



SESSION FOUR

JESUS HEALS A YOUNG GIRL

BIG IDEA

Even when things seem

HOPELESS — JESUS WILL COME

PREP *(Kids can help!)*

- Cut out pictures of faces with different expressions (from the appendix)
- Set up an obstacle course (outside is fun if the weather permits) using objects that must be climbed over, jumped on or crawled under
- Find two or three different coloured felt pens
- Some favourite breakfast cereal or pancakes to finish with (optional)

WHAT GOES IN THE BOX?

- Picture cut outs
- Felt tip pens



INTRO

Remember how we have been talking about people recognising Jesus as the Messiah – God’s promised Saviour – because of the amazing signs that he did? What are some of the signs from the miracles we have talked about that show we can always call on Jesus even if things seem hopeless? (He had power over the waves and wind, healed people’s bodies and turned water into wine.)

GAME

- Draw a few freckles on each of the children’s noses with the felt pens (use a different colour for each child).
- Set up your obstacle race – using chairs, cushions, through dad’s legs, over the couch etc. – either inside or outside. Choose the child with blue freckles to go first.
- Time each child, then let them have a second turn to see if they can beat their own time.

Questions

- Tell me what have we just done? (run an obstacle course.)
- What were the obstacles? (chairs, cushions etc.)
- How would you describe an ‘obstacle’?

Sometimes life can feel full of obstacles. Sometimes everything seems to go wrong, and we want to give up.

- Can you think of some of the obstacles that we face?

e.g. at school or in a game people are mean; we fail at something; we don't get picked for something; we get laughed at; we don't get what we wanted...

These sorts of obstacles can make us feel like giving up. But Jesus sees things differently. He wants us to not give up but ask him to help us, even when we feel terrible.

Today we are going to read about a man who kept on asking Jesus for help even though others thought he should give up.

READ

- Take out the different face pictures from the Faith Box.
- Get the children to suggest what each face is telling them (what emotion it shows).

There are lots of emotions in this story. Try to listen for the different emotions as the story is read and when I pause, I want you to point to the face you think shows that emotion.

“Jairus’ little girl hadn’t been able to get out of bed for a whole month. She was very sick and no one knew how to make her better.

Jairus her Dad was desperate (pause) so he went looking for Jesus in the temple...

“Jesus!” he said, falling at Jesus’ feet, “My daughter,” he pleaded. “Please – ” (pause)



But he didn't need to beg because, before he'd even finished speaking, Jesus reached out his hand and helped him up. "I'll come at once," Jesus said.

Jairus' eyes filled with tears. (pause) Jesus was coming. It would be all right. In those days they didn't have ambulances so they had to go by foot. Jesus' helpers knew that he would heal the sick girl – but they must hurry. If Jesus didn't get there soon, it would be too late.

But everyone was in the way hustling and bustling. Jostling and pressing. Pushing and shoving. Squishing and squashing. The disciples ran ahead, forcing back the crowd. (pause)

Just then Jairus' servant rushed up to Jairus. "It's too late," he said breathlessly. "Your daughter is dead." (pause)

Jesus turned to Jairus. "It's not too late," Jesus said. "Trust me."

At Jairus' house, everyone was crying. But Jesus said, "I'm going to wake her up." Everyone laughed at him because they knew she was dead. (pause)

Jesus walked into the little girl's bedroom. And there, lying in the corner, in the shadows, was the still little figure. Jesus sat on the bed and took her pale hand.

"Honey," he said, "it's time to get up." And he reached down into death and gently brought the little girl back to life. ●●●

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The little girl woke up, rubbed her eyes as if she'd just had a good night's sleep, and leapt out of bed. (pause)

Jesus threw open the shutters and sunlight flooded the dark room. "Hungry?" Jesus asked. She nodded.

Jesus called to her family, "Bring this little girl some breakfast!" (pause)

Jesus helped and healed many people, like this. He made blind people see. He made deaf people hear. He made lame people walk.

Jesus was making the sad things come untrue.

He was mending God's broken world. (pause) ”

Luke 8:40-56; The Jesus Storybook Bible, Sally Lloyd-Jones, Zonderkidz

FAMILY TALK TIME

Jairus was an important man. He had lots of money and people looked up to him.

- **But even he had a bad thing happen to him – what was it?**
- **Who do you think Jairus would have already asked for help? (E.g. wise friends, a doctor)**
- **When Jairus decided to ask Jesus for help, what happened? (While Jairus was waiting for Jesus, his daughter died.)**
- **What did Jairus' friends think he should do then? (Give up and go home as it was too late for Jesus to help now.)**
- **Did Jesus let the obstacles stop him from coming? (He said it would be OK and that she was only asleep, even though the crowd of people laughed at him.)**

- **How did it end? (Jesus went to her and told her to wake up – and she did!)**
- **Sometimes asking for help is hard.**

Listen to these situations and if you think you would need to ask for help, hold your thumbs up, and if you think you wouldn't ask for help, hold your thumbs down:

- You are stuck with your homework
- There is no toilet paper left
- You spilt something
- You think your friend is worried about something
- You can't decide which ice cream flavour to choose
- You are scared about something
- You are lost
- You can't find the remote control
- You can't see the blackboard from where your desk is
- Someone is being really mean to you

Now go back over these situations and, if you would have asked for help, talk about who would be able to help you, and how you would ask them to help you.

Sometimes we need to do things for ourselves, but lots of times we need to ask for help from our parents, from a teacher, from friends, from God or even from a stranger – such as a shop assistant if we are lost.



“THE BENEFITS CAN BE GREAT IF YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO ASK FOR HELP.
HUMAN BEINGS ARE NOT DESIGNED TO GO THROUGH LIFE ALONE.”

- JACK CANFIELD -

GAME

Doctor, doctor - help, help!

- Ask one person (the “doctor”) to leave the room. Everyone else stands in a circle shoulder to shoulder, closes their eyes, then holds out their arms anywhere in the circle and grabs hands. (You will end up with each hand holding one other hand, and all the hands tangled in the middle.) When you are all tangled up, call “Doctor, doctor, - help, help!” - the signal for the “doctor” to return.
- The doctor must then try to untangle the circle of hands by moving people as they think best (without anyone letting go hands).

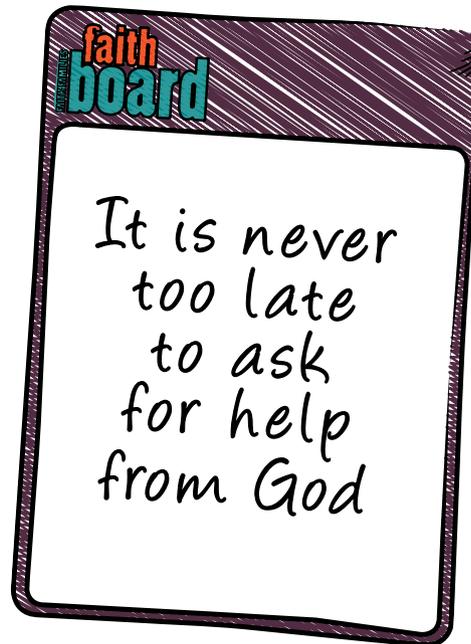
Whatever the situation, remember that God is there with us and wants us to keep asking for help.

PRAY

Turn the picture faces upside down and let everyone pick a face. Have a look at the face you have picked and make up a simple prayer that asks God to help someone who is feeling that emotion. Take turns sharing your prayers.

LIVE

This week take time to recognise when family members ask for help, or are asked for help. Remind the children, when appropriate, that we are being like Jairus and Jesus when we help one another.



OTHER IDEAS

- Play a game such as Jenga, or simply build block towers (or card towers with older children) to practice perseverance and patience.
- Play a game with the face emotion cards:

Shuffle the cards and put them face down. The first player picks a card and doesn't show it to anyone, then tries to show the facial emotion on the card. The other players have to guess the emotion.

- There is a quiz on this story at the following website - www.funtrivia.com/trivia-quiz/Religion/Jesus-Raises-JairusDaughter-Fromthe-Dead-327882.html

**CHECK OUT WHAT YOU
NEED FOR NEXT SESSION...**



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