# LIFE OF JESUS Jesus Heals a Gentile



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## **Lesson Overview**

In today's lesson, we're learning about an encounter a woman had with Jesus. This woman was a Gentile which means she wasn't Jewish so she didn't grow up learning about God. But, she had heard about Jesus and knew he was very special. One day she approached Jesus and asked if he would heal her daughter who was very ill. At first, Jesus seemed uninterested in helping her because he was spending time with his people. Now, that doesn't sound like something Jesus would do. Jesus only acted this way to test the woman and her faith. He wanted to know if she really believed in him. The woman wouldn't take no for an answer. In fact, when Jesus seemed to say no, instead of getting angry and yelling at Jesus, she worshipped him. This proved to Jesus that she really did believe that he was God and he had the power to heal. So, Jesus immediately healed her daughter! Kids, just like the Gentile woman, we need to stay humble before God and trust that he knows what we need better than we do. So, when we pray and ask for things, if God doesn't answer how we like, we can still worship and trust him.

#### **Big Idea**

When we stay humble before God, he will lift us up

#### **Key Question**

What does it mean to be humble?

#### **Memory Verse**

James 4:10 "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor."

#### Classroom Agenda

- 1. (5 min) Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
- 2. (5 min) WARM UP: How do you typically react when your parents say "No" to something you want?
   (Tip:Maybe you pout and stomp off to your room or you beg for them to change their mind. A woman asked Jesus for something and her response to his answer can teach us a lot.)
- 3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- 4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
- 5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
- 6. (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question. (Answer: Understanding that we aren't smarter than God. (God is the creator of everything, including each one of us. That means he knows EVERYTHING and he knows what's best. So, our job is to put God first and recognize that his way is always better than our way. We need to trust God's plan, not ours.)
  - **Bonus Questions:** What does humility mean? Why should we trust God? **4-5th** What does it look like to be humble around your friends?
- 7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read <u>Psalm 37:3-5</u>. To delight in God means to love him with your whole heart. When God is your first priority, how will that change your prayer requests? (Answer: When we understand the greatness of God and his love for us, we will want to listen and follow him. Our focus will change from only caring about we want to caring more about what God wants. We will pray for God's plan for our lives.)
- 8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
- 9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

## OPTION 1: MEMORY VERSE GAME

#### Instructions:

- Divide the class into groups of 3-4. Give each group a set of Memory Verse words (page 5). Have them place them face down on the table or floor. When you say "Go!", have the groups race to get the words in the right order to say the memory verse. First to do it correctly wins.
- Then, say the memory verse a few times as a class. See if the class can say it while closing their eyes.

Supplies needed: Memory verse template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 set per group)

# OPTION 2: PRAYING HANDS CRAFT

#### Instructions:

- Give the kids a piece of construction paper and a pencil. Have them fold the paper in half. Have them trace their hand print lined up along the folded side of the paper. Then have them cut out their hand.
- Then, have them color and decorate their praying hands. Give them a Praying Hand template (page 6) and have them glue the Big Idea on the inside palm of one hand and the Memory verse on the other.
- As the kids work, review the story of the Gentile woman. She came to ask Jesus to heal her daughter. At first, Jesus didn't seem interested but that was only because he wanted to test her faith. The woman didn't give up. Even when she wasn't getting the answer she wanted, she still worshipped Jesus and trusted him. We need to be the same way. We need to be humble and trust God, even if he doesn't answer every prayer the way we like. He knows what's best for us!

**Supplies needed:** Praying Hands template (pg. 6, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Construction paper (1 sheet per kid), Pencils, Scissors, Crayons, Glue

4th -5th



When Jesus healed a Gentile woman it taught us a really important lesson on humility!

### **Key Points:**

- One day, a \_\_\_\_\_\_ woman asked Jesus for help.
- At first, Jesus said his job \_\_\_\_\_\_ to help people like her.
  The woman \_\_\_\_\_\_ herself instead of demanding her own way.
  When we stay \_\_\_\_\_\_ before God, he will lift us up.

### **Memory Verse:**

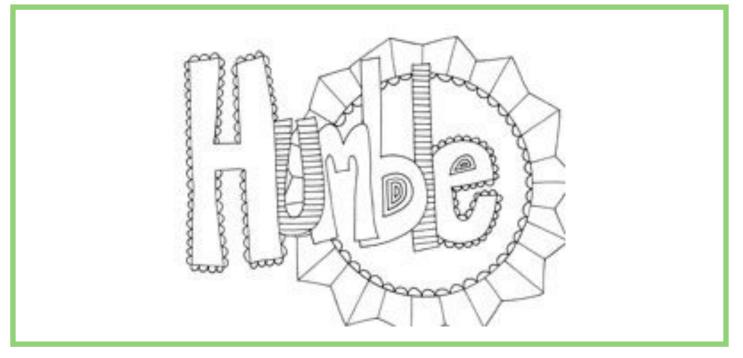
James 4:10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

### Talk About It

- 1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
- 2. If you were in charge of your house for the day, what rules would you put in place?
- 3. Where was Jesus teaching? What was the Sabbath?
- 4. Why did the religious leader get mad at Jesus? How did Jesus respond?
- 5. Read Galatians 5:1. How has Jesus set us free? Why does Paul warn against the rules?
- 6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

**Instructions:** Solve the puzzle and color the picture.

NAME 5 BOOKS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT	Big Idea
2.	Key Question
3.	
4.	Memory Verse James 4: "
5.	yourselves before the, and he will lift up in honor."

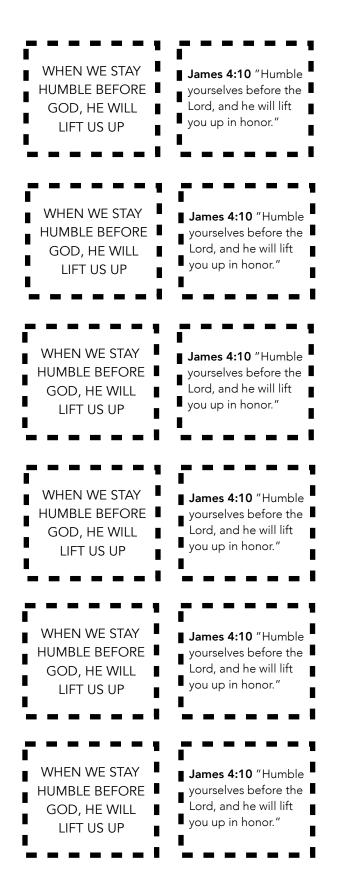


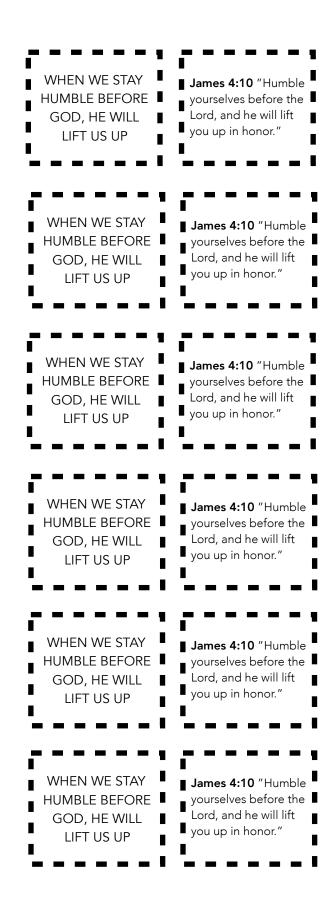
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HUMBLE	WILL
YOURSELVES	LIFT
BEFORE	YOU UP
THE LORD	IN HONOR
AND HE	JAMES 4:10

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4th-5th