**Leader Overview**



*In* Listen, *kids will explore amazing truths from God’s Word, the Bible. In this session, kids will learn that nothing is impossible for God. They will learn about how Jesus healed the sick and did miracles*.

**Bible Lesson**

Jesus Heals a Woman

Mark 5:21–34

**Faith Fact**

Nothing is impossible for God.

**Faith Verse**

John 14:6(NLT)

Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

**Preparing for the Session**

**Leader Preparation Time: 20–25 Minutes**

|  |
| --- |
| ***You Will Need***  ***Large Group***   * *Bible* * *Worship songs (Song suggestions: “Zeal” by The Belonging Co; “Chain Reaction” by River Valley Worship; “The Blessing” by Elevation Worship; “Way Maker” by Leeland)* * *For groups not using a phone or tablet only, add:*   *• Projector or TV*  *• Laptop*  *•* ***Rules Video*** *or* ***Slide***  *•* ***Faith Fact Slide***  *•* ***Faith Verse Video*** *or* ***Slide***  *•* ***Bible Lesson Video******A***  *•* ***Bible Lesson Video B***   * *Biblical-style robe or cloth*   ***Small Group***   * *Bibles, one per kid* * ***Small Group Activity Page****, one per kid* * *Bottles of water, one per kid* * *Food coloring, various colors* * *Baking soda, one box per group* * *½ teaspoon measuring spoon* * *Funnel, one per group* * ***Small Group Faith Verse Review****, two per group* * *Scissors* * *Blindfolds, one per team* * *Crayons, markers, pencils*   *To access the Bible Engagement Project library from a computer, visit* [App.BibleEngagementProject.com](http://App.BibleEngagementProject.com). |
| ***Getting Ready***  ***Large Group***   * *Download videos and slides if needed.* * *Select worship song(s) and have them ready to play.*   ***Small Group***   * *Print copies of the* ***Small Group Activity Page****, one per kid.* * *Pour a couple of ounces of water out of each water bottle before the kids arrive.* * *Print copies of* ***Small Group Faith Verse Review****, two per group. Cut apart the verse segments.* |

**Large Group**

**30 Minutes**

*See what’s needed at the beginning of the session.*

**Introduction**

Hey kids! It’s so good to be back with you! Last time, we focused on the promises of God, and we talked about one of the greatest promises of all—God sending Jesus to the earth. Today we will continue to learn about Jesus. He did a lot of incredible miracles during his short ministry. We are going to take a look at one of them today.

Do you know what a miracle is? *(Allow responses.)* A miracle is something amazing that happens in our world that no human could do alone. It can only happen because of God’s power. What miracles of Jesus can you remember from the Bible? *(Allow responses.)* Those are all amazing miracles, but I don’t think anyone mentioned the ones we are talking about today. Reading about the miracles of Jesus reminds us that we serve a God who does the impossible.

That’s why our Faith Fact is so important. It reminds us that God can do anything. **Nothing is impossible for God**.

• *Show the* ***Faith Fact Slide***.



Let’s say the Faith Fact one more time but this time, let’s whisper it. **Nothing is impossible for God**. Great job!

**Rules Review (Optional)**

Before we go any further, let’s review our rules together.

• *Play* ***Rules Video***.

A person and person smiling and giving thumbs up

Description automatically generated with low confidence

**Game**

**Stuck in the Mud**

*No prep is needed for this activity*.

In today’s story, we are going to hear about a woman who had been ill for a very long time. This illness would have made life very hard for her. In some ways, it probably felt like she was stuck. She was desperate to be healed. Sickness can often make us feel helpless and unable to do anything to get ourselves unstuck.

Thankfully, we know that **Nothing is impossible for God**, He does miracles and can free us from any illness. Sometimes only God can help us get unstuck.

Let’s play a game called Stuck in the Mud to remind us of how God can free us when sickness and illness get us stuck. We need one person to be the “tagger.” The tagger’s job is to tag as many kids as possible. When you are tagged, you are stuck. You can’t move and you must extend your hands out. The only way for a player to be set free is if one of the other players who hasn’t been tagged crawls between your legs. Players are safe and can’t be tagged when they are crawling. When you are set free, you have to shout today’s Faith Fact: **Nothing is impossible for God**.

• *Choose one kid to be the first tagger*.

• *Play the game several times*.

• *Options: Have two taggers or have only one person who can free players*.

That game was a great reminder of the challenges of sickness and of God’s ability to free us in those situations. All through the Bible, God did some pretty amazing and miraculous things. Let’s remember that and thank Him for it as we go into a time of worship together.

**Worship**

A great way to thank God is through our worship. Take some time to thank God for what He has done in your life while you worship Him. Let’s spend some time worshipping Him while we sing.

• *Lead the kids in singing one or two praise songs. See suggestions at the beginning of the session*.

**Bible Lesson**

I love spending time worshipping God with all of you. Let’s all bow our heads and ask God to get us ready to hear what He has for us during our Bible story today.

**Prayer**

|  |
| --- |
| Dear God, thank You for all You have done for us. You are the God of the impossible! Help us to be encouraged and for our faith to be strengthened through hearing this true story from Your Word. Amen. |

**Video Intro**

Before we get started with the Bible story, let’s check in with the Challenge Accepted team and see what they’re up to!

• *Play* ***Bible Lesson Video A***.

A person holding golf balls

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Wow! Would you like to accept that challenge? *(Group response)* I don’t know about you, but stacking golf balls sounds like it would be really, really hard! That’s such a fun lead-in to our Bible story today!

**Bible Story**

If you have your Bible, turn with me to Mark 5:21–34. *(Allow time for the kids to find the verses in their Bibles.)*

Last time we met, we talked about Jesus’ birth. It was clear to everyone that Jesus was a special baby, but the Bible doesn’t record that He did any miracles until He was thirty years old. This was when Jesus started His public ministry. He traveled around the region, chose disciples to be His closest followers, taught the people, and healed the sick.

Jesus quickly became popular, and crowds would follow Him wherever He went. People knew Jesus was special, and they were amazed by the things He said and the miracles He did.

Let’s read to find out what Jesus was doing at the start of our story today.

• *Read Mark 5:21–24*.

Stop there for a moment. It’s important to see what Jesus was doing at this point in the story. What was Jesus already doing? *(Group response)* Jesus was already on His way to perform a miracle—healing Jairus’s daughter. There was a large crowd gathered around Him. Do you think there might have been other people in that crowd who also needed a miracle? *(Allow responses.)*

There definitely was! In fact, we are going to focus on another person who needed a miracle in today’s Bible story. Let’s keep reading to see who this other person was and what happened next.

• *Read Mark 5:25–29.*

Jesus was on His way to heal an important person’s daughter. The woman could have thought, *“He is already going to heal that girl. Why would He heal me?”* Many doctors had tried to help her for twelve years. She had spent all of her money, but she only got worse. Everything had failed. The woman was stuck in an impossible situation, and Jesus was her last hope.

• *Hold up the biblical-style robe or fabric*.

Imagine how she must have been feeling. She had struggled with this disease for years. She had found no solution for her problem, but then she heard about Jesus and all the miracles He had done. She knew that He could do the impossible and that even just touching His clothes would heal her.

So that is exactly what she set out to do. She fought through the crowd and squeezed past people to get close enough to Jesus to reach out and touch His robe. All it took was touching Jesus’ robe, and she was healed immediately. But that’s not the end of the story. Do you think Jesus noticed that He had just healed someone? *(Group response)* Let’s find out what happened next.

• *Read Mark 5:30.*

Jesus was surrounded by a large crowd. Many people were probably pushing around Him, and yet He noticed that someone had touched Him and received her miracle. The disciples wondered why Jesus asked about who had touched His robe, but Jesus kept looking.

The Bible tells us that the woman was frightened and trembling as she fell at Jesus’ feet and told Him what she had done. How do you think Jesus responded? *(Group response)* Let’s read what Jesus said to the woman.

• *Read Mark 5:34*.

Why did Jesus keep on looking for the person He had just healed? *(Allow responses.)* It may have been that He wanted to confirm and reassure her that she had been healed because of her faith. She believed that Jesus could do the impossible, and He did. Those are some powerful words from Jesus, “Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

**Teaching Time**

Twelve years of suffering for that woman were over because she had the faith to reach out to Jesus. She spent twelve years of her life searching for her healing in other places, but no one else could help her. We sometimes do the same thing. We turn everywhere else and to anyone else with our problems, and at times, it doesn’t solve anything. Our problems might even get worse. It’s sad when we turn to God in prayer as a last resort instead of our first reaction.

If we believe that our God is the God of the impossible, why would we ever turn to anyone else first? God cares about us more than anyone else could. It may or may not be God’s plan for your problems to be fixed or removed immediately like the woman who was healed that day. But we need to do our part by bringing our problems and needs to God and trusting Him to do His part by healing us or helping us with our problem.

**Faith Verse**

That’s why our Faith Verse is so important to remember. Jesus is the only way to know God, not just one of the ways. Let’s say the verse and do the actions together.

• *Play* ***Faith Verse Video****.*

A person standing in a room

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

John 14:6 (NLT)

Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

We can spend twelve years or our whole lives searching for the way, but Jesus will always be there waiting for us to reach out to Him.

**Prayer and Response**

*Consider playing a worship song softly in the background while kids pray*.

Let’s take some time right now to bring our impossible situations to God in prayer. Maybe it’s something small that you didn’t want to bother God with. God always wants to hear about our problems and to help us no matter what. Maybe it’s something big, so big that you thought it was impossible for God to help you. Remember, God is the God of the impossible. There is nothing too small or too big for Him to handle.

• *Give kids time to pray. Then introduce the worship song. This could play in the background while kids pray or could be a worship song to sing together*.

**Worship Song**

*Play a worship song*.

**Video Wrap-Up**

Before we go to our small group activities, let’s see how the Challenge Accepted team’s challenge worked out.

• *Play* ***Bible Lesson Video B***.

A group of men sitting at a table

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Let’s all accept the challenge that Dash gave us! Write on a golf ball or a piece of paper something that would be impossible for people to do but easy for God. That might help you remember today’s Faith Fact.

• *Show the* ***Faith Fact Slide***.



Say it with me. **Nothing is impossible for God**. I’m so glad that we serve the God of the impossible. Thanks for joining us today.

• *Dismiss kids to Small Group time or to go home if your group time ends here*.

**Small Group**

**30 Minutes**

*This section can be done in conjunction with the large group or on its own if you do small groups with your kids. During Small Group time, the goal is to connect the kids with the Word of God and to each other. All activities are led by the small group leader.*

**Group Connection**

**Color Changing Water Bottles**

|  |
| --- |
| ***You Will Need***   * *Bottles of water, one per kid* * *Food coloring, various colors* * *Baking soda, one box per group* * *½ teaspoon measuring spoon, one per group* * *Funnel, one per group*   ***Getting Ready***   * *Pour a couple of ounces of water out of each water bottle before the kids arrive.* |

We are going to make color changing water bottles today! It seems impossible, but with a little baking soda, we can make it work. While baking soda can make the colors change, God’s power can literally make anything happen that He chooses.

• *Hand out the bottles of water to the kids*.

• *Allow them to choose the color of food coloring they want to add to the water*.

• *Have the leaders help the kids add the food coloring to their bottles*.

• *Have the kids close their bottles and shake them to mix the color in*.

Do you think the water can ever be clear again? *(Group response)* It might seem impossible, but there is a way.

• *Have the leaders help the kids add about ½ teaspoon of baking soda into their water bottles*.

• *Have the kids close their water bottles and gently shake them to mix the baking soda in. The water should turn completely clear again in seconds*.

• *DO NOT allow kids to drink the water*.

• *Optional: Allow the kids to do this several times with different colors*.

**Bible Lesson Recap**

|  |
| --- |
| ***You Will Need***   * *Bible, one per kid*   *No prep needed for this activity.* |

**Bible Story Review:** **Mark 5:21–34**

Our Bible story is a great example of the incredible miracles Jesus did while He was on earth. Jesus was and is God. Everything He said and did confirmed that He is God. Our God is the God of the impossible. If you don’t believe that statement yet, then I hope you will be convinced after hearing about Jesus’ miracles today. Let’s read about it together.

• *Divide the Bible reading into smaller chunks for volunteers to read aloud*.

What is one thing that you remember about our Bible story?

**Faith Fact**

Today’s Bible story is an incredible reminder of today’s Faith Fact.

• *Show the* ***Faith Fact Slide***.



Say it with me: **Nothing is impossible for God**.

**Group Discussion**

*Feel free to use all or just a few questions as a jumping-off place for good discussion. Questions marked with \* are designed for more conversation. Adjust the questions based on the age or maturity of your group. Typically, older kids will be able to dive a little deeper than younger ones*.

**Questions**

What is something you think is impossible?

\* What is something that seems impossible, but still can happen?

How was the woman in our Bible story healed?

What is something that people thought was impossible, but Jesus proved them wrong?

What are some of your favorite Bible stories that show how God does the impossible?

\* What is something you never thought you could do, but you proved yourself wrong?

\* Why do you think people have a hard time believing in miracles?

\* Do you believe God can still do miracles today? Why or why not?

\* Is it hard for you to understand or accept that God doesn’t heal everyone?

\* What is something impossible you need to ask God for?

\* What is something you could ask God for healing for?

**Application and Response**

Today’s Bible story is just one of many examples in the Bible of our God being the God of the impossible. Why do you think God gave us so many examples of Him doing the impossible? *(Allow responses.)* God knows that we sometimes struggle with believing in Him. He wanted to give us reminders of why we should put our faith in Him to do the impossible in our lives as well. Do you remember our Faith Fact today?

• *Show the* ***Faith Fact Slide***.



Let’s say it together: **Nothing is impossible for God**.

**Make It a Habit**

*Select a simple visual reminder of the session’s Faith Fact*.

Take a few minutes each day this week to go outside and spend some alone time with God. You can do this in your backyard, swimming in a pool, riding your bike, at the park, or anywhere. While you are outside, close your eyes for a few seconds and feel the wind all around you. Then, open your eyes.

The wind helps us feel the air we breathe. That is why the wind is such a great reminder that even though we can’t see something, it can still be there. You may not see God or see Him working in your life, but He is always there and is always working. Trust that God will be with you and that He can do the impossible.

**Prayer**

Let’s pray and ask God to help us. Repeat this prayer after me.

|  |
| --- |
| Dear God, thank You for all that You have done and are still going to do. Thank You that You are the God of the impossible. Help me to have faith that You are always working in my life. Amen. |

**Faith Verse Review**

|  |
| --- |
| ***You Will Need***   * ***Small Group Faith Verse Review****, two sets per group* * *Scissors* * *Blindfolds, one per team*   ***Getting Ready***   * *Print copies of the* ***Small Group Faith Verse Review****, two sets per group. Cut apart the verse segments.* |

Our Faith Verse for today is John 14:6. It reminds us that Jesus is the only way to God. We can stop looking at other people for our miracles. God is the only one who can help us. Let’s say the Faith Verse and do the actions together.

• *Show the* ***Faith Verse Slide***.



John 14:6 (NLT)

Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.”

**Faith Verse Fun**

**Blind Verse Challenge**

Who thinks they know our Faith Verse? *(Group response)* Who thinks they could put the verse on paper slips in order while wearing a blindfold? *(Group response)* No one? Well, I have good news. You will have a team to help you out. We’re going to divide into two teams. Each team will choose one kid to be blindfolded. Everyone else on the team will give instructions to the kid who is blindfolded to help them put the verse in order. The first team to get the verse in order wins.

• *Team members cannot touch the blindfolded kid. They can only give verbal instructions*.

• *As time allows, play additional rounds with a different kid blindfolded on each team*.

**Creative Activity**

**Nothing Is Impossible for God**

|  |
| --- |
| ***You Will Need***   * ***Small Group Activity Page****, one per kid* * *Crayons, markers, pencils*   ***Getting Ready***   * *Print copies of the* ***Small Group Activity Page****, one per kid.* |

I am so thankful that nothing is impossible for God! Are you? *(Allow response.)* Think of a time when God made the impossible possible. It could be something that He did for you or a story you remember from the Bible. The Bible is filled with moments when God did something that was supposed to be impossible.

Take time now to draw or write about a time when God did something impossible. This could be a time from your life or a story from the Bible.

• *Give kids time to draw or write. Interact with kids while they are working*.

**Prayer**

|  |
| --- |
| Dear God, thank You for loving us when we have our doubts. Help us to trust You with all of our problems no matter how small or big they are. Amen. |

**Faith Fact Recap**

• *Display the* ***Faith Fact Slide*** *as parents are coming into the room*.

• *Maximize the time you have with your kids so that parents see what their kids have learned. Have the kids repeat the Faith Fact and then dismiss them to their parents*.

Don’t forget today’s Faith Fact. Say it with me one more time before we leave.

• *Show the* ***Faith Verse Slide***.



**Nothing is impossible for God**. Take that reminder with you all week.

**Dismissal**

• *Send home the* ***Small Group Activity Page***.

• *Remind parents that there are* ***Family Devotions*** *available on the app to do with their kid*.

• *Tell everyone the date and time for the next session*.