

Going God's Way

Bible Flash-a-Cards

13 Lessons • 40 Cards

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- 2 Nobleman's Son
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- 10 Elisha Helps a Widow Lady
- 11 Elisha Raises the Shunammite's Son
- 12 First Thanksgiving
- 13 King David Is Kind





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Bible Flash-a-Cards

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Joyful Life®

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Teacher Instruction

Before presenting a lesson to the children, read it over three or four times until you know it well enough to recall the main points from memory. Then practice aloud several times, holding each Flash-a-Card in sequence as you tell the story with feeling and animation appropriate to the age group.

Lesson 1

Jesus Loves the Children

Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17

Introduction

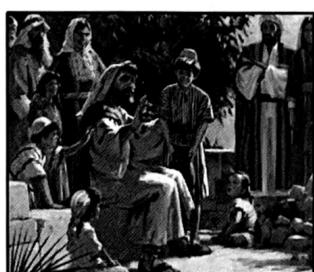
Do you know who Jesus is? He is God, God the Son. Jesus made all the world and everything in it.

A long time ago Jesus came from heaven to live here on earth. He taught people about God and God's love for all people. Jesus had some special friends who listened to Him and believed what He said. These special friends were called disciples.

Jesus and His disciples went to different towns to tell people about God. The people of the towns liked to listen to Jesus talk. They had never heard anyone like Him! Sometimes Jesus did wonderful miracles like making sick people well. The people who saw these wonderful things began to understand that Jesus was not just a Man like other men.

If you had lived when Jesus lived, would you have wanted to see Jesus? Would you have asked your father or mother to take you to see Jesus? That would have been wonderful, wouldn't it?

Card GW 1 Jesus and the Children



Well, there were some fathers and mothers who decided to take their children to Jesus. They wanted their

children to see Jesus, and they wanted Jesus to pray for their children.

When the parents and children arrived, Jesus was busy teaching. The disciples looked at the children and said, "Jesus is busy teaching important things. He does not have time to bother with children."

Oh, how unhappy those parents and children must have been! They had wanted so badly to see Jesus and talk with Him. They started to turn away after they heard what the disciples said.

But Jesus heard the disciples, too. Jesus did not think the children were a bother. He was not too busy to talk with the children.

Jesus said to His disciples, "Don't stop the children. Let them come to Me."

He spoke kindly to the children. He also tried to help His disciples understand something very important.

"These children trust Me and love Me," He explained. "That is how all people must come to Me—they must trust Me just the way these children do."

Card GW 2 Jesus Loves Children

Jesus took some of the younger children and held them in His arms. Can you imagine what it would be



Lesson 2

like to sit on Jesus' lap and have Him smile at you and talk to you? Those children that day had a wonderful time talking to Jesus. Jesus loved them very much.

Jesus loves you very much, too. You are important to Jesus. He knows all about you.

He knows where you are, no matter where you go. He knows if you are at school or at Grandma's house, when you are sleeping in bed or playing outside. He is never too busy for you. He always has time to listen to your prayer.

Review Questions:

1. Was Jesus happy when the disciples sent the children away? *No, Jesus was unhappy.*
2. What did Jesus say to the disciples? *"Let the children come to me."*
3. Is Jesus too busy for you? *No, He always has time for you.*

Lesson 2

Nobleman's Son

John 4:46-54

Introduction

People were hearing about the miracles Jesus did. They hoped that He would visit their city and make the sick people well, the blind people to see, and handicapped people to walk and run.

Card GW 3

The Nobleman Asks for Jesus' Help

One day, Jesus came to the town of Cana. A well-dressed nobleman came rushing up to Jesus. A nobleman is an important, rich ruler.



The nobleman had run as fast as he could from another town to see Jesus because his little boy was very, very sick with a high fever. The father knew that unless someone helped his little boy, his son would die.

The nobleman had heard about Jesus' power to do wonderful miracles. "Maybe Jesus would use His power to heal my son," the nobleman thought. The nobleman hoped that Jesus would

come to his town and to his house where his little son lay so very sick, but there was no time to waste. So he hurried to Cana to find Jesus.

"Excuse me! Excuse me; please let me by!" the nobleman said as he pushed through the crowds that were around Jesus. "Sir! Jesus, please—it's an emergency—I must speak to You!"

Jesus knew all about the nobleman's problem. He knew all about the sick boy. For Jesus is God and knows everything.

"My son is so sick! He is going to die! Please come and heal my son," the nobleman cried as he knelt down before Jesus. The nobleman believed that Jesus could heal his son if He would just come quickly to his house.

Jesus said, "Except you see wonders, you will not believe."

"Sir," begged the nobleman, "please hurry; don't waste any time. Come now—come right away—before my son dies!"

Jesus Helps the Nobleman

Jesus said to the nobleman, "Go home. Your son is healed." The nobleman listened and

could hardly believe the word that Jesus had just spoken to him. His son was healed; oh, that was wonderful. The nobleman started home right away because he believed what Jesus said.

Card GW 4 The Nobleman's Son Is Well



And sure enough, as he got near his house, who should come running to meet him, but his little boy! He was well and happy and as playful as he had

been before he became sick. Jesus in Cana had healed his son several miles away.

The nobleman knew it was Jesus' great power that had healed his son! Therefore, he believed that Jesus was the promised Savior, the Son of God. He knew that Jesus is God.

The nobleman's family and all his servants also knew that it was Jesus who healed his son. The Bible says that the nobleman and his whole house believed on the Lord Jesus. When we hear about these great miracles Jesus did so long ago, it makes us also believe that Jesus is God. Jesus loved that nobleman, didn't He? And He loved that sick little boy. Jesus loves you and me, too.

Review Questions:

1. Why did the nobleman come to Jesus? *because his son was sick*
2. What did he ask Jesus to do? *come and heal his son*
3. How did Jesus make the boy well? *He spoke, and the boy was healed.*

Lesson 3

Jesus Raises Jairus's Daughter

Matthew 9:18–26; Mark 5:22–43; Luke 8:41–56

Introduction

Jesus loves all little children. He loves boys and girls just like you!

One day Jesus was busy teaching people. A man named Jairus came and fell down at Jesus' feet. Jairus was very, very sad. His little girl at home was terribly sick.

Card GW 5 Jairus Asks for Jesus' Help

Jairus said to Jesus, "My little girl is about to die; she is very sick. But if you will come to my house, I believe you can make her well."



Because Jairus believed that Jesus could make his daughter well, Jesus started out on the road to Jairus's house. But many people were crowding around Jesus, wanting to see and hear Him. Because of the crowds, it took a long time for Jesus and Jairus to go just a little way. Jairus was worried. He knew his little girl might die if Jesus did not get to his house soon. While they were on their way, someone came from Jairus's house with sad news.

"Don't bother Jesus anymore," the man said. "It's too late—your daughter has already died."

Poor Jairus! That was just what he was afraid of—his little girl might die before they got there. He was so sad. But Jesus heard what the man had said. So they kept walking toward

Lesson 3

Jairus's house. Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't you worry. If you believe Me, she will be well."

Card GW 6

Jesus Comes to Jairus's House

Soon they arrived at Jairus's house. Many people were there, crying and making loud noises, because they said the little girl was dead.



"Why are you making so much noise?" Jesus asked them. Then Jesus said to them, "The girl is not dead; she is asleep."

The people did not believe Jesus. They knew she was dead, so they just laughed at Jesus. They thought He did not know what He was talking about.

Card GW 7

Jesus Raises Jairus's Daughter

Jesus and Jairus went into the house and then into the room where the little girl lay.

The mother of the little girl was there with her daughter. Jesus walked over to Jairus's daughter and took her by the hand.

Jesus said, "Little girl, get up."

And what do you suppose happened? At



that very second, the little girl opened her eyes, looked around, and sat up in bed. She got up as happy and smiling as ever. Her parents were very excited to see that their little girl was now alive! She was not even sick anymore!

Jesus told the parents to give her something to eat. And then he said to them, "Do not tell anyone what happened here today." No one else could make a dead person alive again. Jesus does not want people to believe in Him only because He can do great things. He wants people to believe in Him because of Who He is. Jesus is God. He loves all of us. Does He love you? Yes—very, very much.

Review Questions:

1. What did Jairus ask Jesus to do? *go with him to make his little girl well*
2. What did someone tell Jairus when he got close to home? *His little girl had died.*
3. What did Jesus tell Jairus to do? *to believe*
4. What did Jesus do to the little girl? *He took her hand and said, "Little girl, get up."*

Lesson 4

Friends at Bethany

Matthew 26:6–13; Mark 14:3–9; John 12:1–8

Introduction

Do you have a best friend? Don't you like to go to his house and visit? Maybe you play outside in his yard. He shares his toys with you. You laugh, talk, run, and have a good time together. Sometimes you may even stay at his house and spend the night. At other times your friend may come and visit you at your house.

Jesus had some very special friends, too. Their names were Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.

Card GW 8

Jesus Visits His Friends

When Jesus lived on earth, He had no home of His own. Sometimes He slept out under the stars. Other times people invited Him to stay at their house.

He would eat with them, talk with them, play with their boys and girls, and spend the night.

In the town of Bethany lived a family who

loved to have Jesus come visit them. Jesus knew that He could always visit with His friends Mary and Martha and their brother Lazarus.

One day Jesus was going to Bethany. His friends decided to have a party for Him. They would have it at Simon's house. Simon was a man who once had been sick with leprosy and Jesus made him well.

The party would be for Jesus. He was the honored, or special, Guest. Jesus' disciples were there, too, and many other people.

Card GW 9

Mary Shows Her Devotion to Jesus

Simon, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus and Jesus' other friends worked very hard to make this a special party for Jesus. When Jesus and His disciples got to Simon's house, Simon



showed them where to sit. Lazarus sat at the table with Jesus and Martha helped serve the food. Martha enjoyed doing what she did best—being sure Jesus and His friends had plenty to eat. This made her very happy. She wanted to serve the Lord to show Him her love and thank Him for all He had done for her.

Lazarus sat at the feast with Jesus and had a wonderful time talking with Him. He and the others talked with Jesus and really enjoyed this special time together.

Mary thought, "I must find some way to show Jesus that I love Him very much. I know what I will do; I will give the best that I have to Jesus." She went to a special hiding place. There she found her beautiful alabaster jar of very precious and expensive perfume.

Mary gently made her way to where Jesus



was sitting. She broke off the top of the jar and poured the expensive perfume on Him. Some she put on His head, and some on His feet. Then she got down on her knees beside Him and wiped His feet with her hair. She was showing Jesus she worshiped Him with all her heart.

As soon as the bottle was broken, the wonderful smell filled the whole house. Everyone wondered what was going on. They knew that the perfume cost a lot of money. The disciples were upset with Mary for wasting such expensive perfume this way. Judas said, "Why did you do that? Why didn't you sell the perfume and give the money to the poor people?" Judas cared only about the money.

He was selfish and a thief in his heart. He felt that Mary was wasting her treasure on Jesus.

But Jesus understood and knew what Mary had done. He said, "Stop talking to Mary that way. Leave her alone; she has done a good

Lesson 5

thing to Me. Poor people will always be on the earth. They will be here all the time, but I won't be here much longer." Jesus knew how much Mary loved Him, and He told the people at the party that Mary will always be remembered for what she did that day.

God put the story of Mary's showing her love for Jesus in the Bible. For almost two thousand years, people have been reading about Jesus' friend who gave the best that she had to Jesus.

Review Questions:

1. What did Mary pour on Jesus' head and feet? *very expensive perfume*
2. Why did she do it? *because she loved Him*
3. Why were the disciples upset with her? *They thought she should have sold the perfume to help the poor.*

Lesson 5

Blind Bartimaeus

Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43

Introduction

Close your eyes very tightly. Then cover your eyes with your hands, but still keep your eyes closed. What do you see? Nothing? Is it all dark? That is the way things look to a blind person—a person who cannot see. Now you can open your eyes and see, but a blind person does not see anything when he opens his eyes. It is always dark.

Card GW 10

Bartimaeus Hears Good News

The Bible tells us about a blind man named Bartimaeus. Because Bartimaeus couldn't see, he could not work. Bartimaeus did not have any way to earn money for food, so he became a beggar. A beggar sat by the side of the road and begged money from people who walked by. Bartimaeus was a beggar.



One day while Bartimaeus sat by the road, he heard the noise of a large crowd of people coming his way.

"What is it?" Bartimaeus called to the people around him. "What is going on?"

"Jesus of Nazareth is coming!" someone told Bartimaeus.

Though Bartimaeus was blind, he had very good ears! He had heard about Jesus of Nazareth. He heard about Jesus' miracles, such as healing sick people. Bartimaeus believed that Jesus healed people.

What do you think Bartimaeus did? Did he sit quietly by the roadside and hope that Jesus would see him? Did he ask someone to bring Jesus to him? No, that isn't what Bartimaeus did. He began to call out loudly, "Jesus, Son of David, help me!"

The people tried to make Bartimaeus be quiet, but he called more loudly, "Jesus, Son of David, help me!"

Card GW 11 Jesus Heals Bartimaeus

Jesus knew all about Bartimaeus. Jesus is God, and He knows everything. Jesus heard Bartimaeus calling Him. Jesus stopped in the

road and said, "Bring the man to Me." The people nearby brought Bartimaeus to Jesus.



Jesus looked at Bartimaeus. He knew that Bartimaeus believed Jesus could heal his blind eyes.

"What do you want Me to do for you?" Jesus asked Bartimaeus. Jesus knew what Bartimaeus needed, but He wanted him to ask for it.

"Oh, Lord," Bartimaeus said, "I want to be able to see!"

With His voice full of love, Jesus said, "Go on your way. Because you believe Me, you can now see!"

Suddenly, all the darkness disappeared from Bartimaeus's eyes, and he could see! He could see the sunshine and the blue sky and the green grass and the dusty road. He could see the crowd of people whom he had only heard before. But best of all, Bartimaeus could see Jesus!

We Should Ask Jesus for Help

Jesus wanted Bartimaeus to ask for what he needed. He wants us to ask for things we need, too. Jesus knows when we are sick or hurt or in trouble. He wants us to learn to pray and ask Him for help. Jesus said, "If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14). We need to take time to pray and ask Jesus for help. Jesus has all kinds of special blessings He wants to give us, but we need to ask Him.

Review Questions:

1. What was wrong with Bartimaeus? *He was blind.*
2. What did Bartimaeus see when Jesus healed him? *Blue sky, green grass, a dusty road, and people; but best of all, he could see Jesus.*

Lesson 6

Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man

Mark 2:1–12; Luke 5:17–26

Introduction

In the town of Capernaum, four men hurried down the street carrying something very heavy. These men had heard that Jesus was in town, and they had a very important reason to see Him.

Card GW 12

Four Friends Carry a Sick Man



The four men in such a hurry to see Jesus were carrying a friend—a man who couldn't walk or even stand up. He

wasn't able to work or to feed himself. He was helpless. All he could do was lie on his mat day after day, while others waited on him and carried him places. He had no hope of ever walking or moving about.

But this poor, helpless man had four wonderful friends who believed Jesus could heal him. They ran to him and excitedly said, "Jesus, the great Healer, is in town, and you've got to see Him. He can heal you; we're sure of that!"

The helpless man said, "You know that's impossible—I can't get to see Jesus; I can't even walk to get there. Oh, I wish there was some way I could get to Jesus."

Lesson 6

The four friends talked it over and determined that somehow they would take the sick man to see Jesus. One of them said, "I have an idea."

"What is it?" the other three asked.

"All four of us are strong and healthy; we can pick up our friend and carry him on his bed to Jesus. We'll put him down right at the feet of Jesus."

The four men agreed and were excited to take their crippled friend to Jesus. So the four friends carried him to the house where Jesus was teaching.

Card GW 13

They Climb onto the Roof

When the four friends arrived at the house where Jesus was teaching, they saw that the house was completely filled with people. And the yard was full of people. Those who couldn't get inside the house were outside in the yard. How would they ever get their friend in to see Jesus? They asked some people, "Will you please let us by so we can get our crippled friend to Jesus?" But nobody wanted to move over to let them by.

"Don't worry," the four men said to their friend, "We have another plan! We are not giving up!"

On the outside of the house were steps



leading up to the flat roof. The four friends picked up the crippled man in his bed and carried him right up the stairs and onto the flat roof of the house.

Card GW 14

They Let the Man Down through the Roof

They laid their crippled friend down on the roof. Then they stooped down on their knees



and began lifting out the tiles of the roof. First they made a small hole in the roof, then a large hole, and finally the hole was big enough to lower

the crippled man and his bed right down into the house. They tied ropes to each corner of the crippled man's bed, slowly letting him down right in front of Jesus.

Card GW 15

Jesus Heals the Crippled Man

Jesus looked at the crippled man and had compassion on him. Jesus knew that the four friends had believed that He could heal their crippled friend.



Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed, for you are healed!" Immediately the crippled man's

body gained strength, and he felt strong enough to get up and walk.

The people standing around were amazed that Jesus could heal the crippled man. Many of them believed that Jesus is God. And they also admired the four friends who were determined to get their friend to Jesus.

Card GW 16

The Man Walks Away

The crippled man jumped up; his legs and body were healed. He rolled up his mat he



used for a bed, putting it under his arm. He pushed his way through the crowd to join his four friends. That day he went home a healed man.

The people did not know what to think. Some were afraid, and all were amazed! Many praised God for what they had seen that day! They said to each other, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

The four men who showed their friendship to the crippled man were overjoyed with thanksgiving. They were so glad they had brought their friend to Jesus. Do you have friends who need to know about Jesus? You can tell them about Jesus, so He can be their friend, too.

Review Questions:

1. Who took the crippled man to Jesus? *four of his friends*
2. How did the friends get the sick man to Jesus? *They carried his bed and let him down through a roof.*
3. What did Jesus do for the crippled man? *He healed him.*

Lesson 7Fishing with Jesus*Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11***Introduction**

What does a fisherman do? He catches fish! The Bible tells us about a fisherman named Peter. Peter and his brother Andrew both were fishermen. They worked with James and John, two other brothers who also were fishermen. Peter and Andrew fished in one boat, and James and John fished in another boat.

Card GW 17**The Fishermen Don't Catch Any Fish**

Peter, Andrew, James, and John had been out fishing. They worked very hard that night to catch fish, but they did not catch one single fish!



Finally the sun came up; Peter knew it would be no use fishing any more after the sun came up. The men sailed their boats back to the shore and got out.

Card GW 18**Jesus Teaches from the Boat**

While they were on shore, a huge crowd of people came down to the seashore. Can you guess Who was in that crowd of people? It was Jesus! He had been teaching the people, and more and more people kept coming to hear Him teach until there was a big crowd of people.

Jesus asked Peter, "May I sit in your boat to teach the people?"

Peter invited Jesus to get into his boat.



Peter and Andrew took the boat a little way out from shore, and Jesus sat down and began to teach the people.

After Jesus finished teaching the people, He turned to Peter and said, "Sail the boat out into the deep part of the sea and let down the net to catch some fish."

"Master," Peter said to Jesus, "we have fished all night and haven't caught a thing! But we will do what You say and let down the net."

So Peter and Andrew took the boat out into deep water. They let the net down into the water from the side of the boat. Suddenly, as they held the net, they felt the net get very, very heavy in their hands! They knew that they had caught a lot of fish!

Card GW 19**Peter and Andrew Catch Many Fish**

Peter and Andrew worked hard to pull the net full of fish into the boat, but the net was just too heavy for them to bring in. The net began to tear! If it tore, the fish would all be gone!

Quickly Peter and Andrew waved to James and John to bring their boat out to help them.

Lesson 8



All four men worked and worked and finally pulled the net full of fish into the boats. There were so many fish that both the boats were filled with fish. The boats were

so full of fish that even the boats almost sank!

Peter knew that Jesus had done this wonderful miracle—a miracle is something only God can do. Peter fell onto his knees before Jesus and said, “Oh, You must go away from me! I am a bad man and am not worthy to be with You.” He knew Jesus is God.

Jesus Needs Fishers of Men

Jesus replied, “Don’t be afraid. From now on, you will fish for men instead of fish.”

Jesus had a very special job for Peter and the other fishermen. Jesus wanted them to be His special helpers, or disciples. Instead of working hard to catch fish, the disciples would help Jesus tell other people about God and how they could become a part of God’s family.

We can be special helpers for Jesus, too! When we obey quickly and do our jobs happily, we show that we love Jesus. You can show other people how good it is to know Jesus!

Review Questions:

1. Tell the names of the four fishermen. *Peter, Andrew, James, and John*
2. How many fish had they caught after fishing all night? *none*
3. How did they finally catch fish? *Jesus told them to try again; this time their nets were full.*

Lesson 8

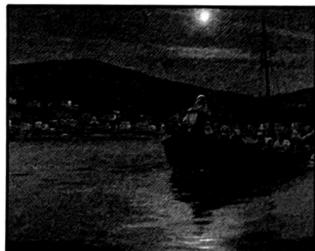
Jesus Stills the Storm

Matthew 8:23–27; Mark 4:35–41; Luke 8:22–25

Card GW 20

On the Sea of Galilee

Everywhere Jesus went, crowds gathered around Him. They wanted to hear Him talk about God the Father. They also wanted to see Him make their sick friends well and to see Him do other wonderful things.



But Jesus knew that His disciples were with people day after day and they needed rest. So He got into a boat with His disciples to go across the Sea of Galilee.

Jesus Sleeps in the Boat

After climbing into the boat, Jesus went to the back of the boat and lay down. He rested His head and fell fast asleep.

Card GW 21

The Storm Grows Worse



Very quickly a storm started, and the wind began to blow. The water rolled up in big, high waves around the boat. The waves were bigger than the boat, and some waves began fall-

ing over the boat, filling it with water. The tall mountains all around the Sea of Galilee caused strong winds to blow down between the mountains making terrible storms on the water.

The disciples were fishermen and had been in many storms and knew what to do. They scooped up the water as best they could and dumped it out of the boat. But the big waves kept coming over the side of the boat. Then the disciples began to be afraid; they were afraid the boat would sink!

All this time Jesus was still sleeping in the back of the boat. Because the disciples were so afraid, they woke Jesus up.

"Jesus, save us! Don't you care if we drown?" they said.

Card GW 22

Jesus Stops the Storm

Jesus awakened from His sleep, opened His eyes, and looked at His disciples. "Why are you afraid?" He asked. "Don't you trust Me to take care of you?"



Jesus stood up and spoke to the storm; He said, "Quiet! Be still!"

The Sea Is Calm Again

To the disciples' surprise, suddenly the wind stopped; the big, high waves were gone, and the boat rested quietly in the calm water. The sea was so quiet that it was like there had never been a storm at all.

The disciples said to each other, "Even the wind and the sea obey Him." They knew that no one can make the wind and the sea obey, except God. That caused them to believe even more that Jesus is God.

Just as they could trust Jesus to keep them safe during a storm, we can trust Jesus when we are afraid. We can remember the verse, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee" (Psa. 56:3).

Review Questions:

1. What was Jesus doing in the boat when the storm came? *sleeping*
2. Why were the disciples afraid? *The boat was filling up with water, and they forgot Jesus could take care of them.*
3. How did Jesus stop the storm? *He stood up and spoke to it.*
4. Who can we trust when we are afraid? *Jesus*

Lesson 9

Peter Is Free

Acts 12:1-17

Introduction

Once one of Jesus' disciples, Peter, learned an important lesson about trusting God.

Card GW 23

Peter Is in Prison

Jesus had gone back to Heaven to live with God the Father. Peter and the other disciples

were going many places to tell people about Jesus. Some people were glad to hear and trust Jesus. Some people did not love God, and they did not want to hear about Jesus or how they could go to heaven.

They did not love God nor want anyone preaching about Jesus. Some of these who did not love Jesus had Peter put into prison.

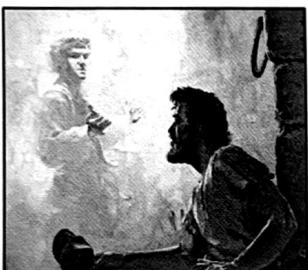
Lesson 9



Peter's friends found out that he was in prison. How sad they were. They knew what to do to help Peter. They would ask God to help Peter get out of prison. They went to one of their homes and began to pray that God would keep Peter safe and send him back to them.

Card GW 24 God Sends an Angel

God heard their prayers. He sent an angel to Peter's prison. Peter was sound asleep; he knew God would take care of him.



right off when he stood up. The angel told Peter to put on his coat and shoes and follow him.

Peter quickly dressed and followed the angel right past the guards who were told to watch him.

All the time Peter did not really know what was going on; he thought he was having a dream. He followed the angel right out through the gate! They walked down the street, and suddenly the angel disappeared.

Peter then knew this was not a dream; what was happening to him was real! God had sent His angel to rescue him from prison.

Card GW 25

Peter Is Free

Peter hurried off to Mary's house and knocked at the door. Inside the house, the people who loved Jesus were praying for Peter. Peter kept knocking. A little girl named Rhoda



came to answer the door. Rhoda knew who Peter was. She had heard him tell about Jesus. Rhoda was so excited to hear Peter's voice that she did not

even open the door! She ran to tell the people, "Peter is at the door! Peter is at the door!"

"How can that be," they said. They were certain that Rhoda was hearing things.

"He's here, he's here," Rhoda kept telling them. "I really heard his voice; he is at the door. We prayed that God would take care of him and set him free, and God has answered our prayers. Come! Come! Come with me and see."

They followed Rhoda to the door and sure enough there was Peter still standing there knocking. They opened the door. When they saw Peter, they were really surprised.

Peter told them to be quiet. When all his friends were inside, Peter told them what had happened to him that night, how God had taken care of him and sent the angel to set him free.

Peter's friends loved and cared for him and asked God to set him free from prison. And God answered their prayer and set Peter free. Our God can do anything. He is a wonderful God.

Review Questions:

1. Who was in prison? *Peter*
2. What did Peter's friends do to help him? *They prayed and asked God to set him free.*
3. Who freed Peter from prison? *an angel sent from God*

Lesson 10

Elisha Helps a Widow Lady

2 Kings 4:1-7

Introduction

Once there was a widow lady, a lady whose husband had died. She was very sad. She and her two boys had no money to buy food or pay her bills. What would she do? The widow lady went to God's prophet, or pastor, Elisha. She told him about her problem. Elisha listened kindly. He wanted to help the widow lady and her boys.

Card GW 26 Elisha's Plan

Elisha asked the widow lady, "What do you have in your house?"



"Nothing but a small pot of oil," she told him.

Elisha told the widow lady to do a very strange thing. "Go to your neighbors, friends, and

family and borrow all the pots, jugs, and jars you can. Don't get just one or two pots, but many pots. After you have all the pots at your house, you and your sons shut your door. Then start pouring the oil you have into the empty pots and jars. Set the pots down when they are full."

Card GW 27 The Widow Obeys Elisha

The widow lady thought, "How could just one pot of oil fill so many jars?" But she did not ask why. She just obeyed Elisha. She would trust Elisha and the God of Elisha. As soon as



she got home, she and her sons went to her neighbors, friends, and family and asked them for their pots, jugs, and

jars. The widow lady and her sons took the pots to their house—big ones, small ones, fat ones, and skinny ones—till their house was full of pots!

"Mother," one of her boys asked, "what are we going to do with all these pots?"

"Just wait and see," she said. "We're going to do just what Elisha said, and God will supply our need. When we pray, God hears our prayers and will answer them, and He's going to do that right now."

Card GW 28 God Does a Miracle



She picked up her pot of oil. She poured the oil into one of the pots, then another, and then another until every pot, jar, and jug was full. She never ran out of oil! It was a miracle! Her pot of oil should have been empty.

How excited and thankful the widow lady was. She had to tell Elisha how God had answered her prayer. She ran to Elisha's house.

"Elisha! Elisha! Guess what? My pot of oil filled all the other pots!" Elisha listened and smiled; then he told her, "Go and sell the oil. Pay your bills and use the rest of the money to buy food for you and your boys."

God had done a miracle. Only God could keep the oil in the jug pouring so much oil. God alone can do miracles. God cares about the widow lady and her sons, and God cares about you. He cares if you are sick or sad. Just as God took care of the widow, He will take care of you.

Review Questions:

1. What prophet helped the widow lady? *Elisha*
2. What did the widow lady pour into the pots she borrowed? *oil*
3. Who had done a miracle? *God; He answered her prayer.*

Lesson 11 Elisha Raises the Shunammite's Son

2 Kings 4:8-37

Introduction

Elisha was one of God's special helpers. He traveled from place to place helping the people learn about God. One day he went to the town of Shunem. A woman there invited him to eat at her home, and Elisha did. After that, whenever Elisha came to Shunem, he ate at the woman's house.

Card GW 29

The Shunammite Builds a Place for Elisha

The woman said to her husband, "I know Elisha is God's special helper. Let's build Elisha a special room in our house where he can stay whenever he comes here."

The roof of their house was flat. The Shunammite man and woman worked very hard building the special room for Elisha on top of their house. (*Point to this room on top of the house.*)



The Shunammite man and woman worked very hard building the special room for Elisha on top of their house. (*Point to this room on top of the house.*)

Card GW 30

Elisha Promises Her a Child

They fixed the room just right for Elisha. In the room they placed a bed, a table, a stool to sit on, and a candlestick for light.

One day while Elisha was resting in his special room, he said to his servant, "Call the woman. See what I can do to thank her for this nice room."



So Elisha's servant went to the kind woman and said, "You have been so kind to us; tell me, is there something we could do for you?"

"No," the woman said. "I don't need anything."

But the servant knew that there was one thing she wanted more than anything else in the world—a baby of her own.

Elisha asked his servant, "What can we do for her?"

The servant replied, "She doesn't have any children."

Elisha told the woman, "Pretty soon you will have a baby of your own."

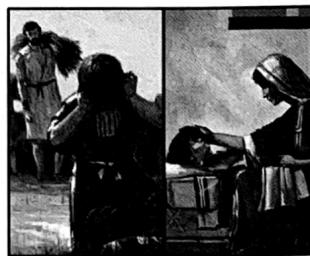
"Oh, that can't be," the woman cried. "Please don't tease me by promising me something that can't be."

Elisha asked God to give his friend a baby of her own. God heard Elisha's prayer and gave the woman a baby boy. The baby grew to be a little boy.

Card GW 31

The Child Dies

One day the little boy ran to his father, who was working in the field. Suddenly the boy cried out,



"My head! My head!" His father quickly had one of the servants carry the boy to his mother.

The mother tried everything she knew to help him feel better, but the little boy died.

Oh, how sad the woman was! She wanted to find Elisha. Perhaps he could help her! Quickly she took a servant with her and rode a donkey to the place where Elisha was staying. Then she fell to the ground in front of Elisha. Sadly, she told him that her little boy had died.

Card GW 32 Elisha Raises the Boy



Elisha went to the woman's home and went to his special room. There Elisha found the boy lying on his bed. Elisha prayed to God, and then he touched the boy. Elisha felt the little body grow warm again, as though he were alive.

Elisha waited and walked around the room.

Then he touched the boy again. This time the little boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. He was alive!

Card GJ 33

The Shunammite Rejoices

Elisha called the boy's mother. When she came in, he said, "Take your son."

She was excited and happy, but she did



not go to her son right away. First she bowed down to show how thankful she was to God and to Elisha for giving back her son. Then she took her son and went out.

God does many wonderful things for us each day. Like the woman of Shunem, we should trust God to care for us and thank Him for all that He does.

Review Questions:

- What did God give the Shunammite woman? *a little boy*
- What happened to the little boy? *He became very sick and died.*
- What happened when Elisha prayed for the boy? *He came back to life again.*

Lesson 12

First Thanksgiving

Introduction

Today we will not have a Bible story, but a story about our country, America, and how people came here long ago to worship and obey God. Every fall we have a special holiday in our country—Thanksgiving. It is a special day when we stop to thank God for all the wonderful things He has done for us and all the good things He has given to us.

We celebrate Thanksgiving almost the same way the very first Thanksgiving in America was celebrated. Many years ago a group of people lived in the country of England. (*Show England on a globe.*) The people decided to leave England to find a place where they could worship God the way the Bible says. These people were called Pilgrims.

Lesson 12

Card GW 34

The Pilgrims Sail for America

The Pilgrims decided to go to America. They gathered together the few things they owned and traveled on a ship called the *Mayflower*.

Day after day the people sailed across the ocean. At first the water was smooth, and a good wind blew into the ship's sails and made the *Mayflower* move through the water very fast. But after a while, storms came. The water rose up in high waves and tossed the ship from side to side. The people prayed that God would keep them safe. It seemed to take a long time, but the *Mayflower* finally arrived safely in America.



Some of the men took one of the smaller boats that had been on the ship. They sailed to find a good place for the people to build their homes.

After a while, they found a good place that they named Plymouth, and the *Mayflower* with all the people on it sailed to Plymouth. Everyone thanked God for bringing them to their new home.

Card GW 35

The Pilgrims Work Hard

Of course, there were no houses or buildings at all in this place. There were no stores to buy food. The people had to hunt in the woods for food to eat. They also fished.



The Pilgrims also worked on building new homes. First they built a Common House, a large building where everyone could meet together. Many

of the people who came to Plymouth became sick during the winter. The Common House became a kind of hospital where the sick were cared for.

The people worked hard to build their homes and get food for their families! Many people became sick, and many died.

Finally winter ended. The *Mayflower* was ready to sail back to England. Life had been very hard for the people who had come to live in America. Would they go back to England on the *Mayflower*?

No, the Pilgrims knew that they had come to America for the right reason. They wanted to love and serve God the right way. They believed God would care for them and help them make a new home in America.

Would you be thankful if you went to a new place and became sick and had a lot of hard times? It might be hard to be thankful, but we will learn later that the Pilgrims were very thankful for the way God took care of them. We can be thankful for the nice homes and the food and clothes God has given us.

Card GW 36

Indians Help the Pilgrims

When the Pilgrims came to America, they knew that people had once lived in that same place. There already were some fields where the trees had been cleared away. The Pilgrims were able to plant some corn right away without taking time to cut down trees to clear the land. Then the Pilgrims found out who had been living there before.

The Pilgrims knew that Indians were the first people to live in America. One day an Indian named Samoset came to visit the Pilgrims. He had come to be their friend.



He explained that some Indians used to live there. All but one of the Indians had died when a terrible sickness

came to their tribe. The one Indian who had not died was named Squanto. Samoset brought Squanto to visit the Pilgrims. Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to plant corn so that it would grow well. He taught them many other things about living in America.

Another Indian, Massasoit, was brought to visit the Pilgrims. Massasoit was the chief of many of the Indians who lived near the Pilgrims. The Pilgrims and Massasoit agreed that their people would be friends.

The gardens that Squanto helped the Pilgrims plant grew well. They gathered a lot of food—more food than they had had for a long time. The Pilgrims decided they would have a special celebration. They would have a big meal—a feast—and a time of giving thanks to God for helping them make a life in America. The Pilgrims also wanted to invite their new Indian friends to the feast.

blow on turkey meat for the Pilgrims

Card GW 37

The People Have a Thanksgiving Feast

They worked very hard getting ready for the big meal. The men hunted for turkeys and other animals, the children picked berries, and the women cooked and baked. On the day of the Thanksgiving feast, the Pilgrims and Indians gathered together. The Pilgrim leader



prayed, thanking God for watching over them and giving them special friends, the Indians. Then everyone began to eat. The children helped carry food to the tables, making sure the dishes were filled again as soon as they were emptied.

For three days the Pilgrims and Indians celebrated Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims were glad they had come to America and made new friends. They were very thankful that God took care of them during their first winter and had made their gardens grow the next year.

When we celebrate Thanksgiving, we can remember how the Pilgrims left behind their old homes and friends so they could worship God a better way. They knew that nothing is more important than worshiping and obeying God. When you sit down to your Thanksgiving dinner, don't forget to thank God for all that He has done for you.

Review Questions:

1. Who came to America so they could worship God the way they thought was right? *the Pilgrims*
2. What ship brought the Pilgrims to America? *the Mayflower*
3. What did Squanto teach the Pilgrims how to plant? *corn*

Lesson 13

King David Is Kind

1 Samuel 18:1-5; 20:13-17; 2 Samuel 1:1-4; 9:1-13

Card GW 38

David Serves King Saul

The man who was king, King Saul, did not always obey God. Sometimes he had a bad temper, and he would ask the shepherd boy David to play some music to help him feel better. David lived near the king, and

he learned much about what kings do as he worked for King Saul.

King Saul had a son named Jonathan. David and Jonathan became very good friends. They had a lot of fun together, and they prom-

Lesson 13

ised each other that they would always be friends.



One day, King Saul found out that David would be the next king. Saul was very angry. Saul wanted his own son, Jonathan, to be king of Israel, not David.

But that is not how Jonathan felt. Jonathan loved David like a brother. Jonathan understood that God wanted David to be the next king. Like a true friend, Jonathan wanted only what was best for David.

King Saul chased David and tried to hurt him. Was that the right way to be? No, we are to be kind. David had to hide from Saul. After a long time, King Saul and Jonathan were fighting against some of Israel's enemies. Both Jonathan and his father were killed.

How sad David was! He had loved his friend Jonathan and would miss him. David also was sorry that King Saul was dead.

Card GW 39

King David Asks about Jonathan's Family

Now, David became king of Israel, just as God had said he would be. King David did not forget his friend Jonathan. One day King David asked, "Is there anyone in Jonathan's family left that I can show kindness to?"



Someone knew of a servant who had once worked for Jonathan's family. This servant, whose name was Ziba, was called to come stand before King David.

"Is there anyone left in Jonathan's family to whom I can show God's kindness?" David asked.

"Yes," Ziba answered. "There is still a son of Jonathan. His name is Mephibosheth."

"When he was a little boy, he hurt his legs. Now he is crippled in both his feet and cannot walk."

"Where is he?" King David asked. When he found out where Jonathan's son was staying, King David sent for him to come before the king.

Card GW 40

King David Is Kind to Jonathan's Son

When Mephibosheth came before King David, he bowed down to show that he would obey the king.

"Mephibosheth!" King David called out. He probably had a happy ring in his voice as he looked at the son of his close friend Jonathan.

"I am your servant," Mephibosheth answered. Maybe Mephibosheth's voice and body were shaking with fear.

"Don't be afraid," King David said kindly. "I will be kind to you because of your father, Jonathan. In fact, I'm going to give back to you all the land that once belonged to your grandfather, Saul. I want you to eat at my table." David not only gave Mephibosheth land, but the king also made sure Mephibosheth would never go hungry.

"Why are you being so kind to me?" Mephibosheth asked.

David said, "I remember how kind Jonathan was to me. Now I want to repay Jonathan's kindness by being kind to you."

David showed his love for God by being kind to Mephibosheth. God wants us to be kind to other people, too. We can show love for God by being kind to the people around us, like our family and friends. We can share what we have and be nice to other people. That is showing kindness.

Review Questions:

1. Who was David's friend? *Jonathan*
2. What was wrong with Mephibosheth? *He was crippled.*
3. What did King David do for Mephibosheth? *He gave him Saul's land and made sure he would never be hungry.*