

# Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Hear or Speak

## Lesson 6



**Scripture:** Mark 7:31-37

**Bible Memory:** Psalm 147:5

“Our Lord is great and very powerful. There is no limit to what he knows.” (ICB)

“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.” (KJV)

**Focus:** ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

As adults, we sometimes hear the stories of Jesus’ miracles so many times that they become commonplace. But the biblical accounts of Jesus’ powerful works are anything but commonplace. As you prepare to teach this week’s lesson, study it with the fresh and faith-filled eyes of a child. Be awed by the great and powerful works of the Son of God.

### Bible Background for the Teacher

Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee, was beginning to grow hostile toward Jesus. Jesus decided to spend some private time with His disciples. Arriving in Decapolis (the area of Ten Towns), Jesus met the man in today’s story. Isaiah had foretold that the Messiah would heal people who were deaf and mute, and so this miracle supports Jesus’ claim to be God’s Son (see Isaiah 35:5, 6).

## Lesson 6 at a Glance

### 1 GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore hearing and speaking*.



**Quick Step**  
Talking Hands



The Get-Well Hospital  
(unit center)



Noisy Snacks

### HeartShaper Materials

- Resources sheet 8 Praise poster

- Teaching Picture 6

- none

### Other Materials

- none

- unit center supplies (see unit 1 pages), tongue depressors, small flashlights

- crunchy food items, small paper plates, small cups, pitcher of water

### 2 BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell what Jesus did for the man who could not hear or speak*.



**Sing and Pray**



**Bible Time**

Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Hear or Speak



**Bible Review**



**Bible Memory**

- Resources CD, Resources sheet 5 bottle puppets 6a and 6b, Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, Bible, two 2-liter bottles, two ¾" dowel rods (18" long), tape, two 24" squares of fabric, scissors

### 3 GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *praise Jesus because He is the Son of God*.



**Quick Step**  
Praise Jesus! Door Hangers



Praising God with His Word



Signs of Praise

**Closing the Hour**

- Make-n-Share for lesson 6 and stickers

- Resources sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c

- Resources sheet 8 Praise poster

- Heart Tugs issue 6

- colored pencils, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks

- Bibles, walking rope with knots

- none

- none

# Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore hearing and speaking**.

## Welcome

- Use a Scout puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their offering money.

## Quick Step Talking Hands

**SAY:** ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. The Bible, God's special book, tells about Jesus helping a man who could not hear or speak. When people cannot hear or speak, sometimes they talk with their hands. Let's practice talking without using our voices.

Show the Praise poster and let children practice the signs for the words. Make up sentences that include the signed words. (Examples: Last night's storm was very powerful. My grandma is kind.) Share other words the children may know in sign language. (Examples: Jesus, Bible)

**ASK:** Is it easy or hard to talk without using your voice?

**What do you think it would be like if you couldn't hear anything?**

### ***Especially for 4s!***

Have 4s sign one or two of the signs to partners.

## The Get-Well Hospital (unit center)

**SAY:** ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. The Bible, God's special book, tells us that Jesus helped a man who was deaf and could not speak either. Show the teaching picture. Let's pretend to be doctors, checking patient's ears and mouths.

Have children take turns being doctors and patients. They can also use dolls as patients. The doctors can have the patients say "aah" while looking in their throats, check ears, and test hearing by making beeping noises and asking the patients to tell how many beeps they heard.

**ASK:** Why do doctors check our ears and mouths?

**Can doctors always fix ears and mouths that don't work?**

## Noisy Snacks



**SAY:** The Bible, God's special book, tells us about Jesus helping people. ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. One day Jesus helped a man who could not hear. Let's use our ears as we listen to the sound some foods make when we eat them.

Keep snacks hidden from class. Ask children to close their eyes as you crunch a cracker or chip, snap a carrot, bite into an apple slice, or pour dry cereal. Show two samples for children to guess from. Let each child choose one or two of the snacks. Then listen to the crunchy noises as children chew them. Serve water with the snacks. Note: Check food allergies before serving snacks, and have an alternative one available.

**ASK:** When is it important to hear clearly?

## Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**

### Materials

Resources sheet 8 Praise poster



### Materials

Teaching Picture 6, unit center supplies (see unit 1 pages), tongue depressors, small flashlights (optional: dolls)



### Caution

Do not let children stick objects into each others' mouths, noses, and ears.

### Materials

crunchy food items (crackers, potato chips, dry cereal, carrot sticks, apple slices), small paper plates, small cups, pitcher of water



### Cleanup

Encourage children to use their ears and listen closely to your directions for straightening the room.



## Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

# Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what Jesus did for the man who could not hear or speak.**

### Materials

Resources CD tracks 2 and 5, CD player, Bible



### Materials

Resources sheet 5 bottle puppets 6a and 6b, two 2-liter bottles, two ¾" dowel rods (18" long), tape, two 24" squares of fabric, scissors



### Before Class

Cut a small hole in the center of each fabric square. Slip each square over a bottle neck. Tape each puppet head to a dowel rod and stand it in a bottle. Tape in place.



### Materials

bottle puppets used in Bible Time



### Materials

Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bible



## Sing and Pray

Sing "Jesus Went Around Doing Good" and "Our Lord Is Great."

PRAY: **Dear great and powerful God, thank You for making our ears to hear and mouths to talk. Thank You for sending Your Son to help us. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Open the Bible and start reading without using your voice. Use facial expressions and gestures. Wait for children to say that they can't hear you.

ASK: **Do you know what it means to be deaf? It means that your ears do not work, so you can't hear. If you are deaf, you can't hear music or laughter or singing birds. You wouldn't be able to hear people talking to you. Today's story is from the New Testament part of the Bible called Mark, chapter 7. Show the New Testament section of your Bible and then show Mark 7. It's about a man who could not hear or speak.**

## Bible Time

SAY: **Jesus was teaching near Lake Galilee. Show Jesus. A group of people came to Him and brought a man who could not hear and could barely talk. Show man. Show me what it was like for the man when people talked to him.** Have children move their mouths without saying anything. **The man's friends asked Jesus to touch the man and make him better.**

**Jesus wanted to help! He took the man away from the crowd. Move puppets to one side. Jesus put His fingers in the man's ears. Touch the man's ears. Have children touch their ears. Next, Jesus touched the man's tongue. Touch the man's mouth. Have children touch their tongues.**

**Then Jesus looked up to Heaven and sighed. Give a big sigh. Jesus said, "Be opened!" Bring puppets to front. And just like that, the man started speaking clearly, and he could hear. The people were amazed at Jesus' power. ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.**

## Bible Review

Divide children into pairs. Have one person in each pair pretend to be Jesus and one pretend to be the man. Let pairs of children use the puppets to reenact the Bible story for other children to see.

ASK: **What did Jesus do for the man who could not hear or speak?** (healed him)

**How do you think the man felt after Jesus healed him?**

**Why were people so amazed by Jesus?** (They were amazed at Jesus' power to heal the man's disabilities.)

## Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

SAY: **Psalm 147:5 tells us why Jesus is able to heal people who cannot hear or speak. Jesus is great and powerful!** Review the verse while doing the motions. Then have children take turns doing a motion without saying anything. Have the other children repeat the motion and say what it is.

# Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

**3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **praise Jesus because He is the Son of God.**

## Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

### Quick Step Praise Jesus! Door Hangers

SAY: ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. Praise is giving thanks to Jesus and telling Him how wonderful He is. Let's make a craft to praise Jesus because He is the Son of God.

Assist children as needed in completing their praise hangers. The children could also add crepe-paper streamers to the bottoms of the hangers. Talk about praising Jesus and why we praise Him. Together, say a simple praise phrase to Jesus: "Jesus, You are the Son of God."

ASK: **What is praise?** (thanking Jesus and telling Him how wonderful He is)

**Why do we praise Jesus?** (Jesus is the Son of God.)

### Materials

*Make-n-Share* for lesson 6 and stickers, colored pencils, blunt-tip scissors, glue sticks (optional: crepe-paper streamers)



### Materials

Bibles, walking rope with knots, *Resources* sheet 4 No Limit sign 5c



### Praising God with His Word

SAY: ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. One way we can praise Jesus is by learning praise verses from the Bible, God's Word.

Place Bibles around the room. Have children form a line, holding on to the rope. The leader holds the No Limit sign. When the group comes to one of the Bibles, have them stop. Have the leader hold up the sign and lead in saying the Bible Memory from Psalm 147:5. The leader then hands the sign to the next person in line and goes to the back of the line. Repeat until every child has been the leader.

ASK: **Who is the Son of God?** (Jesus)

**What is praise?** (thanking Jesus and telling Him how wonderful He is)

### Teaching Tip

If you have a smaller class, you and other adults in the room can join the children for this activity.

### Especially for 4s!

Lead the 4s around the room. When they see a Bible, hold up the No Limit sign as children say the verse.

### Signs of Praise

SAY: Just as Jesus helped the man in today's Bible story, ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. We can praise Jesus and thank Him for helping us. Let's show Jesus some praise signs that describe how wonderful He is. Sit in a circle. Practice the motion for each word on the poster. Ask one child to choose and silently sign a word. The other children can guess the word. Then the whole class can say, "Jesus, You are \_\_\_\_\_!" Continue until every child has had a turn to show a sign.

ASK: **What other words of praise describe Jesus?**

**How can we praise Jesus?**

### Materials

*Resources* sheet 8 Praise poster



Some children with special needs may need hand-over-hand assistance in mirroring your movements.

### Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and a copy of *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to help their children complete the praise charts throughout the week. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See [www.heartshaper.com](http://www.heartshaper.com).

# Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Hear or Speak

## Lesson 6 Extra Hour



**Scripture:** Mark 7:31-37

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“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.” (*KJV*)

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### Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

As adults, we sometimes hear the stories of Jesus’ miracles so many times that they become commonplace. But the biblical accounts of Jesus’ powerful works are anything but commonplace. As you prepare to teach this week’s lesson, study it with the fresh and faith-filled eyes of a child. Be awed by the great and powerful works of the Son of God.

### Bible Background for the Teacher

Herod Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee, was beginning to grow hostile toward Jesus. Jesus decided to spend some private time with His disciples. Arriving in Decapolis (the area of Ten Towns), Jesus met the man in today’s story. Isaiah had foretold that the Messiah would heal people who were deaf and mute, and so this miracle supports Jesus’ claim to be God’s Son (see Isaiah 35:5, 6).

## Lesson 6 at a Glance—Extra Hour

Lesson 6 at a Glance—Extra Hour			
<p><b>1 MORE! GETTING STARTED</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>explore hearing and speaking</i>.</p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Guess Who?</p> <p> Sound Jars</p> <p> Musical Art</p>	<p><b>HeartShaper Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• none</li> <li>• <i>Teaching Picture 6, Resources CD</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Other Materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bedsheet</li> <li>• prescription containers (with lids) filled with various items (see activity)</li> <li>• CD player, paper, finger paint, newspaper, paint shirts</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY</b> Use all these activities to help children <i>tell what Jesus did for the man who could not hear or speak</i>.</p>	<p> <b>More! Sing and Pray</b></p> <p> <b>Bible Time—Another Way!</b> Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Hear or Speak</p> <p> <b>More! Bible Review</b></p> <p> <b>More! Bible Memory</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Resources CD, Teaching Picture 6, Resources sheet 5</i></li> <li>• bottle puppets from first hour, <i>Resources CD Bible Memory Rebus</i> printable file</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CD player, Bible, washable markers</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 MORE! GROW AND GO</b> Use one or more of these learning centers to help children <i>praise Jesus because He is the Son of God</i>.</p>	<p> <b>Quick Step</b> Scout Puppet Story</p> <p> My Praise Week</p> <p><b>Saying Good-bye</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> <li>• <i>Heart Tugs</i> issue 6</li> <li>• <i>Heart Tugs</i> issue 6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scout puppet, ball cap</li> <li>• small stickers</li> <li>• none</li> </ul>

# More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

- 1** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **explore hearing and speaking**.

## Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Gather the children. When you say “Shhh!” have them sit silently and listen for 15 seconds. Then talk about all the sounds they heard.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

## Quick Step Guess Who?

SAY: ♥ **Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. Today we are learning about a time when Jesus helped a man who could not hear or speak. Let’s play a game to see how well we can hear and talk.**

Divide the class in half. Have two adults hold up the sheet, and have groups sit on opposite sides. Or instead of using a sheet, simply have the children sit in chairs, not facing each other. Point to a child who will say, “Jesus helps me!” Have children in the other group guess who spoke. For a fun variation, include Scout at different times by having him bark, growl, whine, or pant. Repeat until every child has a turn to speak.

ASK: **How did you know who was speaking?**

**What do you use your voice for?**

**What do you use your ears for?**

## Sound Jars



Before class, prepare the containers.

SAY: **The Bible, God’s special book, tells us that ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. In our Bible story today, Jesus helped a man who could not hear or speak. Let’s practice using our ears.**

Let children take turns shaking the containers, listening to the sounds, and guessing what is inside. Open each container to show its contents.

ASK: **How did you know what was inside each container?**

**Which things were easy to guess? Which things were hard?**

### ***Epecially for 4s!***

Set out a sample of what is in each container. Then after a child shakes a container, the child can select the sample of what he thinks is in the container.

## Musical Art

SAY: **The Bible, God’s special book, tells us that ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. When Jesus was living on earth, He helped lots of people—even a man who could not hear or speak. Show teaching picture. Let’s listen with our ears to some music as we paint some fun pictures.**

Have children listen as you play the music. If the music is fast, children should paint quickly; if the music is slow, they should paint slowly. If the music is soft, children can make small strokes; if the music is loud, they can make long strokes. Show the finished masterpieces.

ASK: **What is your favorite kind of music to hear?**

**What other sounds, besides music, do our ears help us hear?**

## Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

**Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.**

### Materials

bedsheet (or blanket or room divider) (optional: chairs, Scout puppet)



### Teaching Tips

For younger children, have them identify whether the speaker is a child, adult, or dog.

For smaller classes, have children form a circle. Blindfold a child and put him in the center. He will point to a child from the circle to speak.

### Materials

prescription containers with lids (or other small sealed containers) filled with various items (Examples: water, coins, cereal, rice, jingle bell, pebbles)



### Materials

Teaching Picture 6, Resources CD track 10, CD player, paper, finger paint (or watercolors and paintbrushes), newspaper, paint shirts



## Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

# More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

**2** Use all these activities to help children **tell what Jesus did for the man who could not hear or speak.**

### Materials

Resources CD track 2,  
CD player, Bible



## More! Sing and Pray

Sing “Jesus Went Around Doing Good.”

PRAY: **Dear God, You are very great and powerful. We praise You because You sent Your Son, Jesus, to help us. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

Sign “Jesus loves you!” (*Jesus*: middle finger of each hand alternates touching palm of the opposite hand; *loves*: cross arms across chest; *you*: point to children). **Do you know what I am saying with my hands? I am using sign language to tell you that Jesus loves you. People who cannot hear or speak sometimes use their hands to talk. Our Bible story is from the book of Mark, chapter 7. Show Mark 7. It’s about how Jesus helped a man who could not hear or talk. Each time I say the name *Jesus*, I want you to sign *Jesus loves you*.** Practice signing “Jesus loves you!”

### Materials

Teaching Picture 6



## Bible Time—Another Way!

SAY: **One day Jesus (sign) was near Lake Galilee. Some people brought to Jesus a man who could not hear or speak. Why do you think they did that?** Let children respond.

**Do you think Jesus could help the man? Yes, of course He could! Jesus is the Son of God!**

Show the teaching picture. **Jesus took the man away from the crowd and put His fingers in the man’s ears (point to your ears) and touched the man’s tongue (point to your tongue). Then Jesus looked up to Heaven and sighed. Have children sigh. Then Jesus said, “Be opened!” Immediately the man could hear, and he could speak clearly!**

**The people told everybody about Jesus. They said, “Jesus does everything well!” Jesus is great and powerful. ♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.**



### Materials

bottle puppets from  
first hour



## More! Bible Review

Have children take turns retelling the Bible story, using the puppets.

ASK: **What was wrong with the man the people brought to Jesus?** (He could not hear or speak.)

**What did Jesus do for the man?** (healed the man)

**Why could Jesus help the man when the other people could not?** (Jesus is the Son of God.)

### Teaching Tip

If the puppets were not used earlier, prepare them for this activity (see first hour Bible Time).

### Materials

Resources CD Bible  
Memory Rebus printable  
file (in IBC and KJV),  
washable markers (or crayons)



## More! Bible Memory Psalm 147:5

Before class, print the rebus from the CD, one per child.

Give a rebus to each child and point to the word pictures. SAY: **Do you remember what words our Bible Memory uses to describe our Lord? It says He is great and powerful.** Have the children color the word pictures and then sign the words as they recite the verse. Talk about what it is to be great and what it is to be powerful.

## More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **praise Jesus because He is the Son of God.**

### Focus

♥ Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God.

### Quick Step “Good Boy, Scout!”

Scout comes out, wearing the cap. SAY: **Nice cap, Scout! Do you play baseball?** Scout whispers to you. **You are a good dog, Scout. Let’s tell the children about your trip to the ball game.**

**Scout likes it when his family says “Good boy, Scout!” That’s what we call praise. One day, Scout’s family praised him a lot. Scout was under the bleachers, sniffing the grass. He was thinking about taking a nap.** Scout yawns and stretches. **He turned around twice** (Scout turns around), **and then he curled up.** Scout lies down in your lap.

**Suddenly Scout heard someone scream. A little girl had lost her ball. Scout jumped up.** Scout jumps up and looks around. **He knew he could help! Scout found the ball underneath a chair. Scout barked** (have Scout bark) **and barked until the little girl came to get her ball.**

**Everyone said, “Good boy, Scout!” They patted him on the head** (pat Scout’s head) **and scratched his ears.** Scratch Scout’s ears. **Everyone praised Scout for the good thing that he had done.**

ASK: **What does it mean to praise someone?** (*Praise* means you thank a person and tell how wonderful the person is.)

**What words of praise do you like to hear?**

**Who should we praise the most?** (Jesus)

Lead children in saying sentence praise prayers to Jesus, telling Jesus how wonderful He is.

### Materials

Scout puppet, ball cap



### My Praise Week

SAY: ♥ **Jesus helps us because He is the Son of God. Let’s look at some ways we can praise Jesus because He is the Son of God.**

Give each child a *Heart Tugs*. Point out the praise chart and talk about the ways to praise Jesus. Have children choose a way to praise Jesus right now and do so. Give each child a sticker to place on their charts.

ASK: **How is saying thank You to God praising Him?**

**Why should we praise Jesus?**

**How will you praise Jesus this week?**

**Especially for 4s!**



Demonstrate for younger children the ways to praise pictured on the *Heart Tugs* chart. Have them pick one activity to complete in class as a group.

### Materials

*Heart Tugs* issue 6,  
small stickers



### Teaching Tip

Prepare an envelope with six more stickers inside for each child. Staple an envelope to each child’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage children to use the stickers on their charts as they praise Jesus this week.

### Saying Good-bye

• While you wait for parents, conduct a sound test again. See Transition Time for instructions.

• Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to help their children complete the praise chart throughout the week. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See [www.heartshaper.com](http://www.heartshaper.com).

### Cleanup

Sing “Cleanup Song,” found on the *Resources* CD Teacher Helps, as you encourage children to join you in cleaning the room.

