



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to serve Him in big and small ways.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will identify one small way they can commit to helping someone this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Mark 3:1-5, Jesus Heals a Man with a Crippled Hand

MEMORY VERSE:

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

SUMMARY:

Superman saved the world. He also saved a cat stuck in a tree. Little things matter, and God wants us to have hearts that are always willing to lend a hand.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Show us all the little ways we can serve you.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

MEMORY VERSE

"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

"Do everything else for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NirV)

LARGE GROUP:

Divide the room in half. Pick one side to start and have the kids shout the first word, and then the other side shouts the second word, and so on until they finish the verse.

SMALL GROUP:

Play the telephone game with the memory verse.

HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

SKIT

LITTLE THINGS

ITEMS NEEDED:

A lab coat for Dr. Insidious, a lollipop

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2M, 1F

CHARACTERS:

A boy

Jack - A henchman

Dr. Insidious - The bad guy

The kid is on stage licking a lollipop. Jack enters.

JACK: Hey there, kid. Is that a good lollipop?

The kid nods.

JACK: Sure looks good. Have you seen an evil super-villain around here?

The kid shakes his head no.

JACK: That's strange. He said for me to meet him here. I work for Dr. Insidious, and he's trying to take over the world. You see—

Dr. Insidious enters.

DR. I: Jack! Get over here!

JACK: Oh, there he is. Gotta go!

Jack runs over to Dr. Insidious.

DR. I: Jack, were you being nice to that kid?

JACK: Who, that kid? Yeah. I guess so!

SKIT

DR. I: Jack, I am so disappointed in you.

JACK: Why's that?

DR. I: Evil henchmen are not nice to children! They are evil!

JACK: I am evil, boss. I help you with all your evil schemes, I help build your doomsday devices. All the big stuff.

DR. I: Jack, you can't just do the big things. You have to do the little things too!

JACK: I do?

DR. I: Yes you do! Look at the Supreme Diva! She defeats all our evil plans. She defuses bombs, stops planes from crashing, all the big stuff. But you know what else she does? She helps little old ladies cross the street. She saves kittens out of trees. She does the little things, and that is what makes her truly good!

JACK: Oh, I get it. So to be truly evil, we have to be evil in the big things and the little things!

DR. I: Right!

JACK: Okay.

Jack walks over to the kid and steals his lollipop. The kid starts to cry. Jack brings the lollipop to Dr. Insidious.

JACK: How's that?

DR. I: Good job, Jack! Remember, it's the little things, not just the big things, that matter! Now come along and let's blow something up!

Dr. Insidious exits. Jack runs back to the kid and gives him the lollipop.

JACK: Sorry, kid. I promise, I'm not that evil.



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A cup with a scoop of ice cream

Whipped cream

Sprinkles

A cherry

How many of you guys love ice cream? What's your favorite flavor?

I think we can all agree this ice cream would make a nice treat, wouldn't it? Is there any one in here who likes ice cream but wouldn't want to eat this ice cream right here? It's a perfect treat, right?

Well what if I did this?

Spray whipped cream on top.

And this?

Add sprinkles.

And let's not forget this.

Put the cherry on top.

It's still ice cream, but somehow, it's even better, isn't it?

The little things make a difference. Ice cream is great, but ice cream with whipped cream, sprinkles, and a cherry? That's something truly great.

God may have big plans for your life, but He doesn't want you to only focus on the big stuff. God wants us to be about the little things. He wants us to look for the small acts of kindness that can make a big difference to someone. Just like Superman saving a cat out of a tree, God never wants us to miss a chance to show someone love.

Don't focus only on the big things. Ask God to open your eyes and show you how to do the little things.

LARGE GROUP GAME

RICE PICKUP

ITEMS NEEDED:

Rice, uncooked
A bowl
A table

INSTRUCTIONS:

Spread a bag of uncooked rice out on a table. Choose one player for this game. The player has 60 seconds to get every grain of rice scraped off the table into the bowl. If any pieces of rice fall to the floor, they have to pick those up as well and get them in the bowl. If they can get every grain of rice into the bowl before time runs out, they win a prize.

VARIATION:

To make it more challenging, give the player a spoon or spatula to use instead of their hands.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God wants us to be concerned with the little stuff as well as the big stuff.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

God wants us to serve Him in big and small ways.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will identify one small way they can commit to helping someone this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Mark 3:1-5, Jesus Heals a Man with a Crippled Hand

INTRO:

When you think of superheroes, you think of the big things. Take Superman for instance. What kind of things has Superman done? He's saved the world a number of times. He's stopped invasions from outer space. He's defeated super-villains like Lex Luthor and Brainiac and General Zod. He's even flown around the Earth backwards and turned back time!

A hero like Superman can do really great things. He often does. But that's not what makes him super. Superman is super because he's concerned about the little things. He's saved his friend, Lois Lane, many times. He's saved total strangers too. He even saved a cat that was stuck in a tree.

Saving a cat is hardly saving the world, but to the cat, and to the little girl who was so upset her cat was in danger, it might as well have been the world. Superman knows that he can't just focus on the big stuff. If Superman sees someone in need, he's there.

Not everyone would care about the small stuff like Superman. Many people are so focused on the big stuff, they miss out on the small stuff. They consider the small stuff to be beneath them, or a waste of their time. Imagine if Superman was like that. Imagine if he told that little girl, "Sorry about your cat. It's not worthy of my time." How super would he really be?

God doesn't want us to be like that either. He wants us to be super. He wants to use us to do great things, but He also wants us to do the little things. God wants us ready, willing and able to lend a hand any chance He gives us, just like Jesus did in today's story.

READ MARK 3:1-5

LARGE GROUP LESSON

MAIN POINT:

When we talk about the miracles of Jesus, we naturally think of the big ones. We think about turning Water into Wine, or Feeding the 5000, or Calming the Storm, or Raising Lazarus to Life. We know that Jesus healed the blind and the sick and the disabled, but those aren't the first people we think about. They were little miracles, and while they are still amazing, they don't capture our imagination like the big stuff.

If the man with the crippled hand were here, he would disagree. To him, having the healing hand of Jesus touch him was the greatest moment of his life.

Little things matter. They matter to the people we help. They matter to God. God wants us to be willing to lend a hand and show some love at every opportunity.

DRIVE IT HOME:

Doing the little things isn't always easy. Sometimes we can miss the little things because we are so busy. We're focused on working on our big project, and we don't notice the classmate with their head on the table who is having a bad day.

It isn't always convenient to pause what we're doing and ask if someone's okay, but that's exactly what God wants us to do. He wants us to be willing to take a chance and take a moment to reach out and love that person in need. It may take some effort, or it may not take any effort at all, but it could mean the world to someone who is hurting.

Another reason people miss the chance to do the little things is because they're too busy doing other things. The religious leaders who sneered at Jesus for healing on the Sabbath would not have helped the man because they were too concerned with their own little rules. Healing someone was considered work, and work was forbidden on the Sabbath. That's not exactly a super attitude.

Jesus didn't care about their rules. He cared about people. He cared enough to endure the criticism of the religious leaders and heal a man in need. It doesn't get much more super than that.

Jesus can show us how to be super too. He can open our eyes so we see the little things, even while we work on big things. He will give us compassion for all people and the patience to stop and do those little things that we feel too busy to do.

Ask Jesus to show you how to do the little things. Pray for eyes to see and ears to hear. Be super by being super in the small stuff.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Show us all the little ways we can serve You. In Jesus' name, Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, would you hide your secret identity?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Play the telephone game with the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Take the kids on a quick trip through the halls (if possible) or around the room. Look for trash that needs picked up or other small stuff that needs to be done, and lend a hand as a group.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Mark 3:1-5

What was wrong with the man who needed healing?

What did Jesus say to the religious leaders who were watching Him?

What did Jesus do for the man with the bad hand?

Why is it so important to do the little things?

What is one little thing that you can do for someone this week?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Use us to do the little things that matter to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

If you were a superhero, would you hide your secret identity?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

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SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Mark 3:1-5

What did Jesus say to the religious leaders who were watching Him?

Why did Jesus heal the man on the Sabbath?

Why is it so important to do the little things?

What are some reasons that people do not do the little things?

What is one little thing that you can do for someone this week?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Use us to do the little things that matter to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

FILL IN THE BLANK

1. A man with a shriveled _____ was in church on the Sabbath.
HAND
2. _____ asked the man to stand up in front of everyone.
JESUS
3. Jesus asked the leaders if it was okay to _____ on the Sabbath day.
HEAL
4. Jesus told the man to _____ his hand.
STRETCH OUT
5. God wants us to do the _____ things as well as the big ones.
LITTLE

MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: DO THE SMALL STUFF



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Superman saved the world. He also saved a cat stuck in a tree. Little things matter, and God wants us to have hearts that are always willing to lend a hand. Mark 3:1-5, Jesus Heals a Man with a Crippled Hand.



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Look for some little things to do this week. Can you donate some money? Lend a hand? Where do you see chances for God to use you and your kids?



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What big miracles did Jesus perform?
- Why did Jesus take the time to do "small" miracles like healing a man's hand?
- What are some little things we can do to bless others?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

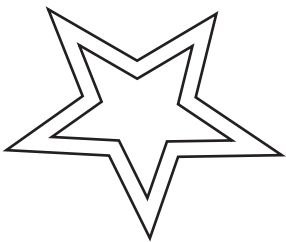
"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)



PARENT TIME:

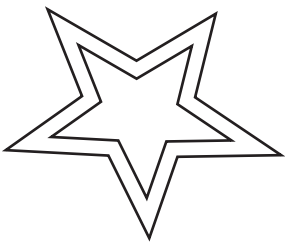
What you need to know:

Being a Christian means looking for all opportunities, big and little, to serve God and others. Ask God to open the eyes of you and your kids to seize those moments and do the little stuff.



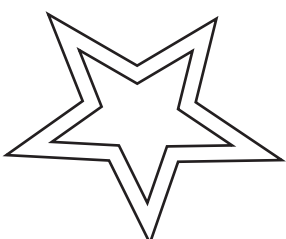
"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)



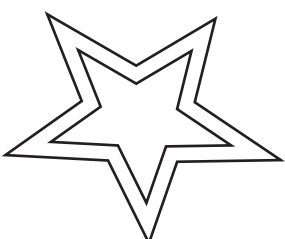
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"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

- 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)

HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids cut out masks with “super-sight” powers. Cut the masks from card stock or construction paper, and fasten them with string. Tell the kids to use these to look for opportunities to do the small stuff and help others.