

September 1
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
PETER PERFORMED MIRACLES
(Acts 9)

CHRIST CONNECTION: The Holy Spirit gave Peter power to do miracles. People saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus. Jesus' miracles proved that He is the Son of God.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Like a body has many parts, the church has many people who work together. 1 Corinthians 12:12

LEARN

(GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite children to play a game with you. Ask children to stand when you name things only God can do and sit when you name things anyone can do. (Examples: making the blind see, opening a door, making dead people come back to life, walking a dog, making the deaf hear, handing someone reading glasses and book, making someone walk when that person has never been able to walk before, making cookies for a neighbor and so on)

***SAY** Things only God can do are called miracles. Today, we will learn about two miracles. God's Spirit gave Peter power to do miracles. Without God's Spirit, Peter would not have been able to do miracles. Let's find out what happened!*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

***SAY** Today, we have a new big picture question and answer! The new big picture question is, **What is the church?** That may seem like a silly question! We are all at a church today after all, right? But you might be surprised at the answer. The answer to **What is the church?** is, **The church is all Christians everywhere.** The church is not a building; the church is the people who meet in this building and in many other places all across the world!*

4. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the **key passage (or key passage phrase) marker** at 1 Corinthians 12:12. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead preschoolers to learn the key passage phrase. Pass a **beanbag** around the circle as you say the phrase together twice.

***SAY** Peter was part of the early church. He had work to do helping others learn about Jesus. Sometimes his work meant making sick people well, like Aeneas, other times it meant bringing someone back to life, like Dorcas. But most of the time, Peter taught people about Jesus. God also used Dorcas to help people know about Jesus. She helped people in need. God uses people in the church today to help others to know and follow Him. Everyone in the church works together.*

5. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Review today's Bible story by asking the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. Who gave Peter the power to heal people and tell others about Jesus? (*God*)
3. What are some of the amazing things God used Peter to do in this story? (*Peter healed Aeneas and raised Dorcas from the dead.*)
4. How do you think Dorcas' friends and family felt to know she was alive? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
6. **What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere.**

SAY Peter was a leader of the church when it was just beginning. Remember, the church is not the buildings, but all the people who trust in Jesus and are Christians. God used Peter to heal people using miracles. These miracles remind us of Jesus. Jesus is still alive and still uses His church to do miracles and to love and serve others.

6. PRAY

Invite preschoolers to tell you any prayer requests they have. Pray for them.

SAY Dear Jesus, we know that even though You left the earth, You are still alive, and You are still loving and serving people on earth through the church! I pray that **[Say each child's name.]** would one day trust in You to be saved from their sins. Use us to help others just like You used Peter in today's story. Amen.

ACTIVITIES

(CHOOSE ONE OR ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES BELOW)

BE A MIRROR

Guide preschoolers to gather in pairs. Select one preschooler from each pair to be the leader, and the other preschooler to be the mirror. When the leader moves, the mirror preschooler should follow the leader's movements. After some time has passed, guide preschoolers to switch roles.

SAY Was it hard or easy to be a mirror? You had to pay attention to the leader closely and follow their actions! Today's story is about Peter, a man who became a leader of the church when it was just beginning. He showed the way to go, and the other followers of Jesus followed his lead. .

PLAY A NON-WALKING GAME

Place two **tape** lines on the floor about five feet apart. Instruct children to move from one tape line to the other without using their feet. Preschoolers may choose to crawl, roll, scoot, and so forth. Remind them as they move that Aeneas in the Bible could not walk when Peter first met him. He had to stay in bed all the time. But once Peter met him, Peter said, "Jesus heals you! Get up and make your bed." Immediately, Aeneas got up and could walk.

SAY Who do you remember from the Bible story who could not walk? Aeneas! Who did God send to help Aeneas? Peter! God's Spirit gave Peter power to make Aeneas able to walk. It was a miracle because only God can make people walk.

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE (*please send this home with parents*)

As children color, talk about the Christ Connection.

SAY God's Spirit gave Peter power to do miracles. People saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus. Jesus' miracles proved that He is the Son of God. .

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Philippians 2 and tell the following Bible story. Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

PETER PERFORMED MIRACLES

STORYTELLING TIPS

Sit on a blanket: Invite preschoolers to sit on a blanket or sleeping bag as they listen to the story. Remark that Peter healed both Aeneas and Dorcas and told them to get up out of their beds.

Play out the story with dolls: Use baby dolls or other people figures to portray Peter, Aeneas, and Dorcas. Play out the story with the dolls as it is told.

*Peter had become a leader in the early church. **God gave power to Peter and to Jesus' other disciples to heal people and to tell others about Jesus.** At this time, the church had peace and was strengthened. More people joined the church.*

*Peter was traveling from place to place. He **visited** the Christians living in **a town called Lydda (LID uh).** A man named Aeneas (ih **NEE uhs**) lived there. **Aeneas was could not walk and had to stay in bed.** Peter said to him, **"Aeneas, Jesus heals you. Get up and make your bed."** Aeneas got up right away. **When this happened, many people believed in the Lord.***

*In the city of Joppa (**JAHP uh**), there was a follower of Jesus named Dorcas. She was always doing good works—**helping people in need** and making clothes for widows. Over time, **Dorcas got sick and died.** The disciples in Joppa sent two men to get Peter.*

*Peter came to Joppa. He went upstairs in the house where Dorcas' body lay. Peter sent Dorcas' friends out of the room and **knelt down beside her body. Peter prayed. Then he said, "Dorcas, get up."***

*She opened her eyes, saw Peter, and sat up. Peter called for **the disciples and friends**, and they **saw that Dorcas was alive! People throughout the city heard about this miracle, and many believed in the Lord.***

Christ Connection: The Holy Spirit gave Peter power to do miracles. People saw what happened and believed in Jesus. These miracles remind us of Jesus. Jesus' miracles proved that He is the Son of God.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

September 1
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds

PETER PERFORMED MIRACLES
(Acts 9)

CHRIST CONNECTION: God gave Peter power to do miracles like Jesus.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is the church? The church is all Christians everywhere.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: The church has many people who help. 1 Corinthians 12:12

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Assist toddlers to form a line and play follow-the-leader. Invite toddlers to follow you in various ways such as hopping, tiptoeing, marching, and more. Replay as time permits, choosing a new leader for each round.

SAY *Who did we follow in our game? Yes! The leader! Peter was a leader in the church. Peter went to different towns and visited friends. God gave Peter power to do miracles like Jesus. When this happened, many people believed in Jesus.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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3. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the **key passage phrase marker** at 1 Corinthians 12:12. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead preschoolers to learn the key passage phrase. Pass a **beanbag** around the circle as you say the phrase together twice.

SAY *Peter was part of the early church. He had work to do helping others learn about Jesus. Sometimes his work meant making sick people well, like Aeneas, other times it meant bringing someone back to life, like Dorcas. But most of the time, Peter taught people about Jesus. God also used Dorcas to help people know about Jesus. She helped people in need. God uses people in the church today to help others to know and follow Him. Everyone in the church works together.*

ACTIVITIES

PLAY A NON-WALKING GAME

Place two tape lines on the floor about five feet apart. Instruct children to move from one tape line to the other without using their feet. Preschoolers may choose to crawl, roll, scoot, and so forth. Remind them as they move that Aeneas in the Bible could not walk when Peter first met him. He had to stay in bed all the time. But once Peter met him, Peter said, "Jesus heals you! Get up and make your bed." Immediately, Aeneas got up and could walk.

SAY *Who do you remember from the Bible story who could not walk? Aeneas! Who did God send to help Aeneas? Peter! God's Spirit gave Peter power to make Aeneas able to walk. It was a miracle because only God can make people walk.*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the GOSPEL GEMS below:

- God gave Jesus' friends power to help people.
- Peter was a leader in the church.
- Peter healed two of Jesus' friends.

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

Open the Bible to Acts 9 and tell the following Bible story:

God gave Jesus' friends power to heal people and to tell people about Jesus. Peter was a leader in the church. He went to visit friends in different towns. Peter visited Aeneas (ih NEE uhs). Aeneas could not walk. He had to stay in bed. Peter said, "Jesus heals you! Get up and make your bed." Aeneas got up right away! When this happened, many people believed in Jesus. Then Peter went to another city. A woman named Dorcas loved Jesus and helped people. But Dorcas got sick and died. Peter went to her body. He prayed and said, "Get up." Dorcas opened her eyes and sat up! When this happened, many people believed in Jesus.

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.