

TEACHER BIBLE STUDY

Jesus Drove Out Evil Spirits

Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

During His ministry, Jesus demonstrated His power and authority through miracles. Among Jesus' healing miracles, Jesus drove out demons, or unclean spirits. Demons are evil angels—created, spiritual beings—who sinned against God. The Bible identifies Satan as the head of the demons. (See Job 1:6.)

Demons are enemies of God. They oppose God's work and try to turn people away from God and the gospel. When Jesus was preaching at the synagogue in Capernaum, an unclean spirit began to shout through a man. Jesus commanded the spirit to be quiet, and He drove the demon away.

Jesus' power over demons marked the launch of God's kingdom. When Jesus cast a demon out of a man who was blind and mute, He said, "If I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you" (Matt. 12:28).

Still today, demons try all sorts of strategies to keep believers from being effective witnesses for Christ, including doubt, temptation, pride, guilt, and fear. But we do not need to fear demons because Jesus gives believers authority over them. In the New Testament, Jesus gave His disciples authority over demons, and the demons submitted to them when they commanded them in Christ's name. (See Luke 9:1; 10:17,19; Acts 8:7; 16:18.)

Jesus said that Satan is "the father of lies" (John 8:44), and he is the accuser (Rev. 12:10). Satan's goal is to turn people away from God. When Satan accuses us as guilty before the Judge, he is right; our sin makes us guilty. But he leaves out the gospel: Jesus died for our sin. He took the punishment we deserve.

When Jesus died on the cross, He defeated Satan. (See Heb. 2:14-15.) One day Satan will be cast out forever. (Rev. 20:10)

YOUNGER KIDS BIBLE STUDY OVERVIEW

Session Title: Jesus Drove Out Evil Spirits

Bible Passage: Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Big Picture Question: What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Key Passage: John 20:30-31

Unit Christ Connection: Jesus' miracles demonstrated His divine authority.

Small Group Time

Welcome time
Activity page (5 minutes)
Session starter (10 minutes)
Key passage activity (5 minutes)

Bible story review (10 minutes)
Activity choice (10 minutes)
Journal (5 minutes)
Prayer (5 minutes)

THE BIBLE STORY

Jesus Drove Out Evil Spirits

Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Jesus was an adult when His ministry began. The people who saw Jesus and heard Him talk did not know right away who He was. They did not realize that He was the Messiah God had promised. They did not know that Jesus had come to save people from sin. Jesus spent three years performing miracles and teaching people about God and His kingdom.

One day, Jesus and His followers went to Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm). Capernaum was a town in Galilee, near the sea. On the Sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue. The Sabbath was a special day when the Jews rested from their work and worshiped God. They went to the synagogue to learn about God's laws.

That day, Jesus began teaching the people in the synagogue. Everyone was amazed! They had heard other men teach about the law before, but Jesus was not like the other men. He taught with authority, like He really knew what He was talking about.

All of a sudden, a man started shouting. Something was wrong with him; he was not himself. **The man had an evil spirit inside him,** and the spirit was from the Devil.

"What do You want with us, Jesus of Nazareth?" The man shouted, but it was the evil spirit inside of him that was talking. "Did You come here to destroy us? I know who You are; You are the Holy One of God!"

Jesus warned the evil spirit to stop. **"Be quiet, and come out of him!" Jesus commanded. The evil spirit** caused the man to fall to the ground, and the man started shaking. Then he shouted, and the spirit **came out. The man was not hurt.**

Everyone who saw what had happened was amazed. They began asking each other questions, like "What's going on?" **They had never seen someone like Jesus before.** The people knew Jesus was different because when He commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man, the spirit obeyed Him.

The news about Jesus spread quickly. People started talking about Him and what He had said and done. Soon many people in Galilee had heard about Him.

Christ Connection: Jesus is the King who has come to make all things right. By commanding the evil spirit to come out of the man, Jesus showed He has power over all our enemies. One day Jesus will take away Satan, sin, and death once and for all.

SMALL GROUP OPENING

Session Title: Jesus Drove Out Evil Spirits

Bible Passage: Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Big Picture Question: What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Key Passage: John 20:30-31

Unit Christ Connection: Jesus' miracles demonstrated His divine authority.

Welcome time:

Arriving Activity: Good versus bad

- large sheet of paper
- markers
- tape

Tape a large sheet of paper on the wall. Create two columns. Label the first column *Good*. Label the second column *Bad*. As the kids arrive, invite them to write things they think are good in the *Good* column and things they think are bad in the *Bad* column. Younger kids may draw pictures of what they think is good or bad.

Say • There is both good and bad in the world. Another word for bad is *evil*. Today we will find out what happened when Jesus faced evil.

Activity page (5 minutes)

- "Counting Code" activity page, 1 per kid
- pencils

Guide boys and girls to complete the activity page.

Say • Jesus has many names. *Holy One* is a name Jesus was called in today's Bible story. We will find out who called Jesus the Holy One of God.

Session starter (10 minutes)

Option 1: Perfectly quiet

Invite the kids to move around the room. Give them commands like jump, skip, jog in place, and so forth. Explain that the kids are welcome to talk, sing, or make any noise they want, but when you say “quiet,” the kids must immediately stop every noise. If they make any noise, whether by speaking or moving, they must sit out the next few rounds. Invite the remaining kids to resume what they were doing. Continue playing as time allows.

Say • How many times in a day does someone tell you to be quiet? Have you ever asked someone who was interrupting you to be quiet? In today’s Bible story, Jesus was interrupted by someone speaking out of turn. We’ll find out what He did.

Option 2: Who’s talking?

Invite one kid to the front of the room. Instruct the volunteer to face away from the kids. Silently choose a kid to announce his birthday and favorite color. The volunteer at the front of the room should turn around and guess who was speaking. Choose another volunteer and play again. Continue as time allows.

Say • In today’s Bible story, a man interrupted Jesus as He taught. Jesus knew right away who was speaking. We’ll find out why this interruption was so important.

SMALL GROUP LEADER

Session Title: Jesus Drove Out Evil Spirits

Bible Passage: Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Big Picture Question: What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Key Passage: John 20:30-31

Unit Christ Connection: Jesus’ miracles demonstrated His divine authority.

Key passage activity (5 minutes)

- Key Passage Slide or Poster
- dry erase board and markers (optional)
- poster board, 1 per group
- markers

Make sure the key passage, John 20:30-31, is visible for each child, either as the printed poster or written on a dry erase board. Read the verses together.

Say • Jesus' driving out the evil spirit was another miracle that proved Jesus is the Son of God, the promised Messiah. Let's see if we can learn these verses together.

Form two or more groups. Give each group a piece of poster board and a marker. Invite each group to form a circle. Choose a volunteer in each group to write the first word of the key passage. She must then pass the marker to the kid to her left, who will write the second word. Continue until kids complete the verses. The first group to finish the key passage correctly wins. The kids may work as a group. If a kid struggles, the other kids may help.

If you have kids who struggle to write, read the verses several times. Then choose a kid or an adult helper to write for each group. The other kids in the group must then say the first word, followed by the second word, and so forth, while the volunteer or adult helper writes the words.

Bible story review (10 minutes)

- Bibles, 1 per kid
- Small Group Visual Pack
- Big Picture Question Slide or Poster

Encourage the kids to find Mark 1:21-28 in their Bibles. Help them as needed.

Say • This Bible story is in two books of the Bible. Does anyone know which two? (*Mark, Luke*) The Book of Mark and the Book of Luke are part of which division of the Bible? (*Gospels*)

Use the small group visual pack to show kids where today's Bible story is on the timeline. Review the Bible story provided using the bolded text, or summarize the story in your own words. Then read the following statements. Invite the kids to determine if the event happened before or after. If they believe the event happened before, they should sit facing the leader. If they believe it happened after, they should face away from the leader.

- Jesus began teaching _____ the evil spirit interrupted Him. (*before; Mark 1:21,23*)
- The evil spirit called Jesus the Holy One of God _____ Jesus told him to be quiet. (*before, Mark 1:24-25*)
- The evil spirit left the man _____ Jesus told it to come out of the man. (*after, Mark 1:25-26*)
- The people were amazed at Jesus _____ the evil spirit left the man. (*before and after; Mark 1:22,27*)
- The people told others what they had seen _____ Jesus performed this miracle. (*after, Mark 1:28*)

Say • Jesus proved that He has power over evil. We still face evil today, but Jesus has power over every enemy we face. Show the big picture question slide or poster. **Say** • ***What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.***

Activity choice (10 minutes)

Option 1: Balloon bust Bible blast

- balloons, 9
- small pieces of paper, 9
- Bibles, 1 per group
- markers

Write each Scripture reference below on a small piece of paper and place each piece of paper in a balloon. Then fully inflate three of the balloons. Inflate three of the balloons about 75 percent and the other three balloons about 50 percent. Form three groups. Give each group a fully inflated balloon and a Bible. Each group must bust the balloon by stomping or sitting on it and then find the Scripture reference in the Bible. The first group to find the Scripture reference wins. Let someone from each group read the verse. Repeat with the medium balloons and then the smallest balloons. As the balloons get smaller, the game becomes more difficult. Here are the verse references:

- Psalm 37:39
- Joshua 1:5
- 2 Thessalonians 3:3
- 2 Timothy 4:18
- 2 Chronicles 16:9
- Psalm 18:2
- Romans 8:31
- Genesis 12:3
- Isaiah 40:29

Say • These verses explain that God has control—even over our enemies. The evil spirit was scared of Jesus because of who Jesus is. ***What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.***

Option 2: Door hanger

- green and red construction paper, 1 half sheet per kid
- glue
- hole punch
- string or ribbon
- markers
- scissors
- stickers (optional)
- beads (optional)

Cut green and red pieces of construction paper in half. Give each kid a half sheet of each color. Invite the kids to glue the two pieces back to back. On the green side, encourage the kids to write *Come In!* On the red side, they should write *Quiet, please! I'm studying!* Punch a hole in the top corners of the sign and run a string or ribbon through the holes. Allow kids time to decorate the signs with markers or stickers. They may also thread the string or ribbon with beads.

Say • Jesus was teaching about God when the man with the evil spirit interrupted Him. The evil spirit knew who Jesus is. ***What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.*** We should all study about God too. This door hanger will help keep interruptions away while you study God's Word.

Journal and prayer (5 minutes)

- Journal Page, 1 per kid
- markers or crayons
- Bible Story Coloring Page

Distribute each child's journal page provided with this session. Instruct the kids to draw a picture of Jesus teaching in the synagogue. Writers can write a day with a time that they will set aside each week to study God's Word.

Say • Let's answer our big picture question one more time. ***What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.***

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the coloring page provided with this session. Pray, thanking God for protecting us from our enemies. Pray for each child by name, asking God to help the kids trust Him in good and bad times.

Dismiss to parents – Make sure to check security tags when dismissing children.



**Jesus performed many other 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 Messiah,
the Son of God, and that
by believing you may have life
in his name.**

John 20:30-31



What did the evil spirit know about Jesus?

Jesus is the Holy One of God.



Counting Code

Instructions: Count each of the sports balls. Use the key to match the number you counted with a letter. Place the letter above the matching ball in the blank provided.

5=L

7=Y

8=N

11=O

14=E

18=H





Jesus Performed Miracles

Each family member should share something bad that has happened to him or her. Then, he or she must share something good that came from what happened. Discuss how God is always in control over good and evil. List one or more of the stories below.

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Mark 1:21-28; Luke 4:31-37

Preschool

Key Passage: John 20:30-31

Big Picture Question: How could Jesus make evil spirits go away? Jesus is more powerful than all evil.

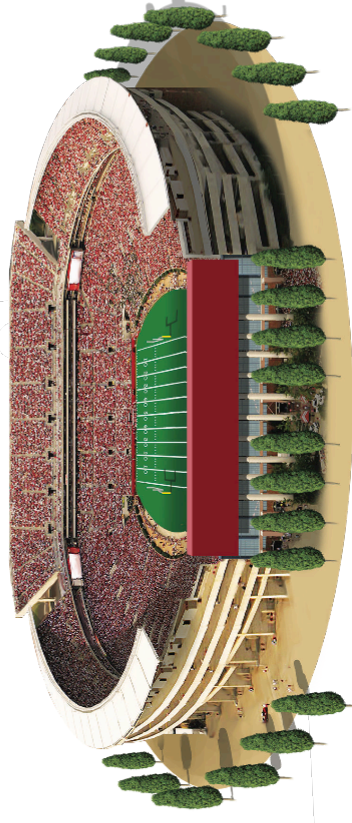
Christ Connection: *Jesus made evil spirits go away because He is more powerful than evil. One day, Jesus will come back and make all bad things go away forever.*

Kids

Key Passage: John 20:30-31

Big Picture Question: What did the evil spirit know about Jesus? Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Christ Connection: *Jesus is the King who has come to make all things right. By commanding the evil spirit to come out of the man, Jesus showed He has power over all our enemies. One day Jesus will take away Satan, sin, and death once and for all.*



the **GOSPEL**

GOD'S PLAN FOR ME

gos·pel – *noun*. good news. the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation.



GOD RULES.

The Bible tells us God created everything, including you and me, and He is in charge of everything. *Genesis 1:1; Revelation 4:11; Colossians 1:16-17*



WE SINNED.

We all choose to disobey God. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. *Romans 3:23; 6:23*



GOD PROVIDED.

God sent Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. *John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9*



JESUS GIVES.

He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! *Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; Ephesians 2:8-9*



WE RESPOND.

Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus. *John 14:6; Romans 10:9-10, 13*

ALLERGY ALERT



Today we will be tasting/
touching/sniffing:

Please notify the leader
if your child should not
participate.

Instructions: Print this poster. You may laminate it and reuse it throughout the quarter. Use a dry erase marker to fill in the necessary information. Display the poster where parents and kids can see it before class.