

# Healing

**OBJECTIVE:** *To recognize that God is able to heal and to encourage those who are sick.*



## WORSHIP

Sing praise and worship songs as well as songs about God's help and grace that are familiar and meaningful to your group. Here are some suggestions.

- "Be Still and Know"
- "Give Thanks"
- "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
- "Jesus, Mighty God"
- "Kum Ba Yah"
- "No, Not One!"
- "O Lord, You Have Been Good"
- "O Most High"
- "Surely the Arm of the Lord Is Not Too Short"
- "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

## STORY

**Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law, Matthew 8:14-17**

- Jesus goes to Peter's house.
- Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law.
- People bring other sick people to Jesus and he heals them.

Choose one child or adult to pretend to be Peter's mother-in-law who has been healed. Choose one person to interview her for the "nightly news," or let everyone ask her questions as if she were holding a press conference about this miraculous event.

## MEMORY VERSE

**"He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases" (Matthew 8:17).**

Discuss the meaning of the word *infirmities*. Then help the children remember the verse by letting each child put an adhesive bandage on the back or palm of each hand. On one bandage, write *infirmities*. On the other bandage, write *diseases*. Ask everyone to say the verse several times together. Every time they say the word *infirmities*, children raise the hand on which that bandage is placed. Every time they say *diseases*, children raise the other hand.

## ACTIVITIES

Choose one or more of the following activities to support the story or theme and to provide a springboard for discussion.

**HOW HIGH?** Measure how far everyone can jump, how high they can jump, and how far they can toss a beanbag or ball. Discuss good rules for staying healthy.

**FIRST AID.** Learn or review simple first aid from a first aid book, an encyclopedia (under First Aid), or from a doctor or nurse. As they practice, remind everyone that we pray while we do first aid.

**SPONGE PRINTS.** Cut a few sponges into cross shapes. Everyone makes cross prints by pressing the sponge into paint or food coloring, and then pressing it onto paper. Say: "Jesus was killed so we can live. His wounds brought our healing (Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24)."

**WHO IS SICK?** List sick people your group knows and pray for them. Pray for anyone in the group (children and adults) who are sick. Then using paper and crayons or markers, everyone can make get-well cards for the sick people they listed.

**OBEYING GAMES.** Play "Mother May I?," "Follow the Leader," or "Simon Says." Say: "The leader is the authority. Jesus is the authority over sickness, and he can tell it to leave."

## QUESTIONS

1. Where do sickness and hurts come from?
2. What is authority? Who are some people in authority over us? What does Jesus have authority over? Do we have authority over anything? How?
3. Why is the cross important? Why are Jesus' death and resurrection important?
4. Does everyone get healed? Discuss. Can anything good come from being sick?
5. Tell about healings you have experienced or heard about.



## KIDS' COUNCIL

### BRING IT HOME

- Tell about the worst sickness you remember having. Who took care of you?
- Do you know anyone who needs to be healed? How will you help them this week?

### SHARE AND PRAY

- Ask the children to share their concerns and pray for each other.
- Pray for people the children know who are sick.
- Thank God for health and healing.

## ADULT STUDY QUESTIONS

- Read and discuss Isaiah 53:1-5; 1 Peter 2:24. What was the trade-off that Jesus made with us at the cross? Are there conditions placed on this trade-off? If so, what are they?
- Read and discuss James 5:13-16.
- God is almighty. God is compassionate, kind, and good. He hears our prayers. So, when we pray for healing, why isn't everyone healed? Why does God want us to pray for healing?
- When people aren't healed immediately after you pray, does that affect your faith? Should it? Is it up to us to prove God, or is it our job simply to obey and let him prove himself?

## SNACK AND FELLOWSHIP

**Fruit Harvest Pizza.** Use a roll of ready-made sugar cookie dough as the crust. Roll the dough out onto a pizza pan sprayed with cooking oil. Bake at the temperature and time suggested on the package of dough. Spread a light coat of any flavor of jelly over the baked crust. Then place slices of different fruits and nuts on top: grapes, apples, pears, kiwi, almonds, and so on. Discuss foods that are good for health.