

THE CONTINUING ACTS OF THE CHRIST



Week Five - No Other Name

A Note to the Parents/Teachers

The stories we hear in Acts seem like a completely different world than the one we live in — because in many ways it was! It was a different culture, era, language, etc. But it's the story of the power of God at work in followers of Jesus in contrast to the human rulers of the day. So in that way, this is also our story. Pray for the kids to see Jesus at work and for the Spirit to fill them.

- **Big Idea:** Jesus alone has the power to give us life!

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.

- **What's In A Name?**

Ask the kids if any of them know what their name means. Share the meaning of your name as an example (*you may need to look it up ahead of time*).

Sing Together

Story - from Acts 4:1-12

Peter and John were some of the young men who had followed Jesus for 3 years, learning all he taught, watching him perform miracles, and struggling to believe he was really the Rescuing King of all the world. They especially struggled after they saw him get put to death by Roman soldiers. But when they saw him rise back to life, everything changed! They were no longer afraid of what Rome or the Jewish leaders could do to them, because now they knew Jesus had true power over life and death.

One day they made a trip to the temple and met a man who couldn't walk. He asked them for money, but instead they called on the name of Jesus to heal him — and Jesus did! This brought a lot of attention to Peter and John and a crowd formed around them. So, they started telling people about the power of Jesus.

Unfortunately, this made the Jewish leaders very upset. Didn't they get rid of this Jesus? Hadn't they killed him? Why were people still talking about him having the power? So they challenged Peter and John, *"Who gave you the authority to do all this? Whose power and whose name are you acting by?"*

Then Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and said to them, *"Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:*

If we are being questioned today about a good deed done to a disabled man, then we'll tell you how he was healed. Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus, the Messiah from Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead—by his power this man is standing here before you healthy.

This Jesus is 'the stone rejected by you builders, which has become the cornerstone.'

There is salvation in no one else! For there is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved."

Now think about how your last name identifies what family you are part of. What Peter was saying is that when we are in God's family, identified with what Jesus has done for us on the cross, then we are saved from death. Death can have no power over us because Jesus defeated it when he rose from the grave. So now, all who trust in and follow Jesus may physically die for a time, but will also be raised to new life forever with him! Jesus' name, above all other names, is who we want to be identified with because only his power can save us.

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- How do you think Jesus had the power to come back to life?
- How do you think Jesus had the power to heal the man who couldn't walk? Why do you think he let Peter and John be part of it?
- What does it mean that the power to be saved is in Jesus' name?
- Do you want to be identified with Jesus and experience his power to save you from death?

Breakout Time

- **Prayer:**

God, thank you that we can call on the name of Jesus to find life and salvation. Jesus, save us! Spirit, fill us with your life. Amen.

- **Craft:**

- Use the coloring sheet attached
- OR use a paper plate and sheet of paper to create an empty tomb craft for the resurrection. Cut a plate in half and glue or staple the sides together. Cut a half circle opening in the bottom of one side. Then crumple a paper up into a ball to resemble the stone rolled in front of the tomb. It should look like the image below (minus the Jesus and angel figures).



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 **Speak** rhythm. Who can you share some of the True Story with this week? Try drawing out the symbols for them or just tell them about how Jesus has saved you!

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