

# Power over Demons

## Jesus' Miracles Lesson 3

### Lesson Objectives

- The students will give one example of Jesus' power over demons.
- The students will state that Jesus is God.
- The students will identify one way that God's power can protect them.

### Lesson Text

Matthew 8:16-17, 28-34

### Scripture Memory Verse

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.  
*Psalm 46:1*

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Did You Know?

Welcome and Singing

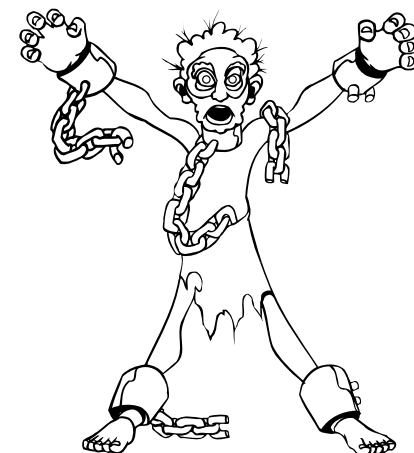
Centers:

Bible Story: Little Devils

Craft: Unchained

Scripture Memory: Ever-Ready Helper

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



**GENERATION**  
*next*

**3rd and 4th Grades**

Jesus' Miracles 13-3-1

# Power over Demons

## Did You Know?

The students will preview important ideas about today's lesson as they answer this survey about demons.

### Materials

*For each student:*

- pencil

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

### Preparation

1. Using the dashed lines on each of the students' copies of Reproducible Page A, fold back the answer panels.
2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

### Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Tell them that in today's lesson they will learn about Jesus' power over demons and the miracles he did to help many people.
2. Have each student work with a partner. Make sure to pair confident readers with younger or struggling readers. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and pencils. Tell the students that the answers to the questions are folded back under their pages and they can look at them after they've finished the worksheet.
3. Have the students work together to answer the questions. Circulate among the students to offer help. Make sure all your adult assistants are available to assist students who have questions. Emphasize God's power and love throughout this activity.

4. Make sure their names are on their pages and collect them when they are finished.
5. Have additional activities such as games or puzzles for students to do if they finish early. Play positive, contemporary Christian music in the background.

**SPECIAL TEACHER'S NOTE:** The concept of Satan or the devil and demons is unfamiliar to most students this age, who tend to be frightened and dwell on frightening elements. Be very sensitive to students who appear nervous or uncomfortable, and work with them.

### Teacher Tips

- Do not allow students to get carried away with this topic. Redirect students who have finished to another activity.

# Power over Demons

## Little Devils

The students will hear about miracles in which Jesus displayed his power to drive out demons.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- large writing surface

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

Practice presenting this Bible Story with enthusiasm and power.

### Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 8. Tell the students that today's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of Matthew. Explain that this is the next lesson about Jesus' miracles. Ask the students what other miracles they remember from the previous lessons. (calming the storm; healing the paralytic, blind man, bleeding woman, centurion's servant)

Tell the students that in today's lesson, they will learn about another way that Jesus displayed God's power to the people—by driving out demons.

Ask the students what they know about demons. Use your copy of Reproducible Page A to briefly review important ideas about demons, and to dispel popular misconceptions about their appearance, etc.

- *Where do you think demons come from?* (They are evil spirits.)
- *What is their purpose?* (They cause hurt, pain, sadness, grief, strife, greed, and all kinds of wickedness and sin in the world.)
- *Whom do they serve?* (They serve the devil or Satan.)

### Presenting the Bible Story

Read the following passage and tell the students to listen for all the things that Jesus did to help people in Matthew 8:16-17.

*When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:*

*"He took up our infirmities  
and carried our diseases."*

- *How did Jesus help the people?* Write the answers on the large writing surface. (Answers should include: he drove out spirits; healed all the sick) Remind the students that this was also a fulfillment of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, who spoke about Jesus hundreds of years before he lived.

Read the next passage and tell the students to listen for what the demons did to the man possessed in Matthew 9:32-33.

*While they were going out, a man who was demon-possessed and could not talk was brought to Jesus. And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."*

Tell the students that people in Jesus' day who were demon-possessed suffered terribly. The demons caused people terrible problems and Jesus was the only one who had the power to drive them out.

Have the students open their Bibles to Matthew 8:28-34. Tell them to read silently as you read it out loud. Tell them to listen for the things the demons say and do.

*When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way. "What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"*

*Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding. The demons begged Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."*

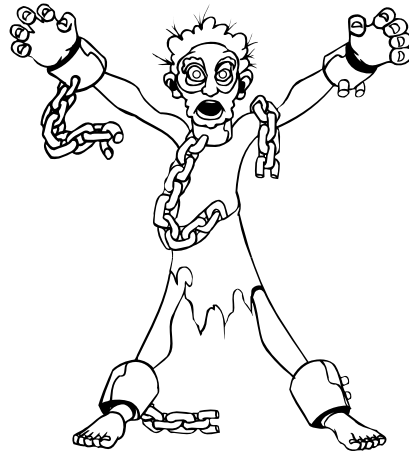
*He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water. Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.*

# Power over Demons

Explain that Jesus had even greater power than those demons! Imagine how much better those two men felt after Jesus drove out those demons. Imagine how much those men must have praised and thanked God!

## Sharing with Others

Tell the students that Jesus is greater than any problem they have! Tell them that in prayer, they can ask Jesus to help them with their problems the same way that the people in the Bible asked Jesus so many years ago. Ask the students if they know someone who has a problem that they are discouraged about. Encourage them to share with that person this story about Jesus' amazing power. Close with a prayer for the students (and you, too) to praise God for his great love and power to help us with any problems we have.



## Teacher Tips

- Be sensitive to students who seem uncomfortable or nervous about this topic. Do not focus on the negative; keep the focus on Jesus and his great power and love.



C

R

A

F

T

# Power over Demons

## Unchained

The students will create moving pictures to remind them that Jesus drove out evil demons.

### Materials

*For each student:*

- 1 non-bending straw
- crayons or markers
- glue stick
- tape

*For the teacher:*

- scissors

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for every 3 students

### Preparation

1. Cut out a folding picture for each student from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Make a sample craft to show the students.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In today's lesson, you are learning about how Jesus helped drive out evil spirits from people. In today's activity, you will make a moving picture to remind you of how Jesus freed people from evil. It will remind you of the power Jesus has to help people change.*
2. Show the students your moving picture. *This is a picture of the man who was possessed by a great many demons. Demonstrate how to twirl the straw between your hands to make the picture move. Here is the man after Jesus drove out the demons!*
3. Distribute the folding pictures you prepared. Have the students fold the pictures along the dashed lines, as shown in Figure A.
4. Distribute the crayons and have the students color their pictures.

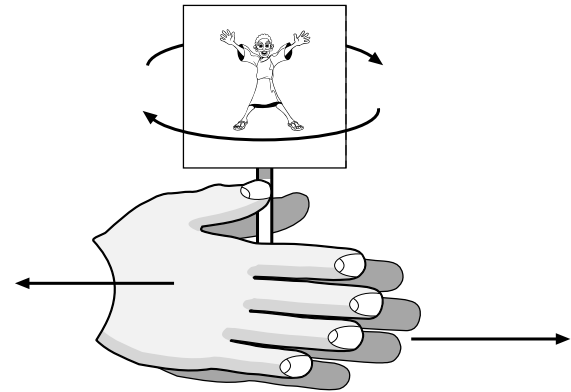
5. Give each student a straw, tape and glue stick. Have them center the straw onto the backs of their pictures, as shown in Figure B, and then help them tape it into place.
6. Have the students place glue on the backs of the pictures, and then fold the pictures together.
7. Help the students place their straws between their hands, and then slowly spin the pictures, as shown in Figure C.
8. Make sure the students write their names on their pictures.

### Conclusion

Remind the students of Jesus' power over evil. Encourage them that anyone can change if they let Jesus' power help them. Close with a prayer for God's help and power to protect them.

### Teacher Tips

- Encourage the students to use their crafts to share this week's story with their families.



# Power over Demons

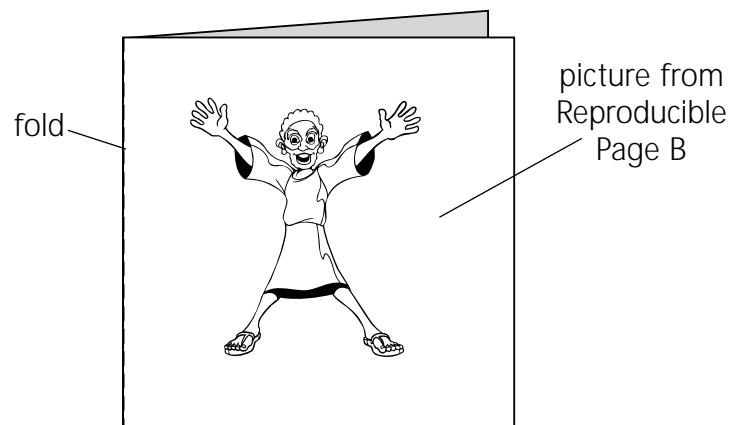


Figure A

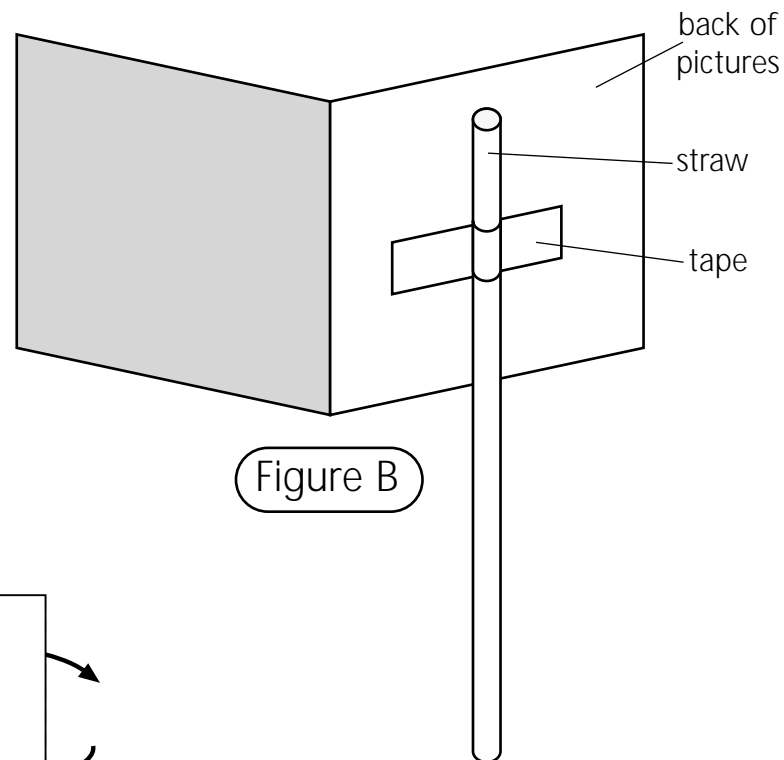


Figure B

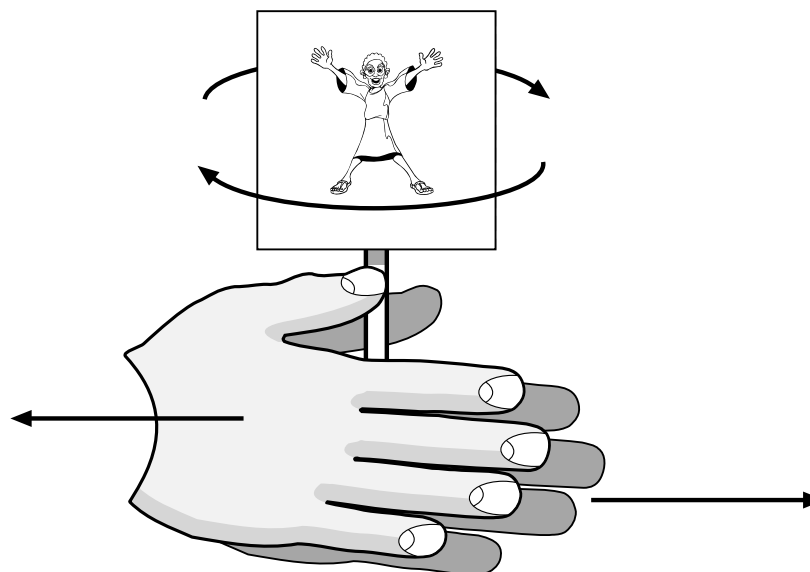


Figure C

# Power over Demons

## Ever-Ready Helper

The students will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse through this rapid repetition activity.

### Scripture Memory Verse

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

*Psalm 46:1*

### Materials

No additional materials are needed.

### Preparation

Practice leading this activity.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your Bible Story this week, you are learning about Jesus' power to drive out demons. Jesus knew that people suffered terribly from demons and he wanted to stop their suffering. Jesus had God's power to drive out demons. In your Scripture Memory Verse, you will learn that God is always ready and able to help us with our biggest troubles.*
2. Before you show the students the Scripture Memory Verse, ask them: *When you think of Jesus, what do you think of? What kinds of things do you imagine Jesus doing everyday? (Answers will vary.) Do you imagine Jesus as a soldier? Do you imagine Jesus as a boxing champion? Do you imagine Jesus as a king? Jesus had to battle against evil every day, just like a soldier. Jesus had to fight against his enemy the devil, just like a boxing champion. Jesus even had the power to wage a spiritual war just like a king. Jesus had great power and he used it to help people solve their problems, help their loved ones, and change their lives every day.*
3. Show the students the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times. Ask the students to say it together with you three more times. Ask each student to say it together with you.
4. Ask the students what they think is harder: presenting an oral book report to their class or beating up the school bully? (Answers may vary.) Tell the students that Jesus' work was not

just teaching people about God. Jesus healed people like a doctor in a busy hospital, and he drove out demons like a mighty warrior.

5. Have the students say the Scripture Memory Verse together with you three more times. Now ask for students to stand up, two-by-two and say the verse. Ask for volunteers to say the verse from memory.

## Ever-Ready Review

Have the students sit in a circle. Choose one student to begin. Tell the student that he will travel around the outside of the circle, saying each word of the verse. Beginning with the reference, Psalm 46:1, the student will say each word for each student he taps on the shoulder, until he gets to the word "trouble." That student will stand and walk quickly around the circle to try to tag the other student before he gets to the empty seat. The student then will go around the circle saying the verse in the same manner. Continue for as long as time permits.

For students who prefer a different approach, pass a small object around the circle. Have the students pass the object and say a word of the verse. The last student, who says "trouble", will then send the object back the opposite way, and begin the new round by saying "Psalm 46:1." The object will be passed around until everyone has a chance to start or finish the verse.

## Conclusion

Ask the students why they think so many people brought their friends and family to Jesus to have demons driven out. (Because Jesus was God.) Ask them what they would do if they saw Jesus drive out a demon who had tortured someone they knew and loved. Explain that the people in Jesus' day were amazed and they praised God because they knew that only God had the power to do this. Close with a prayer for the students to see God's power to protect them.

## Teacher Tips

- Let the students see your personal amazement with Jesus' power to drive out demons.



3rd and 4th Grades

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

Psalm 46:1



**Lesson Objectives**

- The students will give one example of Jesus' power over demons.
- The students will state that Jesus is God.
- The students will identify one way that God's power can protect them.

**Lesson Text**

Matthew 8:16-17, 28-34

**Scripture Memory Verse**

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

*Psalms 46:1*

**Lesson Plan**

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: It's in the Bag!

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: The Guardian

Game: Power Plays

Bible Skills: God the Son

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

**It's in the Bag!**

The students will review this week's lesson through this Bible quiz.

**Materials**

*For each student:*

- pencil

*For the teacher:*

- 10 small, brown paper bags
- black marker
- 10 large index cards, 5" x 7"

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page C, 1 copy for each student

**Preparation**

1. Label each bag from one to ten.
2. On each of the index cards, neatly print one the following words or phrases: Gadarenes, men, tombs, violent, pass, Son of God, pigs, begged, steep, whole town.

3. Shuffle the cards and place in each bag. Note the number on the bags you place them in to check the students' answers.
4. Place the bags around the Preclass area.

**Instructions**

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Remind them that they are learning about Jesus' power to drive out demons. Tell them that they will be taking a quiz during this Preclass, but that all the answers have been given to them.
2. Have the students work with a partner. Pair any students who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page C and pencils. Tell the students to open their Bibles to Matthew 8:28-34 to find the answers. They can look in the different bags to find the matching

answers. Have them write the words as well as the numbers of the bag in the spaces provided.

3. Circulate among the students to offer help and encouragement.

**Teacher Tips**

- Illustrate with magazine pictures or simple sketches the words on the index cards.
- Use shoeboxes if paper bags are not available.

# L i f e A p p l i c a t i o n

## The Guardian

The students will review this week's Bible Story as they think of ways that God can protect them.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- large writing surface
- deck of playing cards

### Preparation

1. On the large writing surface, neatly print the word: Guardian.
2. Read Matthew 8:28-34 to review the main events of this week's Bible Story.

### Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 8:24-38. Remind them that this week's Bible Story comes from the New Testament book of Matthew. Ask the students what they remember from this week's Bible Story. Tell them that Jesus had power to drive out demons. He drove out so many demons that they chased a herd of pigs down a steep bank and into a lake. People brought their friends and family to Jesus to have demons driven out because they knew that only Jesus had God's power to do this. Jesus has great power and he wants to use it to protect us and keep us safe.

Tell the students that they will think of ways that God protects them today.

### Life Application

Tell the students to look at the word "Guardian" on the large writing surface. *What is a guardian?* (a person who protects you) *What does a guardian do?* (protects you; watches over you) *Can you give some examples of a guardian?* (parents; grandparents; police, etc.) Write their answers on the large writing surface.

*God gives us guardians to take care of us. The Bible says that God puts us in families. God wants us to be safe and happy. He wants us to feel protected. God has some other ways to protect us. Can you think of other ways that God protects us?* Write their answers. *One of the most special and powerful ways that God protects us is with his angels. God has angels everywhere, watching over each one of you to protect you.*

*Angels can protect us when we are in a car, crossing the street, in a bad storm, or near a dangerous situation.*

Take out the deck of cards. Have each student find a partner. Tell the students that in this deck the four aces stand for "angels." The four kings stand for "fathers." The four queens stand for "mothers" and the four "jacks" stand for friends. Deal all the cards to the pairs of students. Then ask each pair to look at their cards and be prepared to say how God protects them. For example: in a hand with aces, kings and jacks, the students would respond, "God protects us with angels, fathers, and friends." Go around to each group of students. If a pair does not receive any face cards or aces, they should say, "Help! We need God's protection!" Have each of the other pairs give up one of their face cards (if they have more than one) to the pair who has none.

### Conclusion

Encourage the students to thank God in their daily prayers for all the ways that God protects them. Sit in a circle and let the students who want to pray thank God for his protection.

NOTE: The students should not mistake angels for a reason to do reckless or careless things. God expects us to do what is right and good—not to go looking for trouble. God's angels would not necessarily stop someone who was deliberately trying to hurt himself or get into trouble.

### Teacher Tips

- Be prepared to share from your own life ways that God has protected you.



**3rd and 4th Grades**

Jesus' Miracles 13-3-10



## Power Plays

The students will review key ideas and events from this week's lesson as they act out different words from their Bible Story.

### Materials

*For each student:*

- scrap paper
- pencil

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- watch or timer with a second hand

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the ten squares from your copy of Reproducible Page D.
2. Practice leading this activity.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson this week, you have been learning about Jesus' power to drive out demons. People brought their friends and family to Jesus who had been suffering from demons. Jesus showed God's power as he drove the demons out of the people. In today's game, you will take turns acting out key words from the Bible Story.*
2. Open your Bible to Matthew 8:28-34. Read it to the students. Tell them that all the answers to today's game are found in this passage. Read it again.
3. Divide the students into two teams. Be careful to mix students who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did. Give each student a piece of scrap paper and pencil. Tell both teams to open their Bibles to Matthew 8:28-34 and use it to help them find the answers.
4. Tell the students that this game is played like charades. Explain that each team will take turns sending one student up to act out one word or phrase from this week's Bible Story. You will give the paper with the charade to the student and make sure he understands what it means.

# Power over Demons

## Jesus' Miracles Lesson 3

5. Do the first one for the students as an example. To present the charade, first hold the number of fingers that represent the number of words in your charade, i.e. two fingers for two words. Make sure the team understands by saying, "two words." Next, hold up the number of fingers for the number of letters in each word, i.e. five fingers for five letters in the first word, then three fingers for three letters in the second word. The team should write these down on their scrap paper to help them try and guess the word.
6. Now act out your charade using gestures and/or sounds. Explain that in this game, they may make sounds, but they may not say words. Continue until someone guesses the word or phrase that is being acted out.
7. Give each student two minutes to try and get his team to guess. If they guess, give the team the points indicated on the paper. If they do not, let the other team try and guess. If they do, give them the points. If neither team guesses, help them by guiding them to the answers in the Bible.
8. Continue until all the charades have been acted out. Encourage both teams for their efforts. Total both teams' points.  
NOTE: Make the instructions very simple to the students, and be prepared to assist them at the beginning of each charade.

### Conclusion

*What would happen if someone brought the demon-possessed men from this Bible Story to you to drive out the demons? (Take responses.) Ask each student: What is the difference between you and Jesus that makes Jesus able to do this? (Jesus is God.) Close with a prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to help his people.*

### Teacher Tips

- If you have a large number of young or shy students, then have them go up as a pair to act out the charade for their team.
- If you have a small group of students, do not divide into two groups. Play all together and, if appropriate, have the students compete for the fastest time.



**3rd and 4th Grades**

**G**  
.....  
**A**  
.....  
**M**  
.....  
**E**

two men	drive	violent	shout	pigs
begged	rush	ran off	feeding	water

## God the Son

The students will look up Bible verses that describe Jesus' equality with God.

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- 4 index cards
- marker

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from your copy of Reproducible Page E.
2. On each of the index cards, neatly print: John 10:30; John 10:38; Philippians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:9.

### Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson this week, you are learning that Jesus had power to drive out demons. Jesus did miracles to show the people that he was God. Many people did not believe that Jesus and God were the same, so Jesus did miracles to prove that he had God's power. In our activity today, we are going to look up four passages that describe how Jesus and God are the same. Then you are going to try to match them to four pictures.*
2. Show the students the pictures you prepared. Tell them that each picture represents one of the Bible passages that they will look at today. Place the pictures face up on the workspace.
3. Tell the students to find a partner. Give each pair one index card. Have them look up the reference on the card and then try to guess which picture best describes the verse. Wait until all the pairs are finished.
4. Ask each pair to read the verse from their index card to the rest of the students and then say which picture they think matches and why. Do this for each pair.

# Power over Demons

## Jesus' Miracles Lesson 3

### Digging Deeper

Using the scripture references and questions on the back of this Lesson Card, help the students to think a little more deeply about each aspect of Jesus' equality with God.

NOTE: This concept may seem too abstract to most students in this age group. However, presenting these scriptures and questions with personal conviction will make a valuable impression for them in future years.

### Conclusion

Ask the students to say which one they think best describes Jesus as being equal with God. Close with a prayer for the students to respect and obey Jesus because he is God.

### Teacher Tips

- Let the students see your personal conviction about Jesus' equality with God.



3rd and 4th Grades

Jesus' Miracles 13-3-13

## Digging Deeper

"I and the Father are one." *John 10:30*

- *Is there anyone close enough to you that you can say, "I and \_\_\_\_\_ are one"? Even with your best friend or a twin brother or sister, we cannot be totally the same as another person. Only Jesus and God can do that!*

"But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." *John 10:38*

- *How do you try and prove you are right? Do you think people would believe you if you could do a miracle to prove it?*

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped... *Philippians 2:5-6*

- *What do you think it would mean to be "equal" to the president of the United States? Would you brag and say you were better than everybody else? Would you look down on people? Jesus was equal to God, yet he did not look down on anyone. He was willing to help everyone.*

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form... *Colossians 2:9*

- *What if everything about Michael Jordan (for boys) or Celine Dion (for girls) [or some other sports or entertainment personality] lived inside of you? What would you be like? (Ask for brief demonstrations.) Jesus had all of God living inside of him—which is why he could do things that only God could do! He wanted people to see God's power living inside of him so that they would believe he was God.*

# Did You Know?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In your lesson today, you will learn about Jesus' power over demons. Jesus showed the people God's great love and power by helping them to overcome their problems caused by demons. In Jesus' day, many people suffered because of demons. In this survey, you will see how much you know about the power of demons.

*Write True or False after each statement. Check your answers when you are finished.*

1. There are no such things as demons. \_\_\_\_\_
2. All demons wear red-suits and carry pitchforks. \_\_\_\_\_
3. God's power is greater than the power of demons. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Jesus commanded some demons to leave a man and to enter a herd of pigs. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Demons could take away a person's ability to speak. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Demons were also known as "evil spirits." \_\_\_\_\_
7. Jesus had power to drive out many demons at the same time. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A mother begged Jesus to help her daughter who was suffering from a demon. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Demons don't believe in God. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Demons do believe in God. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The people praised God when Jesus drove out demons. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Demons are weak and wimpy. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Demons know that Jesus is God's Son. They are afraid of Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Panel

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. True
9. False
10. True
11. True
12. False
13. True

## Jesus Can Help!

Can you think of a problem in your life right now that you have not been able to solve? This is a problem that could use Jesus' power to help! Write one or two words below that describe this problem.

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you think that Jesus is more powerful than this problem? Of course he is! Ask God in your prayers to send Jesus' power to help you solve this problem. Pray with your family or a friend from church and ask God to help you solve this problem.



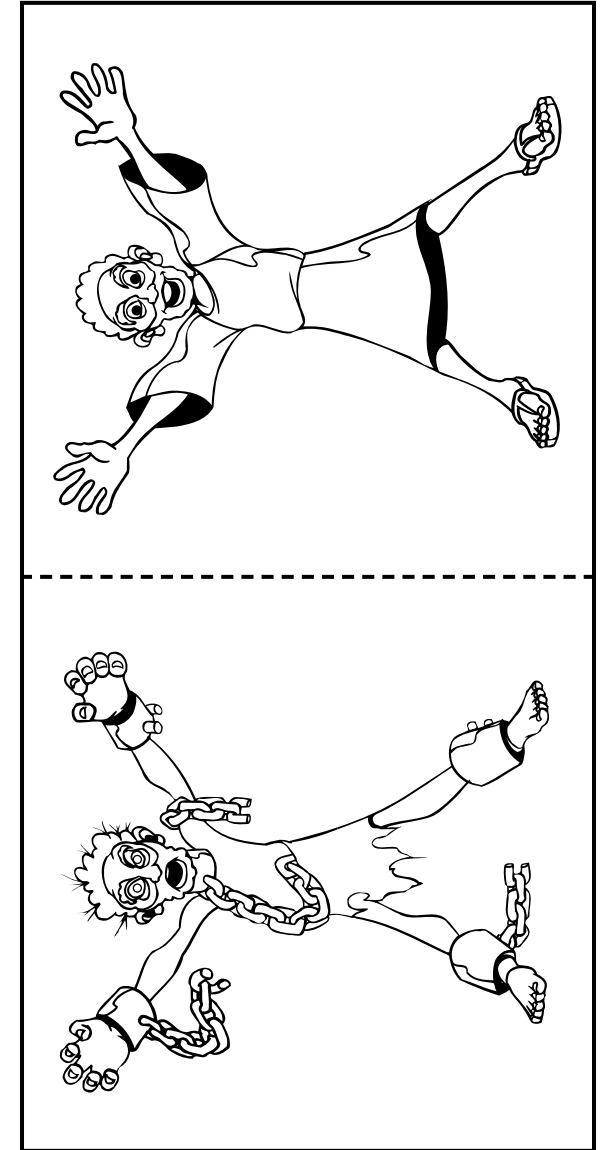
3rd and 4th Grades

Jesus' Miracles 13-3-15

# Core/Craft

1 copy for every 3 students

## Jesus' Miracles Lesson 3



GENERATION

3rd and 4th Grades

Jesus' Miracles 13-3-16



# It's in the Bag!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Open your Bible to Matthew 8:28-34. Use your Bible to find the missing words in the passage below. Write the correct words in the spaces and then find the matching words or phrases in the bags. Write the number of the bag in the spaces provided.

When [Jesus] arrived at the other side in the region of the \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_, two demon-possessed \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ coming from the \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ met him. They were so \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ that no one could \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ that way. "What do you want with us, \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?"

Some distance from them a large herd of \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ was feeding. The demons \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ Jesus, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs."

He said to them, "Go!" So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ bank into the lake and died in the water. Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. Then the \_\_\_\_\_ Bag # \_\_\_\_ went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.

Matthew 8:28-34

<b>two men</b>	<b>drive</b>	<b>violent</b>	<b>shout</b>	<b>pigs</b>
<b>begged</b>	<b>rush</b>	<b>ran off</b>	<b>feeding</b>	<b>water</b>

# Supplement/Bible Skills

1 copy for the teacher

## Jesus' Miracles Lesson 3

