

## THE CONTINUING ACTS OF THE CHRIST



### Week Four - Prophetic Power

#### **A Note to the Parents/Teachers**

*The story of God healing a lame man through Peter and John seems so out of reach from our reality. But it's showing us the reality that God's Spirit is bringing restoration and wholeness to all areas of life. He is forming a community, filling them with His presence and power, overcoming societal injustices, and even restoring broken bodies to the glory of God.*

- **Big Idea:** God is bringing restoration to every area of life through the power of Jesus

#### **Starter**

- **Evidences of Grace**

Ask kids to share ways they've seen God at work lately. Anything, big or small, which is good is from God. Take time to thank God together.

- **Paralympics**

Play a game of volleyball or soccer in a sitting position. Kids cannot stand up or use their legs at all.

After a few minutes, tell them that God once promised there would be a day He would come to save His people and on that day *"The lame will leap like deer."* (Isaiah 35:6) Have them get up and jump around!

#### **Sing Together**

### Story - from Acts 3:1-26

One day, Peter and John were on their way into the Temple for prayer. There was a man crippled from birth there. Every day he was carried to the Temple gate, named 'Beautiful'. Often times, crippled weren't allowed in the temple because they were seen as unclean. So he begged for help outside. When he saw Peter and John about to enter the Temple, he asked for some money. Peter, with John at his side, looked him straight in the eye and said, "Look at me." He looked up, expecting to get something.

Peter said, *"I don't have money, but what I do have, I give you: In the name of King Jesus from Nazareth, walk!"* He grabbed him by the right hand and pulled him up. In an instant his feet and ankles became firm, he jumped to his feet, and walked!

The man went into the Temple with them, walking back and forth, dancing and praising God. Everybody there saw him walking around and praising God. They recognized him as the one who sat begging at the gate and rubbed their eyes, astonished. The man threw his arms around Peter and John, ecstatic. All the people ran up to see it for themselves.

When Peter saw he had a crowd, he addressed the people:

*"Why are you surprised by this miracle? This wasn't done by our power, but by the God of our ancestors, through His Son Jesus whom He glorified. You condemned Jesus to death, even after Pilate said he was innocent. You killed the Source of Life — but God raised him from the dead in the power of the Spirit! We are witnesses, we have seen him. Faith in Jesus' powerful name is what set this man back on his feet, healed and whole.*

*"I know you had no idea what you were doing when you had Jesus killed, but God knew exactly what He was doing. He used it for His good to fulfill His plans He told us about long ago through His prophets. Now, change your ways, turn to face God so He can wash away your sins, and you too will receive the power and presence of King Jesus!"*

*"He is out of sight for now, in heaven, until God restores and puts everything in order again. This, too, was promised through the prophets long ago. All things will be made right and God's covenant promise will be sure — for all who turn to Jesus. But any who do not trust him as Messiah will be cut off from God's presence. So trust Jesus!"*

The work of Jesus to restore all of creation back to God was continuing through his Spirit, in his people. He was healing broken bodies, broken relationships, and broken systems. He was making people whole, caring for those unseen, and filling a community with peace and joy. This was done as a preview of what would one day come in fullness when Jesus will return and reunite heaven and earth, where God will live forever with His people!

*[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]*

- What are some things the man would've needed help from friends and family for before he was able to walk?
- How did Peter and John have the power to heal that man?
- Why do you think Jesus allowed Peter and John to call on his power in that moment?
- Do you know of people who need to be healed? Not everyone gets healed when we pray or call on Jesus' name... but one day all who call on his name will be healed completely when Jesus returns! Do you believe this?

### **Breakout Time**

- **Prayer:**

God, we want your healing to come to all of the world, to all of our lives. Help us to call on the name of Jesus so we can be healed. Amen.

- **Craft:**

- Use the activity sheet attached

### **BLESS Activity**

*\*For kids to do during the week\**

*Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.*

This week, focus on the **Bless** rhythm. How can you bless someone in need this week?

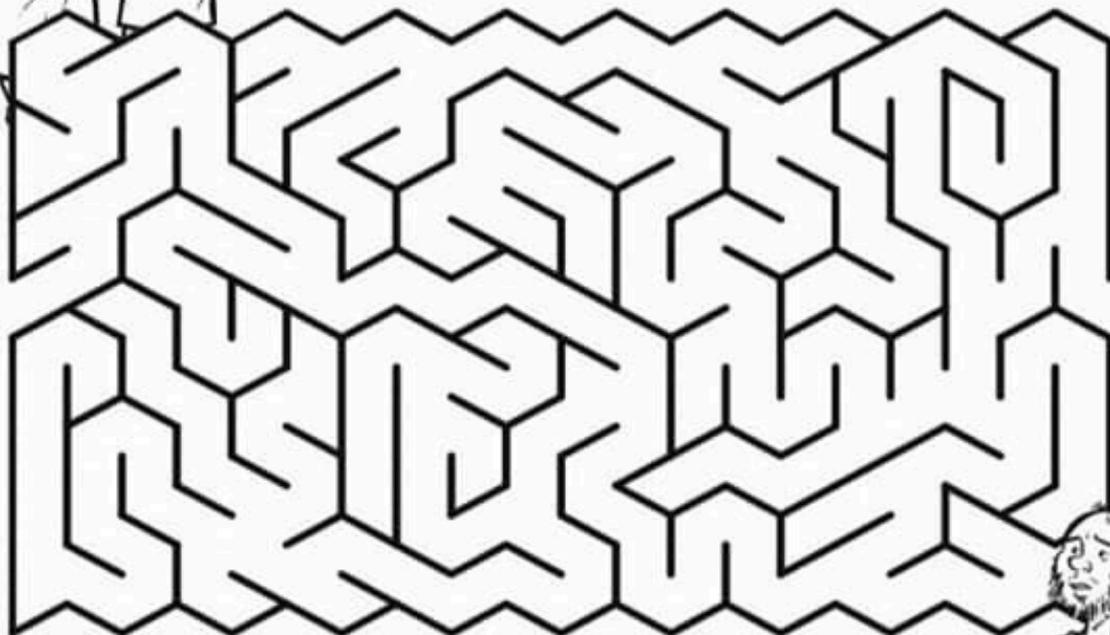
GOLD	SILVER
JOHN	BEGGAR
LAME	HEALING
WALK	APOSTLES
JESUS	CRIPPLED
PETER	BEAUTIFUL

B	W	X	L	A	M	E	H	Z
E	C	R	I	P	P	L	E	D
A	B	A	G	O	L	D	A	P
U	Z	G	Q	S	W	A	L	K
T	O	G	N	L	A	A	I	L
I	R	E	T	E	P	X	N	N
F	W	B	K	S	L	V	G	H
U	P	R	E	V	L	I	S	O
L	Q	J	E	S	U	S	U	J



Help Peter & John reach the lame man.

START



FINISH

