



Lesson 6: “The Sick Need a Doctor”

3-5 In-Person Crew Club Plan

<u>Key Teaching Point</u>	I need a new heart.
<u>Key Bible Verse</u>	“And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.” (Ezekiel 36:26 NLT)
<u>Scripture Passage</u>	“Jesus cares for sinners” (Luke 5:27-31).
<u>Materials</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Bible ● A pad of sticky notes ● A pencil ● Name tags for the skit, five ● Handout 1, two copies ● Question Pack, one per group* ● ZAP! Game, one per group* ● A pen and paper to keep score ● A bag of M&M’s®

*Materials marked by an asterisk are in the CKC Games Bag.

Relate (20 minutes)

Welcome crew members with a snack.

Distribute name tags and snacks. Choose one of the following icebreaker activities to do together while children eat their snack:

Icebreaker Options (Choose one):

- Ask the children to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week.)



- Ask the children to take turns sharing how they're feeling today using the "How Are You Feeling?" chart (from the CKC Games Bag).
- Open a discussion with the question, "If you were going to throw a party, who would you invite? What else would you plan for your party?"

Build relationships.

ZAP! (with Question Pack)

Divide students into two teams and assign a scorekeeper. Ask a student from the first team a question from the Question Pack while playing ZAP!. Refer to the instructions included with the ZAP! game.

Play a game.

We Need A Doctor

Ask students to find a partner. Give each pair of students a roll of toilet paper. In this game, they will need to respond by wrapping the toilet paper around the body part of their partner that needs healing. Ask each pair to choose one student to be the patient and one student to be the doctor. Instruct students to respond to the following scenarios: the student playing the role of the patient will act out the symptoms of the pain or sickness, and the student playing the role of the doctor will try to wrap the body part that is mentioned.

1. **Oh, no! You were running a race but tripped on a shoe that someone left lying on the ground. Your ANKLE is swollen, and it might be broken!**
2. **Oh, no! You fell and hit your HEAD playing a game of soccer at school. You don't feel right, and the room feels like it's spinning!**
3. **Oh, no! You were walking in the woods on a hike and got poked in the EYE by a branch. Ouch! Your eye is bruised pretty badly!** You may need to help students with this one. Guide students in wrapping the toilet paper around the patient's head so it rests on one or both of their eyes.
4. **Oh, no! You were walking out the door this morning, and the door got slammed on your FINGER!**
5. **Oh, no! Your WRIST is really sore from the exercises you did in gym class last week.**
6. **Oh, no! You fell off your bike and landed in such a weird way that your LEG broke! You can't even walk on your right leg anymore or keep it straight!**

Ask students: **"What would have happened in these scenarios if the patient hadn't gone to the doctor? Why is it important to go to the doctor?"**





Receive (20 minutes)

Hear God's Word.

Today's story will be told in the form of a news report. You or your co-captain should play the news reporter in the skit. Select several students to play the roles of Jesus, Levi and two Pharisees.

Give each one of the actors a name tag identifying their character. You may also add an optional role of a camera person to stand in front of the reporter and to catch the "live footage."

Hold up a Bible and tell students that they are going to imagine what a firsthand account might look like from Jesus' life. This story is from Luke 5:27-31.

News reporter: **Hi, I'm {insert name}, and I'm reporting to you from the Crossroads News Channel. We are just outside the town where Jesus has been teaching and healing people, and we were able to get a camera person on scene to get live footage of Jesus himself.**

It looks like he is approaching a tax collector! I wonder what he is going to say to this guy, tax collectors are known to be pretty dishonest and greedy. How will Jesus respond to a guy like that? Let's see!

Live footage:

Jesus (to Levi): **Follow me and be my disciple.**

Levi: **What's a disciple?**

Jesus: **Come and learn from me, and be my student. Live the way I teach you, God's way.**

Levi gets up and follows Jesus.



Reporter: **WOAH, Did you SEE that? Jesus called that sinner to follow and spend time with him? And then Levi just got up and left everything to follow Jesus!**

Now, even more stunning developments are unfolding. Levi is hosting a huge dinner party in his home with Jesus as the guest of honor. He's invited many of his tax collector friends. We have a live witness from the scene, one of the important religious leaders. Sir, can you describe what is happening right now at Levi's house?

Pharisee: **It's outrageous! A cheating, lousy tax collector is having a party with all his sinner friends. I can't believe Jesus would be there! It's very inappropriate to be seen with those kinds of people. I mean, God's people should only associate with good people, people like us religious leaders. We do everything that we're supposed to do. We obey every rule! Those tax collectors are always up to no good!**

Reporter: **Oh, sorry to interrupt you, Mr. Pharisee, but I have a report that we are getting live footage from the dinner party inside Levi's house. Your religious friends and leaders are confronting Jesus as we speak!**

Live footage:

Pharisees: **Jesus, you claim to be from God, but how can you sit and eat dinner with these guys? How can you befriend people who lie and cheat and steal? They are sinners!**

Jesus: **I came to heal sick people—those who need me and know that they need me to make them well again. Healthy people don't need a doctor—only sick people do.**

Reporter: **Oh, we lost connection. But did you hear that? Jesus cares for sinners and those who recognize that their hearts need to be made well. Jesus came for those who need him, not for those**



who don't need him! I hope we can report more to you soon about Jesus, the doctor, who claims to heal sinner's hearts. Thanks for tuning in!

Well, that was an interesting way to look at our story from the Bible today! What did Jesus mean when he said, "The healthy don't need a doctor—sick people do?" What does a doctor do?

Take student responses.

A doctor helps people who are sick become healthy. How do they do that?

Take student responses.

A doctor helps sick people become healthy by making changes to a person's life. Usually, the doctor orders their patients to take medicine, to exercise more, to change the food they eat or to change their habits so that they can become healthy. A doctor makes changes so that our bodies can become healthy again. Jesus is the doctor of our hearts, and he wants to make a change in us. He wants to take out our sinful heart and give us a new heart. He came to save people who know their problem with sin and want to change and be healed, like Levi and his friends.

Engage and explore the story.

Encourage students to participate in an interactive discussion by incorporating observation questions into a game when possible. See the CKC Games Bag for ideas.

- **Who was Levi?** (A tax collector.)
- **Why did the religious leaders dislike tax collectors?** (Tax collectors had a reputation for bad behavior: cheating, lying, being greedy, etc.)
- **How did Jesus treat Levi? What did he say to him?** (He treated Levi with kindness and acceptance. He called Levi to follow him and become his disciple.)
- **How did Levi respond?** (Levi got up and followed Jesus. Then he threw a party to honor Jesus and invited all his tax collector friends.)
- **What was surprising about this story?** (Answers will vary.)
- **How do you think Levi's life was different after he met Jesus?** (Answers will vary. He probably changed his behavior because he experienced Jesus' love and became his disciple and a close friend of Jesus.)
- **Who does Jesus come to help?** (Jesus came to help sinners, people who know they need to be rescued by God and want him to heal their hearts.)





Respond (20 minutes)

Apply God's truth.

For the following activity, each student will receive five colored M&Ms® each, one at a time: red, yellow, green, blue, and orange.

Jesus said in today's story that the sick need a doctor. Every human being has a heart that is sick. When our hearts are sick, we don't go to the doctor's office, but we go to God's Word to get his prescription because God is the doctor of our hearts.

What is a prescription?

Take student responses.

A prescription is something that doctors order for their patients when they are sick. Patients then have to take the prescription so that they can be healthy. We cannot get a prescription and get healthy if we don't first go to the doctor, and we cannot get healthy if we don't take the prescription that the doctor orders for us! In the same way, our hearts cannot be healthy if we don't go to God, the doctor of our hearts, to receive his prescription for us or if we don't take the prescription that God has ordered.

What is God's prescription? We can find God's prescription in the Bible! We are going to use M&Ms® to represent God's prescription for us. Let's listen and hear what God's prescription is. But remember, our hearts cannot become healthy if we don't take God's prescription. We do this by agreeing in our hearts with what God's Word says. Let's hear and agree with God's Word now:

Give each student a yellow M&M.®

This yellow M&M® represents being in God's presence. In God's presence is light and perfect holiness because God is perfect, and when we can be in his presence, we experience life and joy like the feeling of being in the sunshine! In God's presence, there is no darkness! But, because of the sin in our hearts, we can't be in God's presence, because God is holy and perfect and can't be in the presence of sin.

Instruct students to eat their yellow M&Ms.® Then, give each student a red M&M.®

This red M&M® represents the sin in our hearts. Because God is perfect and



can't be in the presence of sin, he can't let sin continue forever. God takes sin seriously because it separates us from him! For this reason, the punishment of sin is death. God sent his Son, Jesus, to experience the punishment for the sin in our hearts: he died for us! To take God's prescription, we have to believe and agree that we have a serious sin problem in our hearts and we need God's healing. We also believe and agree that Jesus died to be punished for our sins.

Instruct students to eat their red M&Ms.[®] Then, give each student a blue M&M.[®]

This blue M&M[®] represents the washing away of our sins and the new, clean heart we can receive from Jesus. Jesus took the punishment for all of our sins and brought them to die and to be buried with him so that our sins could be washed away. Then, Jesus rose again to offer us a new heart—a clean heart that has no sin! If you accept this new heart from Jesus, you can live in God's presence and light because all your sin has been washed away! To take God's prescription, we have to believe and agree that our sins are washed away and that our sinful hearts have been replaced with a new, clean heart because Jesus died, was buried, and rose again.

Instruct students to eat their blue M&Ms.[®] Then, give each student a green M&M.[®]

This green M&M[®] represents growth. Once you receive a new heart from God, it takes time to learn how to live with that new, clean heart. We learn to live with a new heart by reading the Bible where we can learn about God's ways and get to know more about Jesus, who shows us what it looks like to obey and live by God's Word and to live with a clean heart. As we learn to live with our new heart each day, we find out that we grow more and more like Jesus in how we live and love others! To take God's prescription and to keep our hearts healthy, we have to believe and agree that God's Word, the Bible, is for our good, and that learning from and trusting in Jesus can help us become more like him!

Instruct students to eat their green M&Ms.[®] Then, give each student an orange M&M.[®]

This orange M&M[®] represents that something new is just around the corner, just like an orange sunset signals to us that a new day is up ahead. God's promise is that one day, Jesus will come and establish a mighty kingdom that is perfect just as he is perfect. If you receive a new, clean heart from God, you will get to live in Jesus's kingdom forever! In Jesus's kingdom, our hearts will not have to experience sin, sorrow, or pain; our hearts will be healthy forever!



Instruct students to eat their orange M&Ms.®

Play a Bible verse game.

Review the Bible verse and play the suggested Bible verse game.

“And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.” (Ezekiel 36:26 NLT).

Bible Verse Game: Sticky Note Tic-Tac-Toe

Materials: a pencil, a pad of mini-sticky notes, two copies of Handout 1 (to play twice)

Divide the students into two teams. Ask everyone to recite the verse. Select a player from team one to write an X on a sticky note and cover one of the squares on the grid of the handout. Ask the children to recite the verse again. A player from team two will draw an O on a sticky note and cover another box. Continue until Tic-Tac-Toe is complete. Repeat the game.

Sing and worship together.

Pick a song from the [Praise and Worship Guide](#) or choose one of your own. Incorporate movement into the songs whenever possible.

Pray together.

We learned from God’s Word that we have sin in our hearts that separates us from God’s presence and from following God’s ways. Jesus wants to heal our hearts. God’s Word tells us that if we want Jesus’ healing, we need to confess our sins.

That might be a new word for many of you. Does anyone know what the word *confess* means?

Take student responses.

To confess means to admit that you have sin in your heart and that you need Jesus’ healing. The tax collectors in today’s story recognized their need for Jesus’ healing because of the sin in their hearts.

You can probably think of a time when someone did something wrong, but they didn’t admit they were wrong. This is like the religious leaders in today’s story. The Pharisees thought that just because they obeyed all the rules with their outward actions, they were good in God’s eyes and didn’t



need healing in their hearts. But on the inside the Pharisees needed their hearts healed, too! The Pharisees were sick, but they didn't think they needed Jesus to heal their hearts, so their hearts were not made well.

That is why Jesus invites us to confess that we need his healing in our hearts and to admit that we have sin in our hearts—so that our hearts can be made well!

Where do you need God's healing in your heart?

Give several examples of areas where God's healing might be needed. (Unforgiveness, talking back to parents, fighting with siblings, jealousy, selfishness) If you feel led, share an area where you need God's healing in your heart.

Then, take prayer requests and close the group in prayer.



Handout 1: Sticky Note Tic-Tac-Toe

And I will give	you a new heart,	and I will put
a new spirit in you.	I will take out	your stony, stubborn heart
and give you a	tender, responsive heart.”	Ezekiel 36:26 NLT

