

Jesus Appears to Thomas

Jesus' Miracles
Lesson 6

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Jesus appearing to Thomas.
- The children will state that Jesus can do all things.
- The children will state that God wants us to believe in Jesus.

Lesson Text

John 20:24-31

Scripture Memory Verse

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Miracle Memories

Welcome and Singing

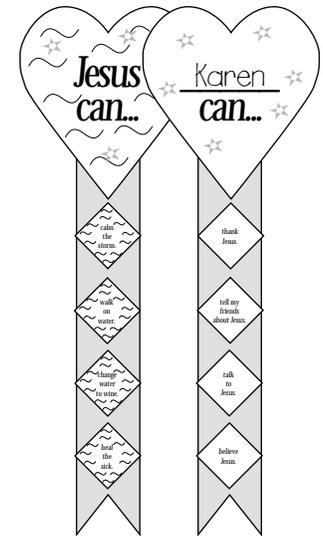
Centers:

Bible Story: Many Other Miracles

Craft: Get the Point

Scripture Memory: These Are Written

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



Jesus Appears to Thomas

Miracle Memories

The children will review key ideas from the lessons in this unit as they make a set of game cards to take home.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons and markers
- glue stick
- 10 index cards, 3" x 5" (cut in half)
- rubber band

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 2 copies for each child

Preparation

1. Cut the index cards in half to give each child twenty cards.
2. Cut out the miracle cards from the copies of Reproducible Page A. Each child should receive twenty miracle cards.
3. Make one sample set of cards to show the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that today is the last lesson in this unit about Jesus' miracles. Show them the cards you made, and explain that they will each make their own set of cards that they can use at home to play a memory game.
2. Distribute the index cards you prepared, the miracle cards, glue sticks and crayons. Show the children how to glue their miracle cards to their index cards.
3. When the children have finished gluing, they may color all the backs of the cards one color, or in different designs. Suggest that they write their initials on the back of each card so that the cards are not confused with another child's cards.
4. Circulate among the children to offer help and encouragement.
5. Distribute the rubber bands and help the children to secure their cards.

Teacher Tips

- For children who are not familiar with the memory game, explain that they should shuffle their cards well and place them face down in four rows of five. Then they should turn over two cards at a time, trying to find a match. The game can be played alone or with another child. Encourage the children to think of other games to play with these cards as well.
- The cards may also be placed in a sandwich bag for safe-keeping.



B Jesus Appears to Thomas

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Many Other Miracles

The children will participate in the story of Jesus appearing to Thomas.

Materials

For each child:

- 6 pennies (or other coin, button, game marker, etc.)

Preparation

Practice presenting this Bible Story with amazement at Jesus' miracles.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to John 20:24-31. Tell the children that today's Bible Story is the last one in this series of lessons about Jesus' miracles.

- *What are some of the miracles that we have been learning about?* (changing water into wine, walking on water, calming the storm, healing a paralytic, raising the dead)
- *What are some other miracles of Jesus that you know about?* (feeding five thousand, helping Peter with a miraculous catch of fish, healing the blind, healing the sick, healing the lepers, casting out demons, raising Lazarus from the dead, etc.)

The Bible says that Jesus did "many other miraculous signs" that were not written down! Imagine all the people that Jesus healed that we do not read about in the Bible. Imagine all the other people that Jesus fed miraculously or the other stormy seas that Jesus calmed for the disciples.

- *What are some other miracles that you can imagine that Jesus might have done? For example: Imagine that a woman came to Jesus who had lost her child in a crowd and was desperate to find him. Imagine that Jesus miraculously found the child! Imagine that Jesus told the woman that she should search for God just as hard as she searched for her child. Imagine that because of this miracle, she became a disciple of Jesus!*

NOTE: Although we do not know what "other miracles" Jesus may have performed, this will enable the children to think about Jesus' ability to do all things. This should not be a time for the children to make fun of Jesus' power, but to think of other ways he could have used his power to help someone have faith in God.

Presenting the Bible Story

Read the following passage to the children. (The underlined words will be used later in the review activity.)

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:24-31, underline added)

Distribute the pennies to the children. Tell them to listen as you read the above passage again. Tell them to place a penny down each time they hear the word "believe, believed or believing." Ask them how many times they heard it. (six)

Read the above passage again, pausing before each underlined word to have the children say the missing word. Then review the story using these questions.

- *What did Thomas want to see and do before he would believe that Jesus was really alive?* (He wanted to see the nail marks in his hands; He wanted to put his finger in the holes.)
- *What did Jesus tell Thomas to do?* (put his finger in the holes in his hands and put his hand in the hole in his side)
- *What did Thomas say after Jesus told him to put his fingers inside the holes in Jesus' hands?* ("My Lord and my God!")

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Jesus Appears to Thomas

- *What did Jesus tell Thomas?* ("Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.")

Tell the children to listen carefully as you read the last two verses of this passage (below) and be prepared to answer this question: "Why were the miracles of Jesus written down?" When you finish reading, take their responses.

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
(John 20:24-31)

Share and Tell

Point out to the children that Jesus knew that many people—who could NOT see him—would believe in him many years after he had returned to be with God in heaven. Today, we live two thousand years after Jesus lived on the earth. We cannot see Jesus the way the disciples in the Bible could, but we can still believe—because these miracles were written down! Ask the children how it makes them feel to know that Jesus was thinking about them when he spoke to Thomas and said: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Close with a prayer for the children to grow in their faith in Jesus.

Teacher Tips

- If your budget permits, allow the children to keep the pennies as a souvenir of this Bible Story.

Believe

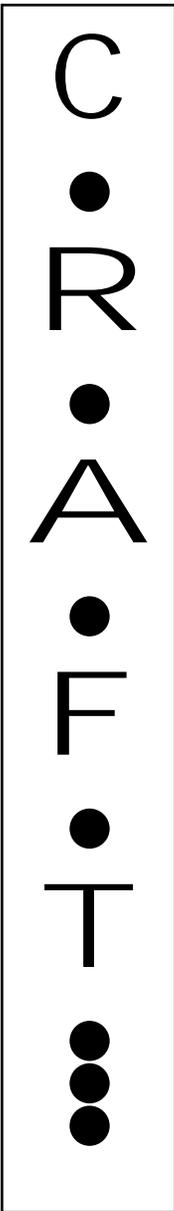
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Jesus Appears to Thomas

Get the Point

The children will review the Bible Stories from this unit as they create paper point catchers.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out each of the squares from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Create a sample to show the children.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson today, you are learning that Jesus did many miracles—even more than the ones recorded in the Bible! Many more! Jesus did miracles so that the people would believe that he was the Son of God and have a relationship with God. Jesus' miracles show us that God's power is able to help us in any situation. Today, you are going to make a craft that will remind you of the miracles from your Bible Stories in this unit. Show the children your sample.*
2. Distribute the squares that you prepared and the crayons.
3. With the blank side facing up, have the children fold each corner into the center of the square, as shown in Figure A.
4. Turn the paper over, with the numbers facing down, and the words facing up. Have the children fold each corner into the center, as before, as shown in Figure B.
5. Have the children fold the paper in half, as shown in Figure C. Then unfold and fold again the other way.
6. When the children have finished folding their papers, they can put the point catchers on their fingers and open and close them. The children should write their names on the outsides of their point catchers and color or decorate them.

Get the Point?

Have the children open and close their point catchers for each letter as they spell one of the words written on the outside of their point catchers. For example, if they choose J-E-S-U-S, have them open on J, close and then open the opposite way on E, then close and open on S, then close and open the opposite way on U, then close and open on S. Then have them choose a number and open to see what miracle they find. Ask the children to say, "Jesus _____ so that I would believe."

Encourage them to demonstrate to their families how their point catchers work.

Conclusion

Ask the children which of Jesus' miracles they think is the most amazing and why. Close with a prayer thanking God for Jesus' miracles that help us to believe.

Teacher Tips

- Many children will already know how to make a "point catcher" and may know it by a different name.
- Encourage the children to help each other.



Jesus Appears to Thomas

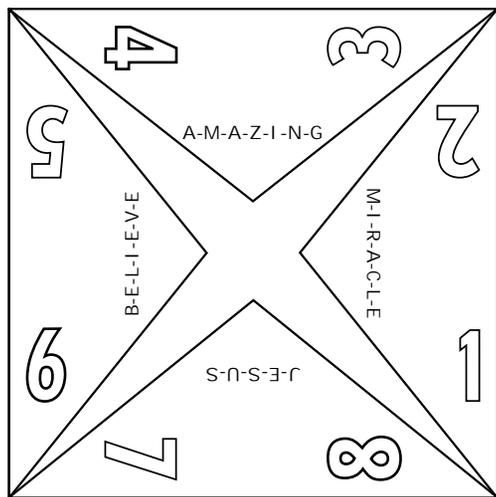
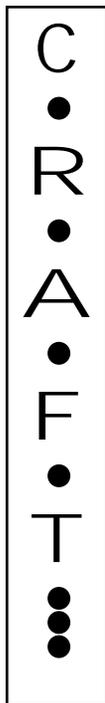


Figure A

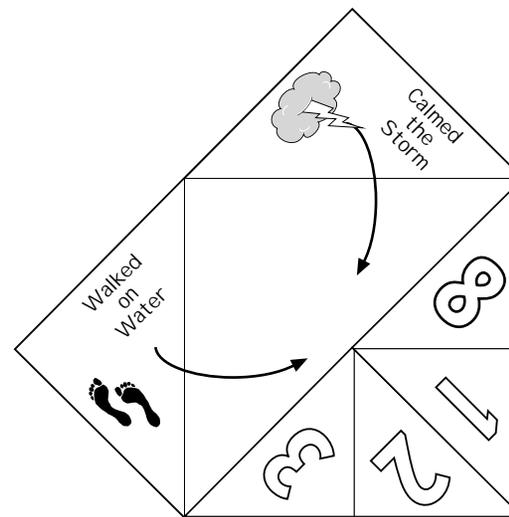


Figure B



Figure C



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Jesus Appears to Thomas

These Are Written

The children will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse through this fun jumping activity.

Scripture Memory Verse

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
John 20:31

Materials

For the teacher:

- 8 sturdy white paper plates, 8"
- thick black marker

Preparation

1. Using the marker, neatly print one of the following phrases on each paper plate, being careful to copy punctuation and capitalization exactly as it appears below:
But these are written
that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God,
and that by believing
you may have life
in his name.
John 20:31
2. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you are learning that Jesus did many miracles—even more than are recorded in the Bible—so that people would believe that he is the Son of God. Jesus knew that one day there would be people, like you and me, who would not “see” the actual miracles he did but who would hear about them. Jesus said that we would be blessed for believing without seeing. In your Scripture Memory Verse, you will learn why John wrote about Jesus’ miracles.*

2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Read it to them three times, pointing to the words while they listen. Ask them to say it with you three more times, each time pointing to the words for them. Ask each child to stand next to you and say the verse together with you. Ask for volunteers to say the verse alone.
3. Show the children the prepared plates. Lay them on the floor in order. Have the children read the words together with you.
4. Have the children get in a line behind the paper plates. Have each child take turns jumping along side of each paper plate and saying the phrase on it. As the children finish, have them return to the end of the line. Repeat this step once.
5. Take the first plate with the words “These are written” on it, and turn it over. Have the children jump along side the plate, saying the first one from memory.
6. Turn the second plate over, having the children repeat Step 5, this time saying the first two from memory. Continue in this way until all of the plates have been turned over and the children can say the entire verse from memory.

Conclusion

Ask the children if they have ever tried to make someone believe them. What did they do? What did they say? Ask them how it makes them feel to know that Jesus was willing to do so many miracles to help us believe in him. Close with a prayer for the children's faith to grow because of what they have learned about Jesus' miracles.

Teacher Tips

- Think of additional fun ways for the children to use the plates to learn the Scripture Memory Verse.



Jesus Appears to Thomas

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But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31



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Jesus' Miracles
Lesson 6

Lesson at
a Glance supplement

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of Jesus appearing to Thomas.
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Lesson Text

John 20:24-31

Scripture Memory Verse

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John 20:31

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Two Hearts

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Heart Work

Game: Great Expressions

Bible Skills: Miracle Match

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

1st and 2nd Grades



pre
class

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Two Hearts

The children will review this week's Bible Story as they prepare for their Life Application activity.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper, 9" x 12"
- glue stick
- scissors
- crayons
- 2 pieces of ribbon, 2" x 12"
- tape
- decorative items: stickers, glitter, etc.

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut two 12" pieces of ribbon for each child. Cut out a "Λ" shaped notch at one end of each piece of ribbon.
2. Make a sample of the hearts for the children to see.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Remind them that in this unit they are learning about the miracles of Jesus. Show the children your sample and read the words on the hearts.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page C, glue sticks, scissors and construction paper. Have the children glue their pages to their construction paper. Circulate among them to help them cut out the hearts.

3. Distribute the crayons, decorative items, ribbons and tape. Have the children write their names on the line provided on their hearts and then color and decorate them. Have the children tape one ribbon to the back of each of the hearts so that they hang with the notched end on the bottom.
4. Give all the hearts, including your sample, to the Life Application teacher.

Teacher Tips

- Make a few extra, undecorated hearts for children who may arrive late.

Jesus Appears to Thomas

LIFE APPLICATION

Heart Work

The children will review this week's lesson as they consider Jesus' power to do all things and what God wants them to do.

Materials

For each child:

- hearts from Preclass Activity
- crayons
- small paper clip
- scissors
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- sample heart from Preclass Activity
- scissors
- magnetic stripping (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the two large diamonds from the copies of Reproducible Page D and clip them together for each child.
2. Practice leading this activity.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to John 20. *In this week's Bible Story, you learned that Jesus did many miracles—even more than the Bible records—to help people believe he was the Son of God. The apostle Thomas believed because of what he saw with his own eyes, but Jesus said that others would be blessed because they would believe without seeing. That is why we have the Bible. It helps us to "see" Jesus' miracles and believe today.*

Instructions

1. Distribute the diamonds you prepared, crayons and scissors to the children. Have them color in their diamonds. Then have them cut out the smaller diamonds within the larger diamonds.
NOTE: Each child should have eight small diamonds—four from each of the larger ones.
2. Distribute glue sticks and the hearts from the Preclass Activity.

3. Have the children glue the four diamonds with the squiggly lines onto the ribbon underneath the heart with the squiggly lines.
3. Have the children glue the other diamonds onto the other ribbon. Make sure they match the "Jesus" heart (with squiggly lines) and the diamonds with squiggly lines.

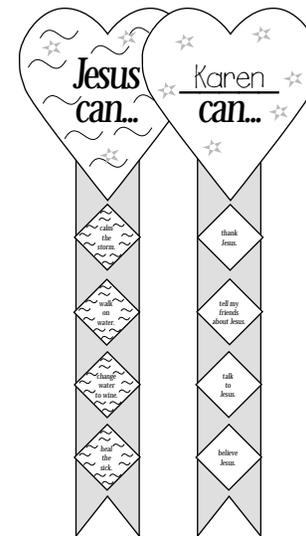
Life Application

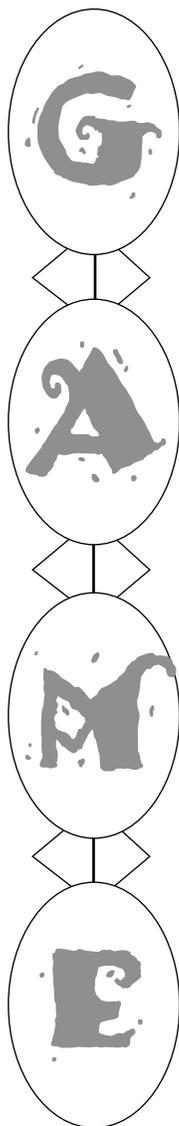
Review each of the diamonds with the children. Briefly review each of Jesus' four miracles with the children. Then spend the rest of the time talking about the four ways that they can show that they believe in Jesus—talking to him in prayer, telling others, and thanking him!

Ask the children which of these is the easiest for them and which is the hardest and why. Share from your own life. Close with a prayer for the children's faith to grow because of Jesus' miracles.

Teacher Tips

- Cut out 2" squares of magnetic stripping and have the children glue them to the back of their hearts for mounting.





Great Expressions

The children will review key ideas from this week's Bible Story as they play this game.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of poster board, 22" x 28"
- 6 index cards, 5" x 7"
- black marker
- 1 die (from a pair of dice)

Preparation

1. Neatly print the "Great Expressions" from the back of this Lesson Card onto the index cards.
2. Copy the diagram from the back of this Lesson Card onto the poster board to make the game board for this activity.
3. Practice leading this activity at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that Jesus did many miracles—even more than are recorded in the Bible—so that people would believe that he is the Son of God. Jesus knew that one day there would be people, like you and me, who would not "see" the actual miracles but who would hear about them. Jesus said that these people would be blessed for believing without seeing. In your game today, you are going to take turns saying things that Jesus did—using different expressions.*
2. Show the children the index cards you prepared. Read each card to them and have them repeat after you.
3. Show the children the game board that you prepared. Read each of the spaces to them and explain that these are some of the different ways that they will "express" to others some of Jesus' miracles.
4. Divide the children into two teams. Seat them at opposite sides of the game board. Shuffle the cards and place them face down on the game board in the space provided.
5. Choose a team to go first. Give one child the die to roll onto the game board. Help him to read what is written on the space

where the die landed. Let the child take a card from the pile. Help him read what is written on it. Then have the child lead his team in "expressing" what is written on the card in the manner described on the game board, and as many times as the number indicated on the die. Have the child place his card at the bottom of the pile. For example: If a child rolls a four and it lands on "jump for joy," then the child will lead his team to say together four times what is written on the index card while jumping for joy.

6. Have a child from the next team roll the die on the game board and take a card. Have that child lead his team in the same manner.
7. Continue until every child has had a chance to lead his team.

Expression Variations

Consider the following activity variations to best suit the children in your group.

- Have the children lead the rest of their team with a partner rather than alone.
- Do the activity as one group rather than two teams and let the children lead the group alone or with a partner.
- Think of additional ways or expressions that the children can use for this activity.
- Provide simple props to help enhance the children's expressions.

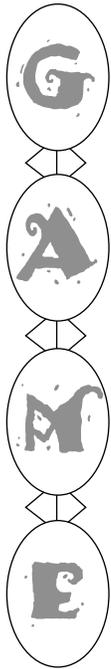
Conclusion

Ask the children what other ways they think that people could have expressed Jesus' miracles in the Bible. Share from your own life different ways that you have told people about Jesus. Close with a prayer for the children to express their faith in Jesus this week.

Teacher Tips

- Help new or visiting children feel successful by giving them a partner who is confident and encouraging.





Jesus Appears to Thomas

Great Expressions

Jesus changed water into wine!

Jesus calmed the storm!

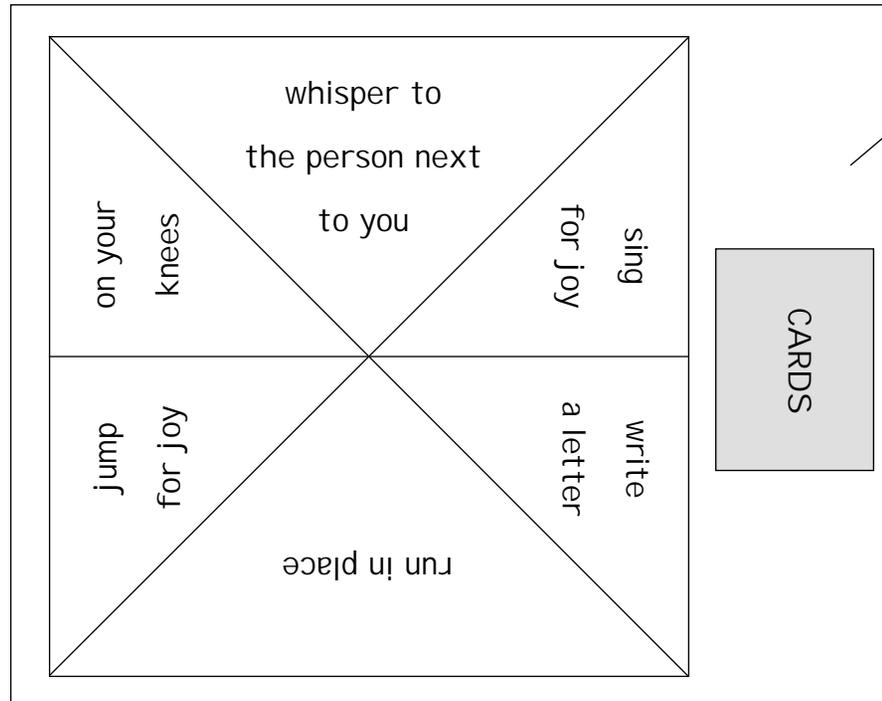
Jesus walked on water!

Jesus healed a paralyzed man!

Jesus raised a young girl from the dead!

Jesus can do all things!

game board diagram



poster board



Jesus Appears to Thomas



Miracle Match

The children will review the Scripture Memory Verses they have learned throughout this unit.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- 24 index cards, 3" x 5"
- glue stick
- score pad and pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 4 copies for the teacher (optional - heavy, colored paper)

Preparation

1. Cut out the Miracle Match cards from all your copies of Reproducible Page E and glue them to the index cards.
2. Practice leading this activity.

Instructions

1. Introduce this activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you learned that Jesus did many miracles—even more than are recorded in the Bible—so that people would believe that he is the Son of God. Jesus knew that one day there would be people, like you and me, who would not “see” the actual miracles but who would hear about them. Throughout this unit, you have learned Scripture Memory Verses that remind you of the miracles that Jesus did. In our activity today, we will try to match the Scripture Memory Verses from these lessons and say them together.*
2. Show the children the Miracle Match cards you prepared. Explain that there are two pairs of each verse on these cards. Shuffle the cards and place them face down in four rows of six.
3. Divide the children into two teams. Choose a team to go first. Have the first child turn over two cards. If they match, have the child say the Scripture Memory Verse out loud and then take the match for his team. Each match is worth two points. If the cards do not match, have the child place the cards face down where he found them.

4. Have a child from the next team take a turn. Continue until all the matches have been found. Keep score for the teams.

NOTE: For a more challenging version, tell the children that they can choose to say their matching Scripture Memory Verse from memory and double the amount of points they earn. For example: when a child finds a matching verse, he immediately removes the cards from sight and says the verse from memory, without looking at the words. If he is successful, he earns four points for his team.

Conclusion

Pray together thanking God for his word and for giving the children the ability to learn it.

Teacher Tips

- Reproduce Page E on heavy colored paper and laminate before cutting to make more durable cards. If you do this you can eliminate the index cards.
- Adapt this activity to the skill level of the children in your group.



Jesus Appears to Thomas



Miracle Match Miracle Match

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Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match Miracle Match

Matthew 14:33

Then those who were in the boat worshiped [Jesus], saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Luke 8:25

"[Jesus] commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

Luke 18:27

Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

John 2:11

[Jesus] thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

John 20:31

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

James 2:18

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

Miracle Match Miracle Match





Changing
Water into
Wine



Calming
the
Storm



Walking
on
Water



Healing a
Paralyzed
Man



Raising Jairus'
Daughter from
the Dead



Changing
Water into
Wine



Calming
the
Storm



Walking
on
Water



Healing a
Paralyzed
Man



Raising Jairus'
Daughter from
the Dead



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PAGE
B

1
Changed Water to Wine
M-I-R-A-C-L-E

2
Healed the Sick
A-M-A-Z-I-N-G

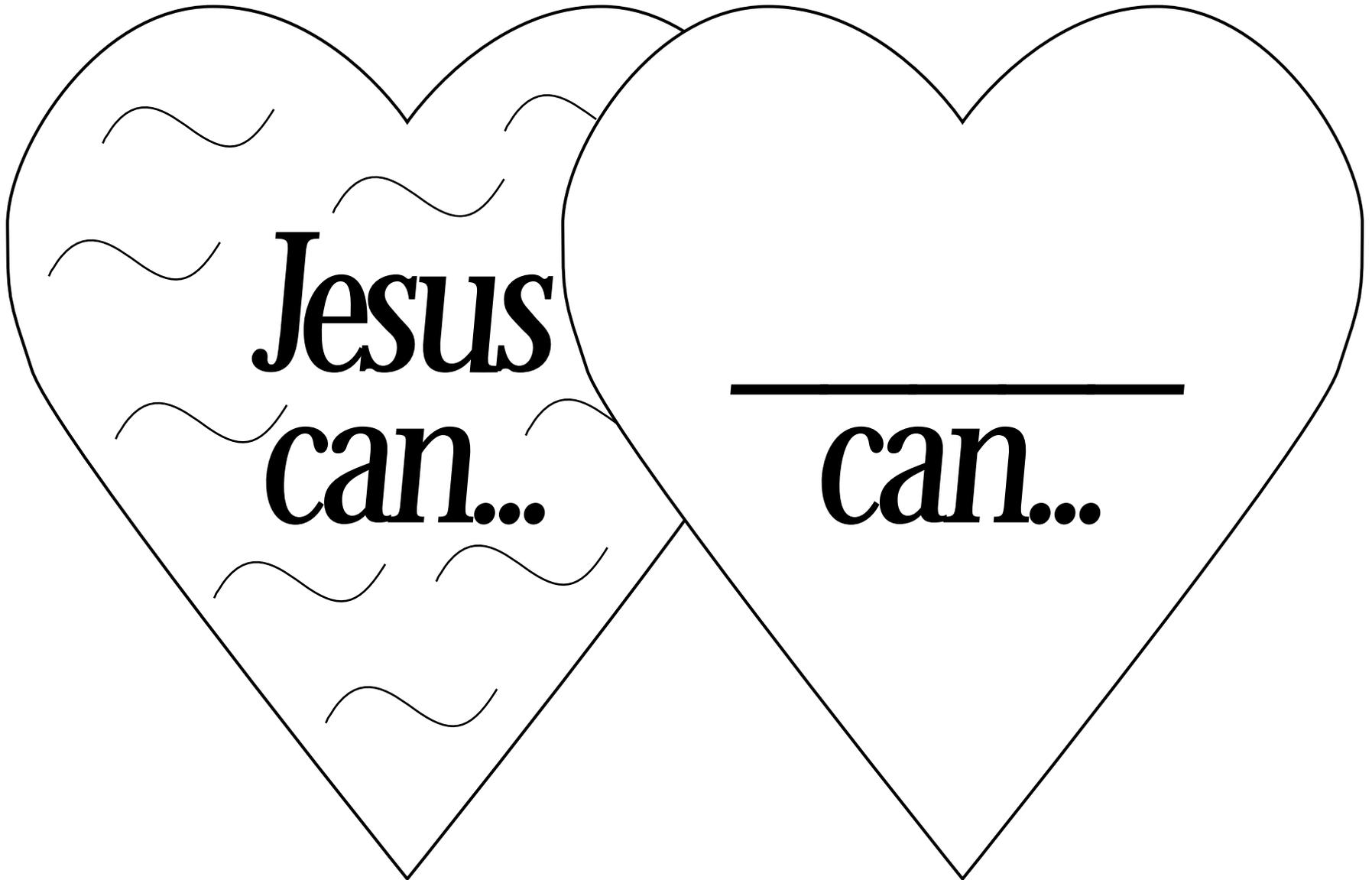
3
Walked on Water
B-E-L-I-E-V-E

4
Calmed the Storm
J-E-S-U-S



Supplement/Preclass
1 copy for each child

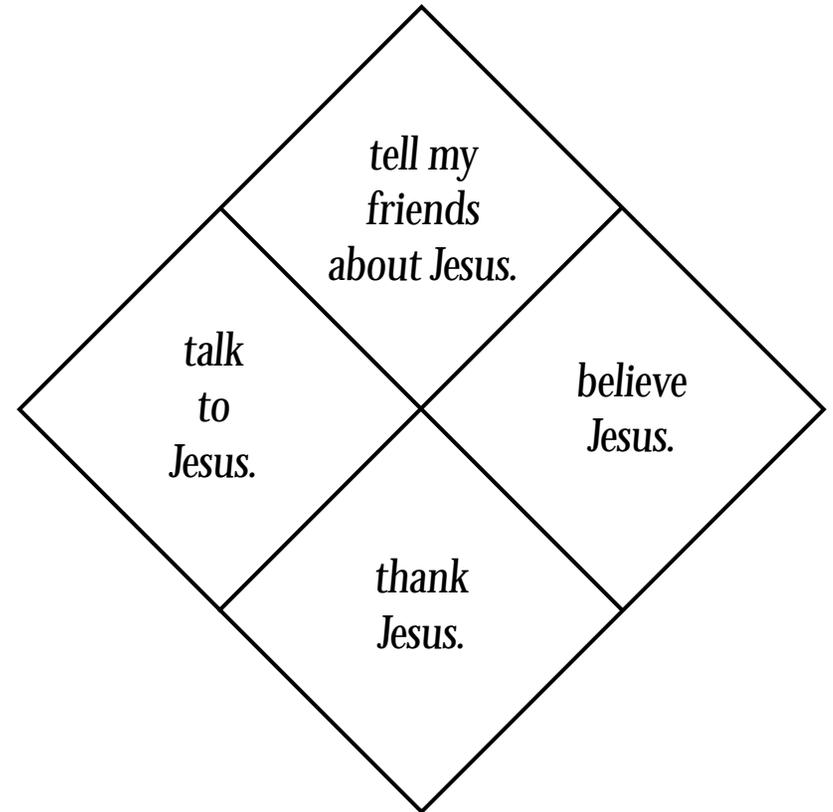
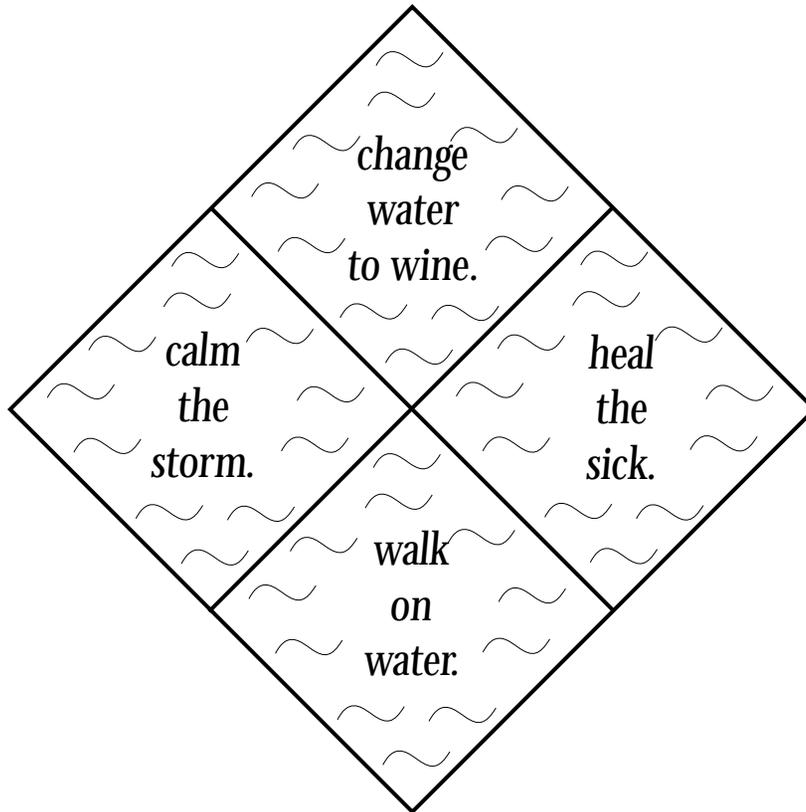
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Supplement/Life Application

1 copy for each child

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Supplement/Bible Skills

4 copies for the teacher (optional - heavy, colored paper)

REPRODUCTION
PAGE

Matthew 14:33
Then those who were in the boat worshiped [Jesus], saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Luke 8:25
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John 2:11
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John 20:31
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James 2:18
Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

