



Lesson 25

Those Who Receive, Give Large Group Lesson & Games

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>Miracle at the Gate</p> <p><i>Acts 3:1-11</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• A squishy ball
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“Give as freely as you have received.”</p> <p><i>Matthew 10:8b, New Living Translation</i></p>	
<p>Key Teaching Point</p> <p>Give what you have received.</p>	



Large Group Lesson

(15 Minutes)

Today's story is from the Book of Acts. It takes place after Jesus died, came to life again, and ascended into heaven, in the city of Jerusalem at the temple where many people went to talk to and worship God. Most of the Jewish people who went there believed in God, but they did not believe in Jesus. Some thought Jesus was a fake. Some had not even heard of him. They didn't think it was okay to believe in Jesus.

Now, there was a man who went to the temple every day, but he couldn't walk. In fact, he had never walked in his whole life. He was not able to go into the temple courtyard like the other people were able to do. He had to sit at the temple gate.

Can you all sit down and pretend to be this man?

(Children sit down.)

This man couldn't work to make money, so he sat at the temple gate to ask people for money. Can you all pretend to ask for money like the man did?

(Children pretend to ask for money.)

Sometimes, people were kind and gave him money, but sometimes they just walked past him.

Two of Jesus's friends, Peter and John, also liked to go to the temple. They went into the temple courtyard to tell people about Jesus because they wanted everyone to know and follow him.

One day, when Peter and John were on their way into the temple, they saw the man who couldn't walk, asking for money. Peter looked at the man and said, "Look at me." So, the man looked up at Peter, and Peter said something amazing. Can you all look up and pretend to be surprised?

(Children look up and act surprised.)

He told the man, "I don't have any money, but I have something even better." Then Peter said, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!" Peter held the man's hand, and suddenly, the man felt his feet and ankles getting stronger. It was incredible! Even though the man had never walked before, he jumped up and started walking around. Can you all try to stand up and pretend to walk like the man did when he could walk?



(Children try to stand up and walk around.)

It was a miracle, all because of the power of Jesus Christ. The man was so happy that he kept walking and jumping and praising God. He followed Peter and John into the courtyard, and everyone was amazed because they recognized him as the man who used to sit by the gate begging, and now he could walk! Can you all jump up and down and shout, "Yay, God!"

(Children jump up and down and shout.)

A lot of people gathered around, so Peter started telling them about Jesus. He explained that God had sent Jesus to help everyone in the world. Peter told them the good news that they could say sorry to God for the bad things they had done. This is called "repenting," and it means telling God that you're sorry and that you want to follow Jesus from now on. Peter also said they could be baptized, which would wash away their sins. Can you all say, "Sorry, God" and "We want to follow Jesus!"

(Children say, "Sorry, God" and "We want to follow Jesus!")

While Peter was talking to the people, some temple leaders didn't like what he was saying. They didn't believe in Jesus, and they didn't want others to believe in Him either. They got so angry that they put Peter and John in jail! Can you all pretend to be in a jail cell, like this?

(Children pretend to be in a small space.)

The next day, important Jewish leaders gathered for a meeting and asked Peter to explain what had happened. Peter told them that God had sent Jesus to bless the whole world and that they should accept Him. He explained that Jesus had died but came back to life, becoming the true king of the world. Everyone was surprised because Peter spoke so well, even though he hadn't been to fancy schools like they had. Can you all say, "Wow, Peter!"

(Children say, "Wow, Peter!")

The leaders didn't know what to do. They didn't want people to believe in Jesus, but they couldn't argue with the miracle that had happened. So, they told Peter and John to stop talking about Jesus. Can you all say, "Stop, Peter and John!"

(Children say, "Stop, Peter and John!")

But guess what? Peter and John didn't stop. They said, "Should we listen to people or to God? We can't stop talking about what we've seen and heard." They kept telling people about Jesus. Can you all say, "We can't stop!"



(Children say, "We can't stop, God!")

The leaders eventually let them go. And Peter and John continued telling more and more people about Jesus. Even when they were in jail, more and more people believed in him, and there were now thousands of men, women and children who followed Jesus. Can you all say, "Yay, Jesus!"

(Children say, "Yay, Jesus!")

As for the man who had been healed, he probably kept walking, jumping, and praising God! Can you all jump and praise God like the man did?

(Children jump and shout, "Praise God!")

Peter and John gave this man what they've received from Jesus: life transformation! They did this through their words and actions. We'll talk more about this in our small groups today.

Dismiss children to their small groups.



Large Group Games

(15 Minutes)

TELEPHONE

No materials needed.

Instruct students to stand in two separate lines, forming two teams. The first team should stand with everyone facing forward in one direction, so that each team member cannot see the person behind them. The leader will tap the person at the back of the line on the shoulder and tell them the key word or phrase that they must act out. Player one then taps player two on the shoulder signaling them to turn around. Player one acts out the word or phrase without speaking. Player two then signals player three to turn around, and player two proceeds to act out the word or phrase. This continues until the last player has seen the word or phrase acted out, and no one may talk at any point. The last player must guess the original word or phrase. Note: Team two may watch and be entertained as team one plays this out, but NO talking!

After team one has completed one round, team two follows the same steps, only using a different word or phrase. Now, team one may watch as team two attempts to successfully pass the word or phrase to the last player.

Begin once again with a different word or phrase for team one and team two. This time, they will get two chances, they'll begin by whispering a word or phrase down the line (traditional telephone), and once it gets to the last player, player one will begin again and pass the word or phrase down the line by acting it out (telephone charades), after which the last player can guess the original word or phrase.

We are called to share the good news of the gospel with both our words and our actions!

WORD TAG

Materials: A squishy ball

Seat students in a circle, then name an animal, type of candy bar, etc. Toss the ball to another player. The next player must name another animal or object that starts with the last letter of your word and then pass it to a new player. A player is out if they can't come up with a word as soon as they catch the ball. Continue until one student remains.

