

Peter and Tabitha

Lesson 10



Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

Bible Memory: Acts 5:42

“Tell the Good News—that Jesus is the Christ.” (*ICB*)

“They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.” (*KJV*)

Focus: ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

We usually don’t think of young children as teachers, but in many ways they are uniquely qualified to help others learn about Jesus. They are unconditionally enthusiastic about Jesus and eager to share their love for Him. They aren’t afraid of offending or plagued by doubts of failure. They enjoy helping (usually). Learn from the children in your class and then together share the good news of Jesus.

Bible Background for the Teacher

Joppa was the principal seaport of Palestine and was located on a plain along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Tabitha (Dorcas in Greek) was a true servant, always doing good and helping those in need. Peter was in the nearby town of Lydda and had performed miracles there. Tabitha’s friends may have expected a miracle, or they may have simply wanted Peter’s comfort. They received both.

Lesson 10 at a Glance

1 GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore helping*.



Game



Family Living



Craft

Quick Step
Helper Cards

Helpers at Home

Our Mission (unit center)

HeartShaper Materials

- *Resources* CD Jesus Helps Game Cards printable file

- none

- *Resources* CD Our Mission printable file

Other Materials

- heart stickers

- home living items (see activity)

- bank, crayons, blunt-tip scissors, construction paper, glue sticks, adhesive-backed magnetic strips

2 BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell what happened when Peter helped Tabitha*.



Sing & Pray



Bible Time



Bible Review



Bible Memory

Sing and Pray

Bible Time
Peter and Tabitha

Bible Review

Bible Memory

- *Resources* CD, *Resources* sheet 7 story figures 10a–10e, *Resources* CD Unit 2 Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, clean dustcloth, Bible, sand pan, whistle

3 GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *name ways they can help others learn about Jesus*.



Music



Craft



Game

Quick Step
Share Your Song

My To-Do List

Pass It On

Closing the Hour

- none

- *Make-n-Share* and stickers for lesson 10

- *Resources* CD

- *Heart Tugs* issue 10, *Resources* CD Our Mission printable file

- none

- crayons, blunt-tip scissors, adhesive-backed magnetic strips, resealable plastic bags
- CD player, small Bible

- none

Getting Started (10-15 minutes)

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

Welcome

- Use a Scamper 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 Helper Cards

SAY: In today's Bible story, we will learn about a woman named Tabitha who helped other people. Let's play a game. We'll look at some pictures and tell how other people help us and how we can help others.

Lay cards upside down. Have children take turns picking a picture. Looking at the first picture, let every child tell a way the pictured person helps people. After all have shared, give a heart sticker to each child. Move on to the next picture. Hopefully, children will end up with lots of stickers! **You have named a lot of ways to be helpers. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

**ASK: Who are some people we can help?
How can we help them?**

Helpers at Home

Place the items in your family living area. **SAY: The Bible tells us that a good woman named Tabitha helped other people. You can help the people who live in your home. Let's pretend to be helpers at home.**

Encourage the children to pretend they are helping by setting the table, fixing food, cleaning, folding laundry, caring for babies, and emptying the trash. **We can help our families. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

**ASK: How do you help at home?
How do other people at your house help you?**

Our Mission (unit center)

Before class, have a bank for children who earned money for the mission project. Print out copies of Our Mission. Cut 2½" squares from the construction paper, and adhere a magnet strip to the back of each square.

SAY: We are helping at home to earn money so that we can help _____ (name of mission). Let's make magnets to remind us to do our jobs this week.

Give each child a copy of the letter. Help them find the job they each chose last week or choose a new one. Have them color and cut out their pictures and glue them to the construction paper squares. **Our mission helps others learn about Jesus. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus too.**

**ASK: Which job are you going to do at home? Have you started helping?
How is doing this job going to help _____ (name of mission)?**

Especially for 2s!



Before class, cut out the "dust the furniture" job squares and glue to construction paper squares. Give one to each child to color. Help children practice the job by using soft cloths to dust tables and chairs around your classroom.

Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Resources CD Jesus Helps Game Cards printable file, heart stickers



Materials

home living items (kitchen equipment, dishes, toy food, cleaning toys, laundry baskets, clothes, dolls and baby care toys, empty trash can)



Materials

bank (or decorated container), Resources CD Our Mission printable file, crayons, blunt-tip scissors, construction paper, adhesive-backed magnetic strips, glue sticks (optional: soft cloths)



Teaching Tip

Remember to send home the Our Mission letters.

Cleanup

Sing "Cleanup Song" found in the Teacher Helps folder on the Resources CD. Encourage children to be good helpers as you work together.



Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2

Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened when Peter helped Tabitha.**

Materials

Resources CD tracks 3 and 6, CD player, clean dustcloth (or feather duster), Bible



Materials

Resources sheet 7 story figures 10a–10e, sand pan



Teaching Tip

A plastic 9" x 12" storage container with a lid makes a great sand pan. Cornmeal can be used in place of sand. Or use reusable adhesive and attach the figures to a poster board background.

Materials

story figures used for Bible Time



Materials

Resources CD Unit 2 Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bible, whistle



Sing and Pray

Sing “Yes, I Will Go” and “They Continued to Tell.”

PRAY: **Dear God, help us to be like Tabitha and Peter. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus too. In Jesus name, amen.**

Begin dusting chairs and tables near you. You can even “dust off” the children! SAY: **I like to be a good helper. Today we are going to hear a story about a woman named Tabitha who loved to help other people. We can read about her in the book called Acts in our Bible. Show Acts in your Bible. Let’s listen and hear what happened.**

Bible Time

Show figure 10a. SAY: **The Bible tells about a woman named Tabitha who lived in the town of Joppa. She was a follower of Jesus. Add 10b. Tabitha helped women who had no husbands. She helped people who had little money. Tabitha made coats and other clothes for these people. Let’s pretend to sew.** Pretend to pull a needle through fabric.

One day Tabitha became sick and she died. Remove 10a. The followers of Jesus who lived in Joppa sent for Peter. Peter was one of Jesus’ special helpers. “Hurry, please come to us!” the people said.

Add Peter 10c. **When Peter arrived, the people took him to an upstairs room. The women in the room showed Peter some of the clothes Tabitha had made. The women were crying.** Have children show sad faces.

Peter sent everyone out of the room. Remove 10b. He knelt down and prayed to God. Replace 10c with 10d. Then Peter said, “Tabitha, stand up!”

Add 10e. **Tabitha opened her eyes and sat up. Peter helped her stand (remove 10d and 10e; replace with 10c and 10a), and he called in her friends. Add 10b. They were so happy. Show happy faces. They told everyone what had happened, and many people believed in Jesus.** Have each child turn to a friend and say “Jesus loves you.” ♥ **We can help others learn about Jesus too.**

Bible Review

Let children take turns holding the figures as you retell the Bible story. ASK: **How did Tabitha help others?** (She made clothes for them.)

How did Peter help Tabitha? (He prayed that God would bring her back to life.)

What did Tabitha’s friends do when they saw Tabitha was well again? (told others)

Bible Memory Acts 5:42

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

Read the Bible Memory from the Bible to the children. Then pair the children and encourage partners to teach each other the Bible Memory motions as they say the verse. Blow a whistle, change partners, and repeat as time allows. SAY: ♥ **We can help others learn about Jesus.**

Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name ways they can help others learn about Jesus.**

Quick Step Share Your Song

Before class, ask permission to visit another classroom during this activity.

SAY: **Let's practice singing one of our favorite songs about Jesus. Then we can share our song with other people. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

Practice singing one of the songs from the CD or let children choose a well-known song about Jesus. (Examples: "Jesus Loves Me," "Jesus Loves the Little Children") Take the children to another Sunday school class, and have the children sing the song. When you return to your room, talk about how the children helped others learn about Jesus.

ASK: **How did you help others learn about Jesus today?**

Name another way you can help someone learn about Jesus.

My To-Do List

Before class, put a set of stickers into a plastic bag. Prepare one per child.

Give each child a *Make-n-Share* activity. SAY: **Sometimes grown-ups write down things they need to do. Grown-ups call this a to-do list. Let's make our own to-do lists. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

As children color the picture of Scamper, talk about the pictures on the to-do list and the ways to tell others about Jesus. Assist as needed in cutting out the to-do list and adding a 2½" piece of magnetic strip to the back. Have each child take one sticker and choose a way to help others learn about Jesus. Let children take the other stickers home.

ASK: **Can you name some ways you can help friends learn about Jesus?**

Which way did you choose to help others learn about Jesus? Be sure children have marked that way with a sticker.

Pass It On

Ask the children to sit in a circle on the floor. SAY: **Let's play a game to help us learn our Bible Memory. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

Play "They Continued to Tell" and have the children pass the Bible around the circle. Pause the CD, and ask the child holding the Bible to look at someone and say, "Tell the Good News. Jesus is the Christ." Continue until everyone has had a turn. **You helped your friends learn about Jesus.**

ASK: **Can you name a way you can help others learn about Jesus?**

Especially for 2s!

Let each child hold a Bible. Ask children to repeat the Bible Memory, two to four words at a time. Praise children for helping others learn about Jesus.

Closing the Hour

• Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects, a copy of Our Mission from the *Resources* CD, and this week's *Heart Tugs*. Encourage parents to do the Helping Sounds activity with their children. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Materials

(optional: *Resources* CD and CD player)



Teaching Tip

If you don't want to take the children out of the classroom, have half the class sing a song to the other half and then vice versa. Or record the class singing and let them listen to themselves singing.

Materials

Make-n-Share and stickers for lesson 10, resealable plastic bags, crayons (or washable markers), blunt-tip scissors, adhesive-backed magnetic strips



Craft



Materials

Resources CD track 6, CD player, small Bible



Shorten the Bible Memory to "Tell the Good News!" Use the motions from the *Resources* CD to help children who learn differently pass it on, just like their typically developing peers.

Teaching Tip

As children repeat the Bible Memory, be sure to explain that the name *Christ* means Jesus was the special person God chose to come to this world and help His people.

Peter and Tabitha

Lesson 10 Extra Hour



Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

Bible Memory: Acts 5:42

“Tell the Good News—that Jesus is the Christ.” (*ICB*)

“They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.” (*KJV*)

Focus: ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

We usually don't think of young children as teachers, but in many ways they are uniquely qualified to help others learn about Jesus. They are unconditionally enthusiastic about Jesus and eager to share their love for Him. They aren't afraid of offending or plagued by doubts of failure. They enjoy helping (usually). Learn from the children in your class and then together share the good news of Jesus.

Bible Background for the Teacher

Joppa was the principal seaport of Palestine and was located on a plain along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Tabitha (Dorcas in Greek) was a true servant, always doing good and helping those in need. Peter was in the nearby town of Lydda and had performed miracles there. Tabitha's friends may have expected a miracle, or they may have simply wanted Peter's comfort. They received both.

Lesson 10 at a Glance—Extra Hour

1 MORE! GETTING STARTED

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *explore helping*.



Quick Step
Helper Badges



“This Is the Way” Song



Five-Minute Tidy

HeartShaper Materials

- Resources CD Helper Badges printable file
- Resources CD “This Is the Way” printable file
- none

Other Materials

- crayons, safety pins
- none
- child-safe cleaning tools, timer

2 MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY

Use all these activities to help children *tell what happened when Peter helped Tabitha*.



More! Sing and Pray



Bible Time—Another Way!
Peter and Tabitha



More! Bible Review



More! Bible Memory

- Resources CD, *Teaching Picture 10*, Resources CD Unit 2 Bible Memory Motions printable file

- CD player, clothing that someone made for you, Bible, highlighter, articles of clothing, plastic needles, coat

3 MORE! GROW AND GO

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children *name ways they can help others learn about Jesus*.



Quick Step
Scamper Puppet Story



Helping Sounds

Saying Good-bye

- none
- *Heart Tugs* issue 10
- *Heart Tugs* issue 10, Resources CD Our Mission printable file

- Scamper puppet, 3 acorns
- crayons
- Scamper puppet

More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

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

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Set out supplies and allow children to paint the *Make-n-Share* WATERPAINT picture for lesson 10. Talk about ways they help others learn about Jesus.
- Serve a snack. Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks.

Quick Step Helper Badges

Before class, print out and cut out the helper badges, two per child.

SAY: **♥ We can help others learn about Jesus. There are many people who help others learn about Jesus. Let’s make badges to thank some helpers in our church.**

Talk about the workers in your church. (Examples: elders, teachers, greeters, worship leaders) Ask each child to choose a helper so you can write the name of that person on a badge. Then talk about the different jobs children can do. Have each child act out the job he will do, and let the rest of the children guess what it is. Then write the child’s name along with the job description on the other badge, and pin it onto the child’s clothing. Send the other badge home with the child to be delivered with the help of his family.

ASK: **Can you name some people in our church family who help others learn about Jesus?**

How can you be a helper when you come to our church building?

Epecially for 2s!

Invite a helper who is familiar to the children to come into your room. Have the children give their extra badges to that person.

“This Is the Way” Song

SAY: **There are many ways we can help others. Let’s sing about some ways we can help.**

Sing the first verse of “This Is the Way.” Ask a child to name a way he can help. (Examples: make my bed, set the table) Repeat song, substituting the child’s suggestion. Continue the song, using other children’s ideas. Include a different action for each verse. Conclude by singing the verse about helping others learn about Jesus. **♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

ASK: **How can you be a helper to your friends?**

How can you help at home? at our church building?

Five-Minute Tidy

SAY: **♥ We can help others learn about Jesus. You also can be a helper in our class. Let’s work together to clean up our classroom.**

Give children tools to clean tables, chairs, and shelves; brooms to sweep the floor; and buckets to collect trash. Set a timer for five minutes. When the time is up, praise the children for helping to clean their classroom.

ASK: **What are some ways we can help around the church building?**


What are some ways we can help our families at home?

Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials


Resources CD Helper Badges printable file,  Craft, crayons (or washable markers), safety pins (optional: guest helper)




Teaching Tip

The badge can be printed on 2" x 4" self-adhesive mailing labels, 10 per sheet.

Materials

Resources CD “This Is the Way” lyrics printable file  Music

Materials

child-safe cleaning tools (clean dustcloths, wet wipes, disposable dusters, child-size brooms, small plastic buckets), timer (or stopwatch)  Family Living



Give children very specific tasks, modeling the task for them before they begin.

Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

2 Use all these activities to help children **tell what happened when Peter helped Tabitha.**

Materials

Resources CD track 3, CD player, clothing (or other item) that someone made for you, Bible



Materials

Teaching Picture 10, highlighter, articles of clothing, plastic needles (if available)



Something More!

Instead of articles of clothing, cut card stock sheets in half and punch holes around the outside edges. Give each child a plastic needle with yarn and a hole-punched card. Each time you say “Tabitha,” have the children make a stitch in their cards.

Materials

Teaching Picture 10



Materials

Resources CD Unit 2 Bible Memory Motions printable file, Bible, coat (or jacket)



More! Sing and Pray

Sing “Yes, I Will Go.”

PRAY: **Dear God, thank You for giving us helpers who teach us about Jesus. We want to help others learn about Jesus too. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

Show the clothing to the children. Talk about who made the clothing, why the person made it for you, and how you felt when you received it. SAY: **Have you ever given away something that you made?** Listen to responses. **Our story today is found in the book of Acts in the Bible.** Show Acts. **It’s about a woman named Tabitha who made clothing for others. Let’s learn more about this special helper.**

Bible Time—Another Way!

Before class, highlight the name *Tabitha* on the back of the teaching picture.

Give each child an article of clothing and a plastic needle. Ask children to listen for the word *Tabitha*. SAY: **Every time you hear Tabitha’s name, pretend to sew the clothing you are holding.** Show the teaching picture. Tell the Bible story printed on the back of the picture. Pause whenever you say Tabitha’s name, and encourage children to pretend to sew. At the end of the story, let children show their article of clothing, encouraging them to pretend that it was something they made.

SAY: ♥ **We can help others learn about Jesus.**

More! Bible Review

Show the teaching picture.

ASK: **Who can point to Tabitha? How did Tabitha help other people?** (She made clothing for them.)

What happened to Tabitha? (She died.)

Who can point to Peter? How did Peter help Tabitha? (He prayed to God. He told Tabitha to stand and helped her up.)

What did Tabitha’s friends do when they saw Tabitha was well again? (They told everyone what had happened.)

More! Bible Memory Acts 5:42

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

Open your Bible and read Acts 5:42, the Bible Memory, to the children. Review the motions.

Have the children sit in a circle. SAY: **Tabitha helped others by making coats and other clothes. You can help others by telling them about Jesus.** Give the coat to a child. Ask the child to repeat or say the Bible Memory and then pass the coat to the next child. Continue around the circle.

More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

- 3** Use one or more of these learning centers to help children **name ways they can help others learn about Jesus.**

Focus

♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.

Quick Step “Scamper Helps a Friend”

Place the acorns on the floor in front of you. Bring out Scamper and perch him on your arm. SAY: **I wonder where all these acorns came from? Scamper, can you tell us?** Scamper nods and then whispers to you. **That’s a great story, Scamper. Let’s tell the children what happened.**

One beautiful spring morning, Scamper was leaping from tree branch to tree branch. Scamper moves as though leaping. **Then he stopped.** Scamper stops leaping. **What was that sound? It was coming from the ground below his tree.**

Scamper hurried down the tree. Scamper moves as though climbing down. **Scamper’s friend Jumper was standing in the middle of a big pile of acorns. Jumper was crying. He needed to carry all his acorns to his home in his tree, but there were just too many. Scamper wanted to help his friend. He picked up an acorn and carried it to Jumper’s home.** Scamper picks up an acorn and puts it in your lap. **He helped Jumper until all the acorns were put away.** Scamper puts the other two acorns in your lap. **Scamper was happy he could help his friend. We can help others too. ♥ We can help others learn about Jesus.**

ASK: **How do you help others?**

How can you help others learn about Jesus?

Materials

Scamper puppet,
3 acorns



Teaching Tip

If any children have allergies to peanuts or other nuts, use foam packing peanuts.

Helping Sounds

SAY: ♥ **We can help others learn about Jesus. Let’s color some pictures of things we can do to help.**

Give each child a *Heart Tugs*. Point to the Helping Sounds pictures and say aloud what the pictured children are doing. Help children select the correct pictures to color: Pp, praying; Ss, singing; Tt, telling.

ASK: **When can you sing, pray, or tell, and help others learn about Jesus?**

What is another thing you can do this week to help others learn about Jesus?

Guide children to name actions they can do, such as draw a picture about Jesus and give it to someone or invite someone to Bible school.

Especially for 2s!



As children play in the classroom, encourage them to be kind or helpful to others. Invite verbal children to tell a friend “Jesus loves you.”

Saying Good-bye

- As children wait for parents, let them take turns telling Scamper what they plan to do this week to help others learn about Jesus.
- Be sure children have projects made in class, a copy of Our Mission from the *Resources* CD, and this week’s *Heart Tugs*. Remind parents of your class mission project. They can encourage their children to do jobs to earn money for the project. Note: A *Family Together Time* page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

Materials

Heart Tugs issue 10,
crayons



Cleanup

Sing again “This Is the Way” as children help pick up toys and supplies.

