

# Explore It

## FOR LEADERS



### HEALTHY RESPONSE

#### Luke 5:12-16 Jesus heals a man with leprosy

Each child will need:

- Several sheets of A4 paper
- A pair of scissors
- A bowl/bucket of water, a flannel and a towel

You will need:

- Images and script of Jesus healing a man with leprosy

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/photos/lumo-man-leprosy/>

### Start It

Start with a puzzle. Ask the children to cut a hole in one piece of A4 paper, a hole big enough for their whole body to fit through it. Give the children time to have a few goes.

If someone is able to do it, let them explain how they did it. Or share the instructions from here: 'Simple Kids' Trick – How to step through a piece of paper' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5E-Qnfo8ql8>

- 💬 **Say:** What a challenge! Could you do it on your own? Or did you need to reach out to someone else for support?

**Ask:** Can you share some of the things we have explored this month?

- 💬 **Say:** In our exploring this month we have thought about taking care of ourselves and our relationship with Jesus.
- 💬 **Say:** We looked at:
  - 🕒 how important it was for Jesus to prepare himself for his ministry;
  - 🕒 how important it was for Jesus to take rest and pray;
  - 🕒 how important it was for those who knew of Jesus to go to him for healing.
- 💬 **Say:** We thought about some of the ways we can take care of ourselves, by looking after our minds, body, relationships with others and relationship with Jesus. We created prayer journals as a way to keep close to Jesus in prayer. And we learned words of the Bible to help us remember what God says to us in good times and difficult times.
- 💬 **Say:** In our story today we will see how Jesus cares about every part of someone who had a very difficult life. But how did this particular person reach out and respond to Jesus? Let's find out!

### Sing It

Let's dance along and let Jesus move us!

'Every move I make' by Hillsong Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPvnZILn6EY>

## Tell It

💡 **Say:** In the Bible our story is called 'Jesus heals a man with leprosy'.

Ask if anyone can share what they know about leprosy.

💡 **Say:** Leprosy is a contagious disease that causes severe disfiguring skin sores and nerve damage in the arms, legs, and skin areas around the body. Someone who has leprosy is often called a leper. Today we have developed better ways for caring for people who have it. But it was a terrible disease to have during biblical times.

Back then, the term 'leprosy' covered many types of physically horrible diseases, but it was socially horrible too. People had to leave their friends and family and live as a group away from the rest of the community. Food would be brought to them and left at a safe distance so it could be collected. Those who were called lepers were forbidden from touching others.

Let's read about what happened when Jesus met someone with leprosy.

Screen share images of Jesus healing a man from leprosy and read the script.

### Discuss:

- ➔ I wonder what the leper meant when he said, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean'?
- ➔ I wonder how the leper felt when 'Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him'?
- ➔ I wonder how the crowd felt and reacted when 'Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him'?
- ➔ I wonder why Jesus ordered the man not to tell anyone that he had been healed?
- ➔ I wonder what the healed man said to Jesus?
- ➔ I wonder if the man was quiet about what Jesus did?
- ➔ I wonder why Jesus 'often withdrew to lonely places and prayed'?
- ➔ I wonder if you need to reach out to Jesus?
- ➔ I wonder what you will say to Jesus?

## Action It

Let's get cleaning! Tell the children they are going to wash their own feet: in between their toes, under their toenails ...

Have some fun as some may be funny about their feet, some may have 'cheesy' feet, some may have funny feet stories to share.

As the children are washing their feet, share the verses Luke 5:12-13:

**'While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."**

**Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.'**

**Ask:** In what ways can we ask Jesus to make us clean?

## Pray It

Adapted from <https://www.illustratedministry.com/2017/ways-to-pray-with-kids/>

💡 **Say:** As we pray today, we are going to use our whole bodies to meet with God.

- ➔ Take three deep breaths.
- ➔ God, you are above, (*reach toward the sky*)
- ➔ below, (*touch your toes*)

- ➔ inside, (*hands to heart*)
- ➔ and all around. (*big arm circles*)
- ➔ I worship you, (*reach toward the sky*)
- ➔ and give my life to you. (*touch your toes*)
- ➔ And I love you (*hands to heart*)
- ➔ with all that I am. (*big arm circles*)
- ➔ Take three deep breaths.

Encourage children to repeat the prayer back so they can use it in their own prayers this week.

## Explore It

Remember to send home the Explore It (For Me) and Explore It (Together) ideas for children and families.