

No Silver, No Gold

A crippled man is healed
Acts 3:1-4:4

Character Trait: Confidence

(Estimated Lesson Time: 90 minutes)

Objectives:

- Children will recall that Peter healed the lame man through the power of Jesus' name.
- Children will recognize that true confidence comes from God, not ourselves.
- Children will share ways their actions can communicate the power and love of Jesus to those around them.

Supplies:

- No Silver, No Gold loaded onto a tablet or phone in the *Bible App for Kids*
- Craft sticks *(five for each child)*
- Glue
- Glitter
- Sequins
- Aluminum foil *(optional)*

Welcome Activity:

(5 minutes)

First, briefly greet the children as normal. Then, continue to welcome them, but this time do so while looking down at the ground and avoiding eye contact. Allow your shoulders to drop and do not smile. Then, welcome them again, using the same words as before, but while smiling, make eye contact and stand tall.

SAY: Raise your hand if you can tell me what the difference was between those two welcomes? *(Call on a few volunteers to share aloud. Answers will vary but should include that the first greeting lacked confidence compared to the second greeting that did not.)*

SAY: Today, we will be learning about how Peter showed his confidence in Jesus' power by healing a man who could not walk!

Review:

(5 minutes)

Guide the children in a brief review of the previous lesson by asking the following:

- **What were Jesus' followers waiting for?** *(The gift that Jesus promised them)*
- **What was the gift?** *(God's Holy Spirit)*
- **What did the Holy Spirit enable them to do?** *(He gave them the power to speak in different languages!)*

Today's Bible Story:

(10-15 minutes)

Show No Silver, No Gold from the *Bible App for Kids* or share the story aloud:

- Peter and John went to the temple.
- A man was there, at the Beautiful Gate, who had never been able to walk.
- He was begging people for money.

- "Can I have some money?" he asked Peter and John.
- The two disciples looked right at the man.
- They had no money, but they had something better to give him.
- "Look at us!" said Peter.
- The man expected money.
- "I don't have any silver or gold," said Peter, "but I have something else that I will happily give you."
- "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth," said Peter, "walk!"
- Peter took the man's hand, and the man's feet and ankles grew strong.
- The man got up and walked!
- He went with Peter and John into the temple courts.
- Before long, he wasn't just walking; he was jumping around and praising God!
- The people had seen him at the gate.
- They knew that he had been lame from birth.
- Yet, here he was, walking and leaping and thanking God!
- Everyone was amazed!
- Peter told the people about the one whose power had healed the man.
- He told them about Jesus.
- When he was done, many of them decided to follow Jesus, too!

Discussion:
(15 minutes)

Encourage the children to think more about the story by asking the following:

- **What was the lame man begging for at the gate?** *(He was begging for money.)*
- **What did Peter give him instead?** *(Peter healed him in the name of Jesus.)*
- **Was this better than money? Why or why not?** *(Answers will vary but should include that it was better and more valuable because the power/healing of Jesus is priceless.)*
- **What did the man do after going into the temple courts with Peter and John?** *(He jumped around and praised God!)*
- **How did people react to seeing the lame man healed and praising God?** *(They were amazed. Many of them decided to follow Jesus.)*

SAY: Peter was right. He did not have any money to give, but he had something much more valuable: Jesus! Peter healed the man who was lame from birth through the power of Jesus. He is more valuable than anything else we could ever have or experience. That is why it is so important to share Jesus with others, so that they can come to know and love Him, too.

God's Bigger Story:
(5 minutes)

SAY: Peter healed a man through the power of Jesus' name. But the crippled man was not the only person who was helped. When they found out who had healed the man, many people decided to follow Jesus too. Today, Jesus' followers can still call upon the name of Jesus for help.

Memory Verse:

(10 minutes)

But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you *(show empty hands and shake head)*.
But I'll give you *(extend hands forward, palms up)* **what I have.**
In the name of Jesus Christ *(touch your middle finger to the other palm, then switch)*
the Nazarene,
get up (move hands from floor upward) and walk! *(walk in place)*"

Acts 3:6 (NLT)

Activity:

(15 minutes)

Select one child to be "it." Children who are tagged by the selected child cannot move and must stand with one arm out. Children are only "unstuck" when another child passes under their arm. The game continues until all the players are stuck. The last person to be stuck is "it" for the next game. Play as time permits.

SAY: During the game, many of you were tagged and became stuck. You were not able to move until someone else helped you. The lame man who begged at the gate was stuck, too. He was seeking money, but Peter gave him something much more valuable: healing through the power of Jesus!

Response Activity:

(10 minutes)

SAY: The lame man had been begging outside the Beautiful Gate for quite some time, long enough for many people to see him there and know that he could not walk. But it was also there that he meet Peter, who introduced him to Jesus.

Provide each child with 5 clean, craft sticks. Demonstrate how to carefully glue three of the sticks horizontally to two sticks placed vertically, one at each end, to form a small gate. Next, provide glue, glitter, and sequins for the children to decorate their gates.

For younger children...
The craft sticks may be glued into gates before the lesson for younger children.

For older children...
Extend the activity for older children by providing small strips of aluminum foil to wrap their craft sticks with prior to gluing them together to form a gate.

Character Trait: Confidence

(10 minutes)

SAY: Confidence is knowing that someone or something is trustworthy and dependable. Peter showed confidence in the power of Jesus when he healed the man who could not walk in His name.

Encourage the children to think more about confidence by asking the following:

- **What does confidence look like?** *(Answers will vary but should include being brave, bold, and feeling certain.)*
- **What does confidence in God look like?** *(Answers will vary but should include being certain that He is trustworthy, all-powerful, and always in control.)*
- **How can being confident in God help us walk in His ways?** *(Answers will vary but should include that confidence in God helps strengthen our personal faith. When we are confident in God, then we have a stable foundation and focus.)*

★ **Does our confidence come from God or from ourselves?** *(Answers will vary but should include that confidence comes from God. He has graciously given us everything we need in order to trust in and rely on Him. Even though we make mistakes, He never does.)*



Connect with Others:

(5 minutes)

SAY: Close your eyes. Now, silently imagine you are in the temple courts with Peter, John, and the man who could not walk since birth. Imagine you had seen him before, sitting outside the gate asking for money, as people—maybe even you—walked by. But now, you see him walking, jumping, and praising God! Now, open your eyes.

SAY: Actions can often speak much louder than words—including the actions of the once lame, but now healed, man! Silently think of how your actions can communicate Jesus' power and love to those around you. *(Answers will vary but should include that Jesus enables us to show His love, forgiveness and care towards others through the various ways we interact with them. We can choose words that are respectful, not hateful. We can be generous towards others by giving of our time and resources. We can spread joy by choosing to focus on all that Jesus has done for us rather than focusing on our doubts and worries. Call on a few volunteers to share aloud and then provide an opportunity for the other children to turn and share with someone next to them.)*



Closing:

(2 minutes)

SAY: Confidence can start small. It is okay to have doubts. We can ask God to help us overcome them, and as we learn more about God in His Word, our confidence in Him can grow stronger and stronger.

When we are confident in God, we are better able to share Jesus with others through both our words and actions.



Prayer:

(2 minutes)

SAY:

Dear God,
Thank You for the priceless gift of Your love. Please help us to become more confident in Your grace and goodness, so that we may find ways to confidently share Your love with others.
Amen.

Notes