



Junior Church

LESSON PLANS: 24-05-20

VISIT [HARVESTCITY.ORG/JC](https://www.harvestcity.org/jc) FOR VIDEOS, LINKS AND RESOURCES

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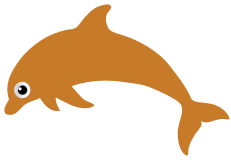
March and sing

Activity time: 10 minutes

Aim: to march for Jesus because we know he can help us!

You will need: 'We are marching in the light of God' or a similar rhythmical praise song

1. Explain that the Bible story is about a soldier who knew Jesus would help him. He was in the Roman army. (Some children, especially those with older siblings, may know about Romans already: encourage them to share what they know with all of you.)
2. Invite the children to play a marching game – not because they are in the Roman army, but because they know Jesus and know he can help them!
3. Sing through the first verse and chorus of 'We are marching'. Start marching on the spot and repeat the first verse and chorus. Once you have an idea of the rhythm, lead the children on a singing march around your room (or all around the building or outside, if you have sufficient adult help – and energy!). Enjoy!



Dolphins

(Age 3, F1 & F2)

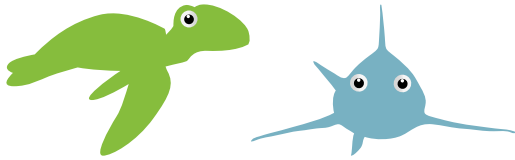
Praying for help

Activity time: 10–15 minutes

Aim: to be glad that Jesus is able to help us

You will need: paper, crayons

1. Talk about the way Jesus helped the Roman soldier and his servant. Ask: 'What did the servant need? How did Jesus help?'
2. Say that sometimes we need help too. Encourage the children to think of times when they need help – perhaps when they are sad, ill or afraid. If there is little response, give them an everyday example from your own life when you needed help. Explain how Jesus helped you by, for example, giving you a friend to help, making you feel better or giving you a good idea.
3. Invite each child to think of a time when Jesus could help them (you may need to provide suggestions as above) and to draw a picture of themselves or Jesus.



Turtles Sharks

(Year 1 & 2)

(Year 3 & 4)

Splash!

Activity time: 10–15 minutes

Aim: to remember that Jesus has God's power

You will need: Splash sheets 196-197 (attached)

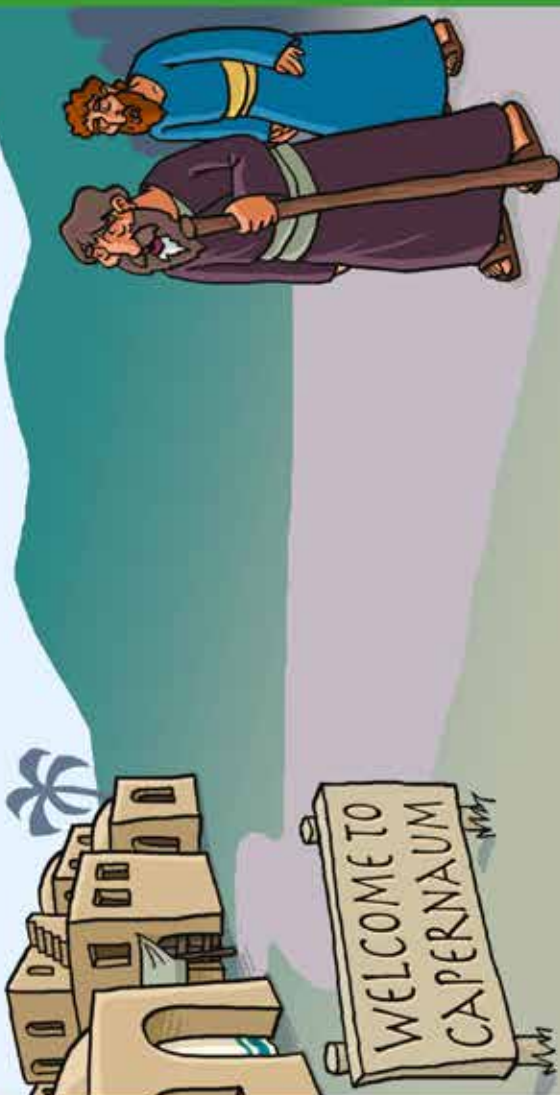
1. Make copies of pages 196 and 197 so that they are back to back on one sheet of paper; you will need one copy per child.
2. Give out the Splash! sheets and help the children make the story slider.
3. Encourage the children to retell the story using the slider. They should start on the 'On the road to Capernaum...' side; read the text in the window and then turn it over to see what was happening at the officer's house. They need to pull the paper strip to the right to get the next picture in the window.
4. Ask the children if they can spot where Jesus showed God's power. Say that he is the same today, even though we can't see him: he is still powerful and wants to help us.
5. Spend a few minutes talking to Jesus about anything the children would like his help with.

Splash!

Tab A



On the road to Capernaum...



At the army officer's home...



Pull to start again.

Your servant is better because of your faith.

This man has faith in me.



Pull slowly to tell the story from Matthew 8:5-13.



Glue or tape Tab A

These instructions are also available online.



Cut along the green lines to separate the two strips from the section below.

Fold along the middle dotted line, then along the second dotted line. Cut along the green lines to make the 'windows'.

Unfold the page completely.

On the separate strips, tape the end of the first strip to Tab A.

Place the strip upside down on the blue area with 'Splash! II' facing up.

Glue the sheet where it says 'glue here', taking care not to get glue on the blue strip.

Fold the middle fold closed again so that the top sticks to the bottom without sticking the strip down.

Tell the story

Start on the 'Road to Capernaum' side. Read the text in the window.

Turn over the slider to see what was happening at the officer's house.

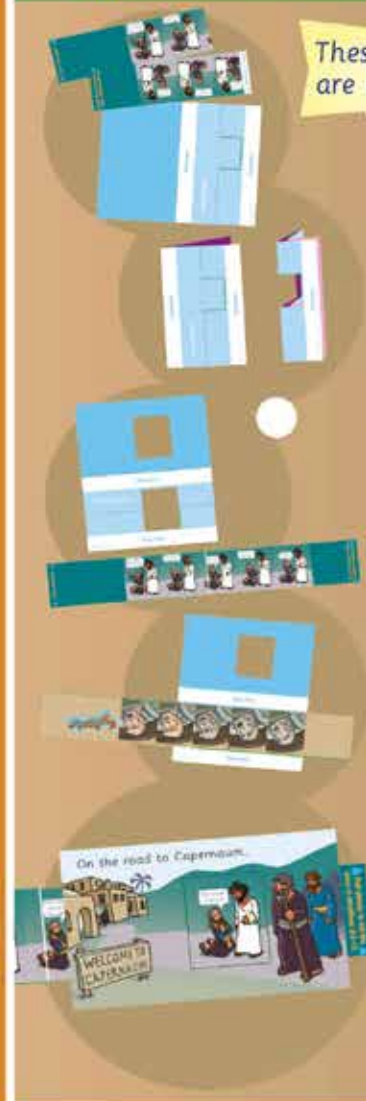
Turn back then pull the slider to the right to see what happened next.

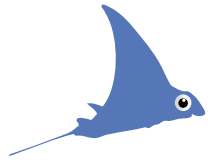
Make sure you check what is happening in the officer's house each time you move the slider!

glue here

Don't glue here

glue here





Stingrays

(Year 5 & 6)

Take home craft

Activity time: 15–20 minutes

Aim: to make a visual reminder of Jesus' power and authority

You will need: stiff card

1. Before the session, cut shield shapes out of stiff card. Make sure you have a shield for each child in your group.
2. Give out the shields and invite the group to think about the story. Encourage them to draw or write on their shield three or four things they most remember about the story. It might be Jesus healing the servant, the officer, Jesus being powerful or Jesus having God's authority.
3. After you have all finished, invite the children to explain what they have chosen. Encourage the children to take the shields home, to remind them of Jesus' power and authority this week. Encourage them to pray about situations that worry them. Maybe they could write on the shield times when Jesus answers their prayers.