



Imagination Station

A Sick Woman Believes Jesus

BIG IDEA: I can believe in Jesus.

BIBLE BASIS: Luke 8:43–48

KEY VERSE: “Anyone who believes in [Jesus] has eternal life.” John 3:36

★ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

REAL MEMORY MATCH

Supplies: “Real or Not Memory Match” cards (1 set)

Directions: Place the memory match cards face down in the middle of the children. Choose a child to go first. Tell them to flip over two cards in an attempt to find a match. If the cards do *not* match, flip them back over. If the cards *do* match, have all of the children jump up and shout, “**I can believe in Jesus!**” Next, ask the children if the picture is of something that is real or NOT real. Remove the matching set of cards from the game. Continue until all of the matches have been found.

Say: Sometimes it’s hard to know if something is real or not real. But there is one thing we can believe—Jesus is absolutely, completely, totally real! In today’s true Bible story, we’re going to hear about a sick woman who believed in Jesus. We’re going to learn that **we can believe in Jesus** too!

Question: If you could make up a pretend creature, what would it look like? What would it do?

★ LARGE GROUP LESSON



★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

FACE RACE

Supplies: Plastic cups (9 per group), “Face Race” printable faces (1 set per group), ping pong balls (2 per group)

Directions: Place the 9 cups right side up in a cluster on the floor. Tell the children that they have to race to bounce a ping pong ball into one of the plastic cups. Choose two children to go first, seat them approximately 4 feet from the cups, and give them each a ping pong ball. On “go,” have them race to be the first one to bounce the ball into a cup. If they both miss, they can retrieve their ball and quickly try again. After one of the children bounces the ball in, stop the game, pick up the cup with the ball in it, and look to see which face is on the bottom—sick, sad, or scared. If, for example, it’s a scared face, ask the child who threw the ball to tell about a time they felt scared. Next, allow the other child to answer the same question. Choose two more children to compete and repeat the above instructions. If time permits, you can allow the children who did not win to compete again.

Say: In our story for today, the sick woman believed that Jesus could help her, and because of that, she got better. **We can believe in Jesus too!** Jesus can help us when we’re sick, sad, or scared.

Question: How do you think Jesus could help you when you’re sick? How about sad? How about scared?

OVER UNDER (Application Activity)

Supplies: Ball(1 per group)

Directions: Have the children in your group line up, single-file, facing the same direction with about one foot in-between each child. Give the ball to the child in the front of the line. Have that child pass the ball with both hands over their head to the child behind them. The child behind them must receive the ball with both hands and pass it under/between their legs to the child behind them. Each child must alternate between passing the ball over their head and under their legs. As each child passes the ball, they must say, “**I can believe in Jesus.**” When the last child in line receives the ball, have them run to the front of the line and begin passing the ball again. When every child has had a turn in the front, the round is over. You can play additional rounds by having the children say, “I can believe in Jesus,” using different voices from the list below.

- Robot voice
- Silly voice
- Monster voice
- Squeaky mouse voice
- Grumpy voice

Say: When you believe in Jesus, Jesus can do amazing things for you, just like He did for the sick woman in our true Bible story. Jesus is real! Jesus is amazing! And Jesus loves us! So **we can believe in Jesus.**



Question: Is it easy for you to believe in Jesus, or is it hard for you to believe in Jesus? Why?

TOSS ACROSS (Bible Memorization Activity)

Supplies: Beach ball

Today's Bible verse:

"Anyone (*fan your arms out in front of you*) who believes in [Jesus] (*spread arms outward like a cross*) has eternal life (*point finger up and make circle motion*)." John 3:36 (*extend hands like you're holding a book*).

Directions: Have the children sit in a circle. Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, pass the beach ball to a child across the circle. As you pass the ball, have the entire group recite the first word of the verse. Have the group continue passing the ball to different children. Each time the ball is passed, say the next word from the verse. Continue until the entire verse has been recited. Challenge the children to say the entire verse without dropping the ball. You can also challenge the children to go faster and faster each round.

WHAT'S NEXT? (Bible Story Review Activity)

Supplies: None

Directions: The following activity is designed to help children remember the sequence of events in a story. Ask the children, "What happened first in today's Bible story?" Allow the children to answer. Then, ask the children to come up with one motion or action that represents that part of the story. For example, if the answer is, "Jesus walked to the boat on the sea," the children could stand and march in place. Next, ask the children what happened next in the story. Then, just like before, have them come up with a corresponding action. After each new action is created, have the children perform all of the actions from the very beginning. In the end, the children will have created a series of actions that will help them remember the entire story from beginning to end.

COLORING SHEET AND SNACK TIME (GO! Deeper Activity)

Directions: Give each child a Bible story coloring sheet and some crayons or markers. While the children are coloring, give them a snack to eat and ask the following questions to help them go deeper into the story:

Question: In today's true Bible story, the sick woman was sick for 12 years. What do you think it would have been like to be sick for that long?

Question: If you were the sick woman, how would you have felt after Jesus healed you? What would you have said to Jesus after He healed you?

Say: Even though we can't see Him, we can believe that Jesus is real. We're going to say a prayer right now and tell Jesus that we believe in Him.

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Prayer: Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they're finished, close the prayer by telling Jesus that you believe in Him and love Him so much.