

WELCOME TO OUR THIRD SERIES OF FAMILY BIBLE LESSONS

(4-25-21 through 5-23-21)

Hello, again! I am back to sending email lessons each week to our former SSUMC Sunday School members. I will continue to do this every week, so you and your family can study the Bible together. The activities are for youth of all ages, and the Scripture and application portions are ageless. I hope you will enjoy these and that you are blessed by them.

*Your friend in Christ,
Ms. Pam and friends*

Throughout the Series you will find:

1. Various ways to pray
2. Relationship building with others
3. Connections with Christian community
4. Mission and outreach

WEEK #1 (4-25-21) GOD HEALS!

Key Words: HEALING THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Memory Verse : Acts 4:12 *“Salvation is found in no one else (but Jesus), for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”*

BACK-STORY from Acts 3 - Peter and John were asked by a man, who couldn't walk since he was born, for a donation. Instead, Peter told him he had no money, but he had something better. He said, “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.” The man stood, and went walking and leaping with joy into the temple. The people were astonished! Peter and John told the people that the man was healed through the power of God when they spoke Jesus' name. Peter and John told the people they could be forgiven and healed from their sins just by asking Jesus. What happened next? Peter and John were arrested and put into jail for talking about Jesus!)

Scripture: ACTS 4:5-12 The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. 6 Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. 7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: “By what power or what name did you do this?”

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. 11 Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’

12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

APPLICATION/MESSAGE & HANDS ON ACTIVITY:

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Supplies Needed: 2 spray bottles (from the dollar store) or water bottles. One should be filled with water and the other one should be empty. (*It is preferable that the two items look the same, but if they don't, I've inserted comments in brackets like this { example comment } to include in the message if the two items do not look the same. Simply ignore the words in the brackets if the water bottles do look alike.*)

BEGIN LESSON “CHAT”

- I have a question for you. [*Hold up the two spray bottles*] Do these look the same to you? (Yes! {No!})
- Very good! {*So let's pretend that these two bottles look the same*} What might be different about them even though they look the same? Here's a hint: Let's say I would want to use one of these in a water fight – which one would you want and why? (*One of them has water inside of it!*)
- That's right! Even though {*we are pretending*} these two spray bottles look the same, the thing that {*still*} makes them different is what is inside of them. One only has air in it and the other one has water in it.
- Because of the difference of what is inside, which spray bottle would work more like it is supposed to work, right this minute? (*the one with water in it!*)
- In today's Scripture story, Peter and John are being asked to explain how they were able to heal a man who couldn't walk.
- The story says it's because Peter and John are filled with God's Holy spirit.
- In other words, it's sort of like this spray bottle [*hold up the air-filled/empty spray bottle*] asking this other spray bottle [*hold up the bottle with water in it*], "How is it that you can spray water all over the place like that and I can't?"
- The answer, of course, is that the one spray bottle has water inside of it and the other one only has air.
- This is the same thing that was happening for Peter and John.
- **They could heal others because what was inside of them: God's Holy Spirit**
- Just like this water bottle, we are meant to share what we are filled with.

- Which is why Jesus invited the disciples to follow him – so that he could teach them how to be filled with the Holy Spirit, just like he was.
- And, in today’s story, we see that the thing that Jesus was teaching the disciples actually worked for Peter and John.
- Peter and John were doing the things that Jesus had taught them, which led them to being filled with God’s Holy Spirit which then made it possible for them to heal others, just like Jesus healed others.
- And, the same thing is true for us.
- Just like the disciples learned from Jesus how to be filled with God’s Holy Spirit, we too can learn from Jesus how to be filled with God’s Holy Spirit.
- And, when we are filled with God’s Holy spirit, we then have God’s Holy Spirit to share with others – which is a really good thing to share.

PRAYER: This is a repeat-after-me prayer. Let’s pray together:

Dear God, (Dear God),

Thank you for Peter and John... (Thank you for Peter and John...)

...who reminds us... (...who reminds us...)

...that we can learn from Jesus... (...that we can learn from Jesus...)

...how to be filled... (...how to be filled...)

...with your goodness and spirit. (...with your goodness and spirit.)

Thank you and Amen (Thank you and Amen)

Song: #1 “SPIRIT OF GOD”(Sing along to the WORDS and SIGN LANGUAGE at <https://youtu.be/iOHbZxjOmG0>)

- *Spirit of God, empower me / Fill me with strength to have hope and believe.*
- *Spirit of God, lead me to truth / Fill me with faith so that I trust in You.*
- *Spirit of God, show me Your way / Fill me with love to go serve every day.*
- *Spirit of God, Come and show me Your way / Amen*

Song: #2 “SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD” (Sing along to the WORDS and SIGN LANGUAGE at [youtube.com/watch?v=XfST2yR6781](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfST2yR6781))

- *Spirit of The Living God, fall afresh on me.*
- *Spirit of The Living God, fall afresh on me.*
- *Melt me. Mold me. Fill me. Use me.*
- *Spirit of The Living God, fall afresh on me./ Amen*

Optional Activities

- **Create a skit for Acts 3 - 4:12** - Share your skit with friends and family.
- **Create a PRAYER LIST** of people who you can ask the Holy Spirit to help. DAILY Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead them to Jesus for forgiveness and healing of their bodies, minds, and spirits.
- **Brainstorm some ideas of how you can share God’s love with others.**
- **Pick a day and do at least one activity.** Make cards and deliver them; call or facetime someone to say Hi/ thinking of you/ love you;

- **Help a friend or neighbor/ buy some groceries for Hope bags; send a text or funny picture to someone hurting.**
- **Ask yourself, “What can I do for Jesus?? Then do it!”**