



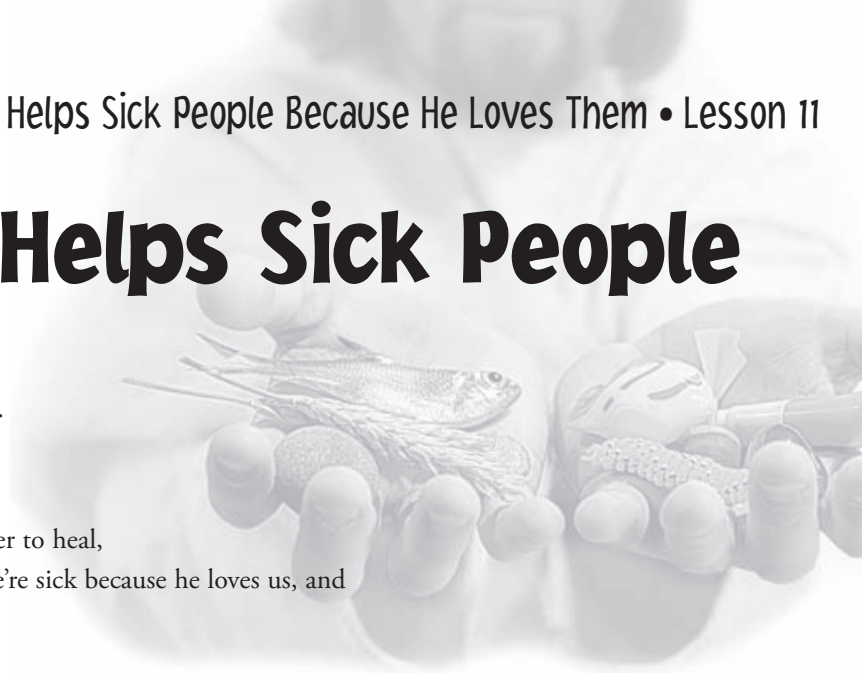
Jesus Helps Sick People

Bible Verse

Jesus helps us all (adapted from Matthew 11:28).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- discover that Jesus has the power to heal,
 - realize that Jesus helps when we're sick because he loves us, and
 - express their love for Jesus.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- **Jesus helps sick people because he loves them.**

**Luke
5:17-26**



We've all heard the saying "Love covers a multitude of sins." That's somewhat true in that when we love someone we tend to overlook their flaws. However, in this month's story, the love we see coming from Jesus doesn't just cover sins—it wipes them out! Because of his love for us, God sent Jesus to live among us. While he lived on earth, Jesus healed people again and again, sometimes lots of people in one place, as in our story.

And after healing many people over his three years of ministry, Jesus died on the cross to "heal" us from our sins. The forgiveness Jesus pronounced on the paralyzed man was possible because he is God. And he made forgiveness possible for all of us when he died on the cross for our sins. Take this opportunity to remind your toddlers that God loves them so much that he will help them when they are sick and will forgive them when they do wrong things.








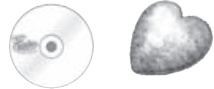

Prayer

- Read Matthew 14:13-14.
- What difference did Jesus' love make in the lives of people he healed?
- What difference has Jesus' love made in your life?
- Pray: God, help me to always remember the love and healing you've granted me. Help my toddlers also know your love in...

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God's direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), scissors, marker, tape or safety pins, CD player	
	Option 1: The Man on the Mat —Make their own story characters to raise and lower.	Sick-man pattern (p. 154), stiff paper, scissors, tape, crayons, construction paper	
	Option 2: Step Right Up! —Build and climb on pretend stairs.	Large books	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	Jesus Helps Sick People —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story from Luke 5:17-26 of Jesus healing the paralyzed man.	Newsprint, tape, paper	
	Jesus Helps Us —Sing a song about Jesus' help and love.	CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Review the Bible Point with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	Jesus and bouquet patterns (p. 155), scissors, tape, silk flower, perfume or vanilla	
	Sing It Out —Sing a song about Jesus' help and love.	CD player	
	Healing Touch —Pass a heart to their friends, and then sing a song.	CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make pretty flowers to give to someone who is sick.	Tissue paper or facial tissues, scissors, green chenille wires	
	Bible Game —Play an action game with heart and flower shapes.	Bouquet patterns (p. 155), tape, scissors, red construction paper, crayons or markers, bouquets from Bible Craft	
Closing 	Fruity Flowers —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Round crackers, dried apple slices, banana chips, softened cream cheese, bowls, plastic knives, napkins	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), scissors, marker, tape or safety pins, CD player



- Play “Jesus Helps Us All” (adapted from Matthew 11:28) (track 14) from the *CD* as children are arriving.
- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child’s clothing.
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► Jesus helps sick people.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won’t be distracted by him during the next activity.

Option 1: The Man on the Mat

SUPPLIES: sick-man pattern (p. 154), stiff paper, scissors, tape, crayons, construction paper

Before class, photocopy on stiff paper the sick-man pattern. Cut out a pattern for each child. Cut sheets of construction paper in half. You’ll need half a sheet for each child. Set out the construction paper, crayons, and tape.

As children arrive, invite them to scribble-color the “sick man” cutouts. Then tape each cutout to the center of a construction paper “mat.” As toddlers work, mention that they’ll hear a Bible story about a man who couldn’t walk. Explain that the man was carried around on a mat until Jesus healed him. Remind children that ► Jesus helps sick people. Encourage each child to slowly lower his or her “man on the mat” down to the floor and back up again. You may wish to let them carry their mats up and down the pretend steps in Option 2.

Option 2: Step Right Up!

SUPPLIES: large books

Before this activity, collect a few thick, sturdy books such as telephone books or old encyclopedias. Place them on the floor in one area of the room. Let children step up and down on a book to pretend that they’re climbing steps, too, like the men in the Bible story who climbed to the rooftop. Remind children that the men wanted their lame friend to see Jesus, and the only way was to climb the steps and lower the man through the roof. Point out that ► Jesus helps sick people.

Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let’s Pick Up All Our Things” (track 2). Use the *CD* and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”



It’s important to say the Bible Point just as it’s written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.



Be sure to have plenty of adult supervision as children climb on the books.



Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things
And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Everyone here can help.
Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
Let's pick up all our things.
It's time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



Say: **Who helps sick people?** ► *Jesus helps sick people.* How do we know that? The Bible tells us. The Bible tells us that ► **Jesus helps us all.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let's sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD, lead children in singing "God's Special Book" (track 3) to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."



This is God's special book.
Yes, it's God's book you see!
I learn about all God has done
And his love for me!
(Repeat.)
Bible!

■ Bible Story: Jesus Helps Sick People

SUPPLIES: newsprint, tape, paper



Before class begins, be sure the sensory items are still attached securely to the StoryBoard so children can touch them without danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Cover Panels 2 and 3 of the StoryBoard by taping a sheet of paper over each panel.



Choose a special Bible to use for the lesson each week. For example, you could use the *Hands-On Bible* (Group Publishing), a big black Bible, a red Bible, or a Bible with gold leaf pages. These special characteristics will make your Bible story time memorable.

Panel 1



Set sheets of newsprint and the punch-out figure of the man on the felt mat next to you. Hold the StoryBoard so children see only Panel 1.

Say: **We're going to hear a Bible story about how ► *Jesus helps sick people*. Put your hand on your head if you've ever been sick.**

Ask: • **How did you feel?** (Sad; yucky.)

Point to Panel 1. Say: **Here's a man who was very sick. His legs wouldn't move, so the man couldn't walk or hop or run. He just laid on a mat. Let's lie on mats like the man.** Hand each child a sheet of newsprint to lie on. **Be very still and pretend you can't move your legs.** Pause. **It would be hard if our legs didn't move, wouldn't it? Now sit on your mat.** Pause until all the children are sitting upright.

The man had nice friends. When the man needed to go somewhere, his friends carried him on a mat. Let's touch the mat and the friends in the picture. You can tell them how nice they are. Hold the StoryBoard so children can each find and touch the mat and the men carrying the mat. Encourage children to say "nice friends" as they touch the pictures of the men.

One day, the friends carried the man down a road. They heard that Jesus could help sick people, and they wanted their friend to feel better. We can touch the road they traveled on. Have children find and touch the road and clouds.

The men knew that Jesus could heal their sick friend. So they carried him to the house where Jesus was healing people. Let's see what the house was like.

Panel 2



Choose a child to reveal Panel 2 of the StoryBoard, which shows a crowded house.

Say: **Uh-oh, the house was too crowded! The men couldn't get in the house because there were too many people.** Shake your head and slowly say the following rhyme:

**No room, no room—not even for a mouse!
How could they fit in that crowded little house?**

Repeat the rhyme again and encourage children to shake their heads as they say it with you.

Lay a sheet of newsprint on the floor. Say: **Let's play a game. We'll pretend this paper is a house. Let's see if we can all fit in the house.** Invite children to stand on the paper. **Ooh, we're smooshed together. This house is crowded just like the house in our Bible story! Let's go back to our paper mats and hear what happened next.** Pause until children are seated on their newsprint mats.

Do you see Jesus helping the people? Find Jesus and touch his beard. Let children find Jesus and touch his beard. **There are so many people there to see Jesus! How can the friends get the man on the mat near Jesus?**



Panels 2 & 3



Choose a child to reveal Panel 3 of the StoryBoard, which shows the friends carrying the man up the stairs.

Say: **The man's friends had an idea. They decided to lower the sick man through the roof. What a good idea! Let's clap for them. Yea!** Encourage children to clap and cheer.



It must have been hard work to carry the sick man up the stairs to the roof. Step, step, up the stairs. Pat your knees to make stepping sounds. Pat your knees as you say the following:

**Step, step, step, step—up they go.
Step, step, step, step—don't be slow.**

Say: **Let's touch the man's mat and the steps. Up, up, they carried the man—right onto the roof of the house! Then the friends cut a hole in the roof. We can feel the hole.** Have children carefully put their fingers through the “hole” in the rooftop on Panel 2.

Lower the punch-out figure of the sick man on the felt mat down through the opening on Panel 2. Say: **The friends lowered the sick man down to Jesus. Wasn't that a good idea?**

Jesus saw the man on the mat. Jesus loved the man and wanted him to be well. Then Jesus said, “I forgive you for the wrong things you've done. Pick up your mat and go home.” And suddenly (lift the figure from the mat and move the legs back and forth), **the man's legs moved, and he could walk! We'll help the man walk and thank God.** Let children move the legs back and forth, and encourage children to say, “Thank you, God.”

► ***Jesus helps sick people.* That's because Jesus loves us. Let's sing a song about how Jesus helps and loves us.**

■ Jesus Helps Us

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing “Jesus Helps Us” (track 13) to the tune of “God Is So Good.” Sing with the CD, and do the accompanying motions.



Jesus helps you. (*Point to a friend.*)

Jesus helps me. (*Point to yourself.*)

Jesus helps us. (*Spread arms out wide.*)

He helps you and me. (*Point to a friend and then to yourself.*)

Jesus loves you. (*Cover your heart, and then point to a friend.*)

Jesus loves me. (*Cover your heart, and then point to yourself.*)

Jesus loves us. (*Cover your heart, and then spread your arms out wide.*)

He loves you and me. (*Cover your heart; then point to a friend and then to yourself.*)

(Repeat.)

teacher tips

Important: Put the StoryBoard away and out of reach of children.

BIBLE POINT ►

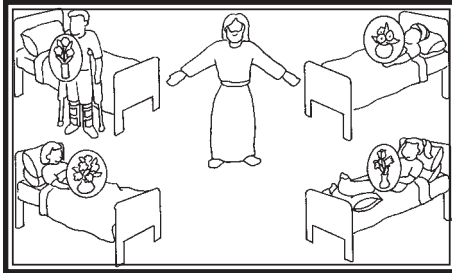
Say: **You sang so well, and I know that Jesus heard our special song. I'm glad that Jesus loves us and that ► Jesus helps sick people. Let's put a picture of Jesus on the bulletin board.**



Bible Activities

■ Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: Jesus and bouquet patterns (p. 155), scissors, tape, silk flower, perfume or vanilla



Photocopy the Jesus and bouquet patterns. You may wish to copy the bouquets onto colored paper. Cut out a bouquet for each child. Cut out the picture of Jesus. Last week you began a bulletin board showing sick children in a hospital. This week you'll add bouquets and a picture of Jesus.

Before class, tape a silk flower on Cuddles' foot. Add a few drops of perfume or vanilla to the flower to create a pleasant scent.



Bring out Cuddles the Lamb holding a flower. When you've finished with the script, put Cuddles away, out of sight of the children.

Cuddles: *(Sniffing his flower) Mmm...this flower smells so good!*

Teacher: That's a very pretty flower, Cuddles. Is it for someone special?

Cuddles: Yes. I'm going to give this flower to my friend Sam. He hurt his foot, and I want to cheer him up. *(Sniffs the flower.)* Mmm...do you want to smell my pretty flower? *(Let each child sniff the flower.)*

Teacher: We've been learning today that ► Jesus helps sick people. *(Place the picture of Jesus in the center of the bulletin board.)* That's because Jesus loves them. Giving flowers is a good way to show your love when someone is sick. We're going to put bouquets of flowers on the bulletin board. Would you like to help us, Cuddles?

Cuddles: I'd like that.

Have Cuddles hand each child a bouquet cutout. If there's time, let children color the bouquets with crayons. Tape the bouquets to the pictures of the sick children. Each time a child places a bouquet, help him or her repeat the Bible Point. Then let children find and point to the pictures on the bulletin board. Ask questions such as "Where is the child with the crutches?" "Where is the child with a hurt leg?" and "Who helps sick people?"

Teacher: We can be glad that ► Jesus helps sick people. And we can be glad that Jesus loves us so much! Let's sing a song about Jesus' love.

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■ Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD, lead children in singing "Jesus Helps Us" (track 13) to the tune of "God Is So Good." For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Jesus helps you. (Point to a friend.)

Jesus helps me. (Point to yourself.)

Jesus helps us. (Spread arms out wide.)

He helps you and me. (Point to a friend and then to yourself.)

Jesus loves you. (Cover your heart, and then point to a friend.)

Jesus loves me. (Cover your heart, and then point to yourself.)

Jesus loves us. (Cover your heart, and then spread your arms out wide.)

He loves you and me. (Cover your heart; then point to a friend and then to yourself.)

(Repeat.)



Say: **Jesus loves us and wants us to be healthy. That's why ► Jesus helps sick people. Let's all pretend that we are sick, and then we can help each other feel better.**

■ Healing Touch

SUPPLIES: CD player



Before class, take the *huggable heart* from the Learning Lab.

Say: **Everyone lie down on the floor and pretend that you're sick.** Allow time for all of the children to find a spot on the floor.

Say: **Oh my, everyone looks so sad and sick! Remember that ► Jesus helps sick people because he loves them. I'm going to bring this heart to one of you to help you feel better. This heart can remind us that Jesus loves us and helps us when we're sick.**



Give one child the *huggable heart*. Encourage him or her to hug the heart and say ► Jesus helps sick people. Then have the child stand up. Say: **Knowing that ► Jesus helps sick people can make us feel better!** Have the first child give the *huggable heart* to a child who is lying down. Have that child repeat the Bible Point, stand up, and pass the *huggable heart* to another child. Continue until everyone is standing.

Ask: • **How did it feel to hug the heart pillow?** (Good; soft; it made me feel better.)

Say: **This game can remind us that ► Jesus helps sick people. Let's sing a song to help us remember that.**

Lead children in singing "Jesus Helps Us All" (adapted from Matthew 11:28) (track 14) with the *CD* to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat." For extra fun, show children how to do the motions in parentheses.



SING

Jesus loves us all (*cross hands over heart*),
He loves us all the time. (*Turn in a circle.*)
Me and you (*point to self and another*),
His love is true. (*Point up.*)
He loves us all the time! (*Cross hands over heart.*)

Jesus helps us all (*extend arms, palms up*),
He helps us all the time. (*Turn in a circle.*)
Me and you (*point to self and another*),
His love is true. (*Point up.*)
He helps us all the time! (*Extend arms, palms up.*)

Say: **Thanks for singing with me! In our game, we gave our friends a heart to help them feel better. Giving flowers to sick people can also help them feel better. We can make some pretty flowers to give to someone.**

■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: *tissue paper or facial tissues, scissors, green chenille wires*

Before class, cut 5-inch squares of colorful tissue paper or colored facial tissue. Cut four paper squares for each child.

Set out the paper squares and green chenille wires. Help children lay two paper squares on top of each other. Then gather the bottom center of each square and wrap a chenille wire around the base to create a "flower." As children work, remind them that ► Jesus helps sick people because he loves them.

Let children each make two flowers. Then have children hold their bouquets. Say: **Giving flowers to someone who is sick makes that person feel better. It's a nice way to spread Jesus' love. We can play a game with our flower bouquets.**

■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: *bouquet patterns (p. 155), tape, scissors, red construction paper, crayons or markers, bouquets from Bible Craft*

Before class, photocopy the bouquet patterns. Color the flowers, and cut them out. You'll need five bouquets. You'll also need five hearts cut from red construction paper.



Lay three or four sheets of tissue paper on top of each other, and cut out multiple squares at once for the Bible Craft.


teacher tips

Photocopying the bouquet pattern onto colored paper will make preparation a snap!



Before this activity, tape the paper hearts and bouquets in a circle on the floor. Make sure the shapes are all a foot apart from each other. Have children each stand on a shape. Show children how to step around the circle from shape to shape and say each syllable in the following phrase.

► Jesus helps us when we're sick.

When you say the word *sick*, have children stop in place. Let young toddlers simply tell what shape they're standing on. Have older toddlers standing on heart shapes give themselves a hug and say, "Jesus loves us." Have children standing on bouquet shapes hold up their bouquets and say, ► "Jesus helps sick people."



After you've repeated the phrase a few times, say: **It's important to remember that ► Jesus helps sick people and that Jesus loves us. Jesus is the best friend we could ever have. And if we believe in him, we will live with him in heaven someday.**

Say: **Now let's have a healthy snack!**

Encourage children to give their paper flowers to someone who is sick or someone they love.

Closing

■ Fruity Flowers

SUPPLIES: round crackers, dried apple slices, banana chips, softened cream cheese, bowls, plastic knives, napkins

Before class, prepare bowls of dried apple slices and banana chips.

Gather children at the snack table after they have washed their hands.

Ask: • **Who helps sick people?** (Jesus!)

Say: **We've been learning that ► Jesus helps sick people. And we've also been learning that Jesus loves us and wants us to be healthy. I'm glad that Jesus loves us, and we love him, too. Let's say a prayer and thank God for Jesus. Fold your hands. Pray: Dear God, we thank you for Jesus and how he's always ready to help when we're sick. We love Jesus, too. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Say: **We made paper flowers to give away. Now we can make yummy pretend flowers to eat.** Set out bowls of dried apples and banana chips. Hand each child two round crackers on a napkin. Help children use plastic knives to spread softened cream cheese on their crackers and then use the fruits to decorate cracker "flowers."

When children have finished their snacks, remind them to throw their napkins in the wastebasket. Be sure children take their flowers home along with their Man on the Mat crafts if they chose to do Option 1.





For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ Cotton-Ball Counting

Give each child five jumbo cotton balls. Count the cotton balls together out loud, and then give any children who wish to a chance to count by themselves. Have children hold up two cotton balls, then one cotton ball, then all five cotton balls. Mention that cotton balls are used to make “owies” feel better. Gently tape a cotton ball to the back of each child’s hand and say: ► *“Jesus helps sick people.”*

■ Ah-CHOO for You

Hand children each a tissue, and let them sing “The Ah-CHOO Song” to the tune of “Old MacDonald.” Sing without the CD, and do the accompanying motions.



SING

Jesus helps us when we’re sick (*point upward*)

And have a cold—ah-CHOO! (*Pretend to sneeze.*)

Jesus helps us when we’re sick (*point upward*),

And I can help out, too. (*Point to yourself.*)

Cough—cough—’CHOOO! (*Make coughing and sneezing sounds in place of the words.*)

God bless you! (*Make a slight bow.*)

Do you need a tissue, too? (*Hold out a facial tissue.*)

Jesus helps us when we’re sick (*point upward*)

And have a cold—ah-CHOO! (*Pretend to sneeze.*)

Patterns

Cut loosely around the pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.



Patterns

Cut loosely around each pattern instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.

