



MIDDLER ♦ SESSION TWO

Jesus Helps a Young Girl and a Sick Woman

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
1 Corinthians 13:4

LESSON FOCUS

God's love is kind and patient.

BIBLE AIMS

During this session, each student may

1. DISCOVER that Jesus showed God's love by healing a young girl and a sick woman;
2. IDENTIFY kind and patient actions that show concern for others and their problems;
3. ASK God to help him or her show kind and patient actions in specific situations;
4. PRAY to become a member of God's family, as the Holy Spirit leads.

TEACHER'S DEVOTIONAL

Late-afternoon checkout lines at grocery stores can reveal a lot about human character. Amid beeping machines and wailing toddlers, you might hear "That doesn't look like fewer than 10 items!" or "Why do I always get behind someone with coupons?" or "Why doesn't she make that child hush?" Even if we consider ourselves too kind to actually say such things aloud, we often think them, or maybe we throw a dirty look or two—filled with rising irritation at the thoughtlessness of others!

In contrast, love in action is patient and kind. It behaves with humility and doesn't focus exclusively on personal agendas or achievements. Love expressed through patience is not so much about waiting as about being fully present where we are, in the present moment. Living expectantly in the here and now reminds us that God has placed us in situations He has designed for us. Ephesians 2:10 tells us, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Trusting God's design for every moment of our lives means that we can practice love in every difficult situation. We can pray for those who tax our patience, trusting that God's love and kindness can prevail in every circumstance. As you work with God's children this week, find ways to share the treasure of God's love, even in the most difficult moments.



1. Set the Story (5-10 minutes)

If you only have 25 minutes for this center, omit Set the Story.

Materials Checklist

◆ stopwatch or watch with second hand

For each pair of students—

◆ 6 seashells

◆ 2 paper plates

OPTION A: SWELL SHELLS

PREPARATION: Place six seashells on a paper plate. Place an empty plate next to plate of shells. Set up similar plates for each pair of students, allowing several feet of space between each setup.

PROCEDURE: Students divide into pairs. Each pair stands by a set of paper plates. After taking off their shoes and socks, partners race to move all the shells from one paper plate to the other, using only their feet. Students may work separately or together.

As each pair finishes, announce their time. Play additional rounds, challenging students to beat the best previous time.

KEY CONVERSATION: What was difficult about this game? What would have made moving the shells easier? When are some times you had to be patient while playing today's game? It would have taken a lot longer to move the shells if you didn't have a partner to help you. Helping each other is one way we can show God's love. Today we'll talk about different ways we can show God's love by helping others and caring about their problems.



OPTION B: PINEAPPLE PICK

PREPARATION: For each team, photocopy a set of Pineapple Cards. Cut apart and tape each one onto a separate yellow plate. Place yellow plates and plates of other colors in bag to fill it. Place bags several feet apart in playing area.

PROCEDURE: Students divide into teams of three or four members and line up behind the starting line. Hold up a plate. **Let's pretend these plates are tropical fruits. Somewhere in each bag are some yellow pineapples. On each pineapple is part of an important message—but you'll have to put the pineapples in order to discover the message!** At your signal, first player on each team runs to team's bag and searches for a yellow plate. Then player brings the plate back to his or her team and next player on team runs to bag. When the team has collected all six plates, team members place plates in verse order, using Bible as needed. Students read verse aloud.

KEY CONVERSATION: When might it be hard to be patient and kind? Who are some people that it can be hard to be patient with? One way we can show patience and kindness is by caring about others and their problems. When we care about others, we're being patient and kind, just as our verse tells us to do. Caring about the problems of others is a great way to show God's love!



Materials Checklist

◆ Pineapple Cards (p. 43)

◆ scissors or paper cutter

◆ masking tape

For each team of 3 or 4 students—

◆ Bible

◆ small paper plates in a variety of colors, including six yellow plates

◆ large bag

2. Tell the Story (10 minutes)

Materials Checklist

◆ Session 2 Bible Story Poster from Elementary Teaching Resources

◆ Post-it Notes

For each student and teacher—

◆ Bible

PREPARATION: Display Session 2 Bible Story Poster. Use Post-it Notes to mark Mark 5 in students' Bibles.

STORYTELLING TIP: Know your story well enough to talk with your students rather than read to them. Use a highlighter to mark key facts. By telling, rather than reading the story, you will be better able to express enthusiasm through your face and voice and better able to use your hands to hold objects such as the signs suggested for use in today's Bible Storytelling Option.

JESUS HELPS A YOUNG GIRL AND A SICK WOMAN

Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56

Introduction

When have you been in a large crowd? What would you do if you needed to get to the front of a crowd quickly? Volunteers tell ideas. **Today in our story we are going to hear about a man who was in a hurry to get to the front of a big crowd.**

A Man in Need

"Did you hear that Jesus is back in town?" The news spread from house to house. Soon a giant crowd gathered to see and hear Jesus. Some of the people wanted to see what Jesus would do and hear what He would say. Others wanted Jesus to heal them or help them with their problems. Still others just wanted to be close to Him. **Why might you have wanted to see Jesus?**

A man named Jairus (Ji-ruhs) was so VERY anxious to see Jesus that he pushed through the crowd. People respectfully moved out of the way so that he could get close to Jesus. You see, Jairus was an important man. He was in charge of the synagogue in town. And people could see he really wanted to get close to Jesus! **Read Mark 5:22-23 to find out what Jairus did.** Jairus loved his daughter. Jesus cared about Jairus and his daughter, too. So Jesus went with Jairus right away.

As Jesus, His friends and Jairus tried to hurry through the huge crowd, people kept pushing in all around them. It was hard to even move! Suddenly, Jesus stopped and asked, "Who touched Me?"

"Who touched You?" Jesus' friends asked. "Well, everyone did! We are all being trampled by this crowd!" But this touch had been different. And Jesus knew it.

A Woman of Faith

Someone had touched Jesus' clothes for a specific reason. And Jesus knew that His power had healed someone. Jesus kept looking, waiting patiently for the person to step forward. Finally a woman came up, trembling with fear. **Read Mark 5:25-26 to find out who this woman was.** The woman told Jesus, "I have been sick for a very long time. I knew that if I could just touch Your clothes, I would be healed—and I am!" **What do you suppose the people in the crowd must have thought about the woman?**

Bible Storytelling Option

Before class, print in large letters on a separate sheet of construction paper each of these phrases: “Hooray!” “Oh, no!” and “Gasp!” Divide the class into three teams. Assign each team to a sign. Before telling the story, hold up each sign and practice saying “Hoo-ray!” “Oh, no!” and making a gasping sound with the appropriate team.

Instruct teams to say what is written on their signs when you hold them up at appropriate times in the story. For example, use “Hooray!” when Jesus agrees to go with Jairus, “Gasp!” when Jesus says that He felt someone touch Him, and “Oh, no!” when friends announce that the girl has died.

Jesus smiled and told the woman, “Your faith has healed you. Go in peace. You won’t suffer anymore.”

Just then some men came pushing through the crowd with terrible news. “Don’t bother Jesus anymore,” they told Jairus. “Your daughter is already dead.”

Oh, no! Jairus must have thought. If this crowd hadn’t been in the way—or if that woman hadn’t stopped Jesus—we could have gotten to my daughter in time!

Jesus told Jairus, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” So Jesus and Jairus and the others continued through the crowd to Jairus’s house. When they finally arrived there, ANOTHER crowd was gathering outside—a funeral crowd! Many people had come to the house to mourn for the girl. They were wailing and crying and making all kinds of noise.

Read what Jesus said to this crowd in Mark 5:39.

What Jesus meant was that He was going to bring the girl back to life. But the people didn’t understand. They laughed at Jesus’ words.

They had seen the girl. She was dead! They’d never heard of someone being healed from death!

Jesus sent them all out of the house. Then Jesus took Peter, James, John, and Jairus and his wife into the room where the girl’s body lay.

A Healthy Girl

Jesus took the girl’s hand in His own and said, “Little girl, get up.” And right away, the little girl opened her eyes. She sat up! Then she began to walk around! Jairus and his wife and Jesus’ friends were amazed! The girl really had been dead; but now, because of Jesus’ words, she was ALIVE and completely well! Jesus showed that His love and power are so great that He can care for people in all kinds of situations!

Conclusion

Just as Jesus was kind to the people in our story, so Jesus is kind and helps us. Just as Jesus was patient and didn’t get angry with the crowds or the woman who touched his robe, so Jesus is patient with us. Knowing that God’s love is kind and patient is one of the treasures we can discover this week at SonTreasure Island. Every day there are times we can show God’s love by being kind and patient with others. It all starts with caring about others and their problems.



God loves us and wants to help us be kind and patient. As members of God’s family, we can ask for His help! Invite children interested in knowing more about becoming members of God’s family to talk with you or another teacher after class. (See “Leading a Child to Christ,” p. 8.)

3. Apply the Story (10-15 minutes)

Materials Checklist

◆ colored markers

For each student—

◆ Session 2 Treasure Guide page

Optional—

◆ SonTreasure Gem Stickers

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

To review Bible story, students complete “Jesus Helps a Young Girl and a Sick Woman” activity on Session 2 page. **What did Jesus do in today’s story that showed He was patient?** (Spent time with the crowds of people. Followed Jairus to his home. Stopped to help the woman who touched Him.) **What kind actions did Jesus show in today’s story?** (He healed the woman. He healed the girl.) **Jesus didn’t just TALK about God’s love—He lived it! Jesus’ kind and patient actions were real-life examples of God’s love.**

Indicate the Daily Treasure logo on the page. **Today’s Daily Treasure reminds us that “God’s Love Is Kind”—and He wants US to use kind and patient actions to show His love to others.**

MEMORY VERSE/APPLICATION

Students turn Session 2 page over. Lead students in saying the verse, clapping once for each syllable of the verse. If time permits, repeat verse several times, asking students to suggest other rhythmic motions (snap fingers, stomp feet, etc.). (Optional: Give each student a SonTreasure Gem Sticker to place next to the memory verse.) **We all know what it means to be patient and kind. We also know what it means to be proud. But what does our verse mean when it talks about envy?** (To want what somebody else has for yourself.) **What does it mean to boast?** (To brag about how good you are or the things that you have.)

When we are kind and patient, we won’t act proud, envious or boastful. We will show God’s love by caring about others and their problems. What are some ways you can show you care about someone else’s problems? (Share food with people in a homeless shelter. Donate clothes to a missions project. Invite someone to go to church. Help someone with his or her homework or chores. Be kind to someone new or who is being left out.)

Students complete “Colorful Gems” activity. **It isn’t always easy to be kind and patient. We don’t always want to show love or help someone. And sometimes it can seem like a real pain to have to share. But God has done all these things for us because He loves us! And we can show God’s love to others, even when it isn’t easy.**

PRAYER

Because He loves us, God promises to always help us. Even though it isn’t always easy to care about others and their problems, God promises to help us when we ask. What is a way that you can show God’s love this week? Volunteers respond. Pray, asking God to help each student do what he or she wrote. Conclude by asking God to show us ways we can demonstrate His love by being kind and patient and caring about others and their problems.



“Love is patient,



love is kind.



It does not envy,



it does not boast,



it is not proud.”



1 Corinthians 13:4