press palms together.

closer than Step closer to each other.

a brother.”

Proverbs 18:24 Palms together; then open as if opening a book.

Sunday

Sing this song to the tune of “Three Blind Mice”:

“One sad man, one sad man,
He couldn’t walk, he couldn’t walk.
Then Jesus came and healed his legs,
He jumped for joy. He no longer begs!
He shared the news of Jesus’ love!
One happy man, one happy man.”

Monday

Help your child call or write to someone and tell them that they care about them. Pray for that person today.

Tuesday

Pretend you have hurt your foot. Show how you would walk with a hurt foot. It is hard for you to walk,

but you want to get a drink. Ask your child to help you. Thank him or her for helping.

Wednesday

Gather some things to give to someone who needs them (toys, clothes, books). Help your child pack a box to take to Community Services or some other helping organization.



Thursday

Play the “Helping Others” game learned in Sabbath School. When you pray, think of some ways you can help someone else and make a plan to do something.

Friday

At family worship time, help your child act out the story and tell how they helped people this week. Think of other things to do to help. Draw a picture about helping someone. Ask: How can we help others tomorrow?