

Come With Me

Small
Group
LessonAges
6-7

Power Point

We can invite friends to church.

Scripture
Memory Verse

"You are like light for the whole world."

—Matthew 5:14a

Bible Lesson

A paralyzed man's friend let him down through a hole in the roof to be healed and forgiven by Jesus.

—Luke 5:17-25

Overview

Four men brought their crippled friend to see and hear Jesus. They couldn't get inside the house because of all the people, so they lowered their friend through a hole in the roof.

Jesus told the man that his sins were forgiven. The Pharisees and Law teachers got all upset and questioned who Jesus was. Jesus responded by telling the man that He had power to forgive sins, and instantly the man was healed of his paralysis.

Discussion Questions

1. What did the four men find when they carried their friend to see Jesus? *(The house was full and they couldn't get in.)*
2. What did they do to get their friend to Jesus? *(Dug a hole in the roof and lowered their friend to Jesus.)*
3. What did Jesus see in the men? *(Faith.)*
4. What did the men do to show their faith? *(They didn't quit and found a way to get to Jesus.)*
5. What happened to the man after he met Jesus? *(He was healed and forgiven.)*
6. How do you think the forgiven and healed man felt? *(Happy and thankful.)*

God Encounter

Materials: A variety of invitations (birthday party, wedding, baby shower, etc.).

(Pass out the invitations and allow kids a few minutes to look through them.) Invitations are sent out to let people know a special event is coming and they are invited to come. When was the last time you were invited to something? *(Allow responses.)* Have you ever not been invited to something you wanted to go to? Maybe some of your friends got invited to a birthday party but you didn't? *(Allow responses.)*

We don't know if the paralyzed man's friends had an invitation to hear Jesus or not. But we do know this man's friends did everything possible to get their friend in front of Jesus. Think about what might have happened if the men decided bringing their crippled friend to Jesus was too much trouble. The man wouldn't have been forgiven or healed.

Boys and girls, do you see how important it was for those men to bring their friend to Jesus? Bringing other people to church is important, too. You'll never know who really needs something from Jesus, until you ask them. We can invite friends to church.

Let's all stand to pray. *(Have kids stand and close their eyes.)* Repeat this prayer after me. Father God *(Pause)*, show me who I need to invite to church. *(Pause.)* Who needs to meet Jesus? *(Pause.)* There's healing and forgiveness at church. *(Pause.)* Give me courage to invite them. *(Pause.)* Help them to accept. *(Pause.)* I will be just as determined as those four men. Amen.



The Jesus Factor

The woman left her water jar and ran back into town. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! Could he be the Messiah?”

—John 4:28-29

Materials: Kid-friendly magazines or catalogs.

(Pass out magazines or catalogs.) Hey kids, there are lots of fun things in these magazines. *(Ask for two volunteers.)* I want one of you to choose one very cool thing that you would like to have from this magazine. Once you choose the item, pretend you own it and your job is to tell [name of second volunteer] about it. Remember to be excited as you tell about it! *(Allow volunteers to role play the situation.)*

Great job! You were excited because it was a cool thing to have. You could do the same thing telling a friend about a new movie you just saw. One time a woman met Jesus and after she talked to Him, she was excited. Let's see what she did. *(Ask a volunteer to read John 4:28-29 aloud.)* The woman went to her friends and told them about her meeting with Jesus. And just as this woman told her friends, we can invite friends to church.

Small Group Activity

People in Church

Materials: “People Groups” handout from *Take-Home Challenges* CD-ROM, safety scissors, glue sticks, card stock. Supplement handout with pictures of people from magazines that kids would be familiar with.

Preparation: Print or photocopy “People Groups” handout, one per child.

(Provide each child with a “People Groups” handout and piece of card stock. Have kids gather around tables with the additional craft supplies.)

Kids, we've been learning how **we can invite others to church**. Let's make a craft collage that shows how everyone can be invited. *(Help kids draw an outline of a church on their card stock*

sheets. Have kids cut out the pictures of the people on the handout and create a collage of people inside the church outline.)

Take-Home Challenge

Materials: Lesson 7 Ages 6-7 Take-Home Challenge from Take-Home Challenges CD-ROM.

Hand out this week's Take-Home Challenge and encourage kids to complete the activities with their families. Remind kids that you'll ask them for responses during next week's K.I.D.S. Church service.

Come With Me



Ages
8-10

Small
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Lesson

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Memory Verse

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Overview

Four men brought their crippled friend to see and hear Jesus. They couldn't get inside the house because of all the people, so they lowered their friend through a hole in the roof.

Jesus told the man that his sins were forgiven. The Pharisees and Law teachers got all upset and questioned who Jesus was. Jesus responded by telling the man that He had power to forgive sins, and instantly the man was healed of his paralysis.

Discussion Questions

1. What happened when the friends brought the crippled man to the house where Jesus was teaching? (*It was full and they couldn't get in, so they let him down through the roof.*)
2. What did Jesus see in the men? (*Faith.*)
3. What did the men do to show their faith? (*They didn't quit and found a way to get to Jesus.*)
4. What was the first thing that Jesus spoke to the man? (*My friend your sins are forgiven.*)
5. Why do you think it is important to bring people where they can meet Jesus? (*Answers may vary.*) Would you be just as determined if you couldn't get in? Why? (*Answers may vary.*)
6. Our job is to invite them, what is God's job? (*He does the forgiving and healing part.*)

God Encounter

Materials: White board or newsprint paper.

Preparation: Create two columns on the board or newsprint. Label the first column "Our Part" and the second column "God's Part."

From the Bible Lesson today, we can see that we have a part to play and God has a part. That is still true today! Both you and God are partners and teammates working together to help people change their lives. Let's make a list of what our part is when we invite others to church. (*Brainstorm a list with the kids, discussing practical things such as: call people up, pick them up, make them feel welcome, introduce them to other kids, etc. Have volunteers write the things in the first column.*)

Now, let's write a few things on the "God's Part" side. This is what God can do when we invite others to church. (*Discuss ideas. Some answers may include: forgive them, heal them, open their heart to receive, help them to understand the Bible lesson, put a hunger for God in their heart, etc. Have volunteers write the things in the second column.*)

This list shows us that we are working with God Himself when we share Jesus! Let's pray and ask God to show how we can do our parts to bring others to Jesus. (*Pray with children.*)



The Jesus Factor

The woman left her water jar and ran back into town. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! Could he be the Messiah?”

—John 4:28-29

Materials: Concert ticket (real or homemade), CD of popular Christian singer or group.

Preparation: Find a CD of a popular Christian group that the kids listen to. You may have to borrow one from one of the kids. Have it ready to play in the CD player.

(Begin playing artist’s CD.) How many of you like [Artist name]? *(Allow responses.)* When an artist starts out, it’s often hard to get noticed or heard. But when an artist becomes popular, people are eager to buy music or go to concerts of this artist. *(Hold up the concert ticket.)* Imagine that this is a ticket to [Artist’s name] concert. And I’m a big fan. I would really want to go to the concert, right? *(Allow responses.)* Well, I don’t think so. *(Tear up the ticket.)* Can you believe what I just did?

(Ask a volunteer to read John 4:28-29 aloud.) This woman was excited that she met Jesus. She could’ve just kept that to herself, but she was eager to tell others. *(Hold up ticket piece.)* Just like I would be eager to use this ticket, we can be eager to invite others to hear about Jesus. And unlike a concert, you don’t need to have a ticket to come to church.

Small Group Activity

People in Church

Materials: “People Groups” handout from *Take-Home Challenges* CD-ROM, scissors, glue sticks, card stock. Supplement handout with pictures of people from magazines that kids would be familiar with.

Preparation: Print or photocopy “People Groups” handout, one per child.

(Provide each child with a “People Groups” handout and piece of card stock. Have kids gather around tables with the additional craft supplies.) Kids, we’ve been learning how **we can invite others to church**. Let’s make a craft collage that shows how everyone can be invited. *(Have kids cut out the pictures of the people on the handout and create a collage of people. Kids can draw an outline of a church and create their picture with the people inside the church outline.)*

Take-Home Challenge

Materials: Lesson 7 Ages 8-10 Take-Home Challenge from *Take-Home Challenges* CD-ROM.

Hand out this week’s Take-Home Challenge and encourage kids to complete the activities with their families. Remind kids that you’ll ask them for responses during next week’s K.I.D.S. Church service.

Come With Me

Small
Group
Lesson

 Ages
11-12

Power Point

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Memory Verse

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Bible Lesson

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Overview

Four men brought their crippled friend to see and hear Jesus. They couldn't get inside the house because of all the people, so they lowered their friend through a hole in the roof.

Jesus told the man that his sins were forgiven. The Pharisees and Law teachers got all upset and questioned who Jesus was. Jesus responded by telling the man that He had power to forgive sins, and instantly the man was healed of his paralysis.

Discussion Questions

1. What was present in the room where Jesus was teaching? (*The Power of the Lord.*)
2. What did Jesus see in the men? (*Faith.*)
3. What did the men get their friend to Jesus? (*They let him down through the roof.*)
4. What was the first thing that Jesus spoke to the man? (*My friend your sins are forgiven.*)
5. Why do you think it is important to bring people where they can meet Jesus? (*Answers may vary.*) Would you be just as determined if you couldn't get in? Why? (*Answers may vary.*)
6. Our job is to invite them, what is God's job? (*He does the forgiving and healing part.*)

God Encounter

Materials: Picture of Jesus, white board or large bulletin board, paper slips, tape or pins.

Preparation: Hang Jesus picture on white board. Have tape or pins to near the board.

The story of the four friends shows us the importance of bringing people to a place where they can be introduced to Jesus. Sometimes it is hard to bring our friends to church because they just don't want to come. But we can team up with God for the best results. Before we invite someone to church, it is important to pray that their hearts are open to Jesus and His Word. When we pray, the Holy Spirit softens even the hardest of hearts. Have you ever known someone who one day says, "no way" and then the very next day says, "well OK". That is an example of when the Holy Spirit opened his heart.

(*Display Jesus picture.*) Here is a picture of Jesus. (*Pass out cards to every child.*) I would like to write the first name of one person that you know needs Jesus in their life. Once you have written their name, hold on to it. (*Allow time for kids to write a name.*) I am going to lead us in a prayer and then I would like each of us to say: Lord, I bring [name on card] to you. Open his heart that he may receive you and your Word. After you say that sentence, I would like you to pin the card next to the Jesus picture. We are bringing these names to the Lord.



The Jesus Factor

The woman left her water jar and ran back into town. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! Could he be the Messiah?”

—John 4:28-29

Materials: Backstage pass (real or homemade), CD of popular Christian singer or group.

Preparation: Find a CD of a popular Christian group that the kids listen to. You may have to borrow one from one of the kids. Have it ready to play in the CD player.

(Begin playing artist’s CD.) How many of you like [Artist name]? *(Allow responses.)* When an artist starts out, it’s often hard to get noticed or heard. But when an artist becomes popular, people are eager to buy music or go to concerts of this artist. *(Hold up the Backstage Pass.)* Does anyone know what this is? *(Backstage Pass.)* With a Backstage Pass I can go backstage and meet the band and even hang out with them. Only a few people are given these passes.

(Ask a volunteer to read John 4:28-29 aloud.) This woman was excited that she met Jesus. Jesus talked to her and told her things about her life. It was like she had a backstage pass with Jesus. She could’ve just kept that to herself, but she was eager to tell others. Just like I would be eager to use this pass, we can be eager to invite others to hear about Jesus. Kids, in today’s lesson we discovered that we can invite others to church. When we invite them, it is like giving them a Backstage Pass to meet Jesus.

Small Group Activity

Miracle Movie Posters

Materials: Poster board, markers, white board or newsprint, Bibles.

Preparation: Hang up newsprint or set up white board to record class discussion.

Let’s design a movie poster based on our Bible Lesson. *(Distribute Bibles.)* The lesson was found in Luke 5:17–25. *(Choose a volunteer to record the answers.)* Who would be the main star? *(Have them write “Starring: Jesus” on the top.)* Who are the other actors in the movie? *(Have kids read story and call out names.)* Pharisees and experts of the law, crippled man and his friends. Where does our story take place? Write “Setting: In someone’s house.”

Now for the other information we need for our poster. Who is the Director, the one who calls the shots? No, not Steven Spielberg. Write: “Directed by: GOD.” OK, the last person is the producer. Who produced the miracle? The Bible says that the power of the Lord was present or we could say that The Holy Spirit was present as the producer. *(Write on list.)* Finally, our movie is rated E for everyone. Anyone can receive a miracle from God.

(Have the kids work in pairs or trios.) Your group is assigned to come up with a catchy title for our feature. Here are some suggestions: Roofbusters 2, Four Friends and a Miracle, or There’s Power in Da’ House. You can use one of those, or come up with own creative title. *(Have each group share their movies and encourage them to speak in a typical “movie announcer” style of voice.)*

Take-Home Challenge

Materials: Lesson 7 Ages 11-12 Take-Home Challenge from Take-Home Challenges CD-ROM.

Hand out this week’s Take-Home Challenge and encourage kids to complete the activities with their families. Remind kids that you’ll ask them for responses during next week’s K.I.D.S. Church service.