

Faith Is The Key

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON

Theme: Faith is the key that unlocks the power of God.

Scripture: Luke 7:1-10

Memory Verse: “When Jesus heard this, He was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, He said, ‘I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.’ ”
(Luke 7:9)

Get Ready: Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

The Children’s Sermon

You’ll Need:

- A ring of keys

Do This:

SAY: Keys come in all different shapes and sizes. I have a lot of keys on my key ring. (Show kids the key ring and then describe what each key is for.) **There is a key to my house and to my car and my post office box. Some people have keys to their office at work or to cabinets where they keep important papers. They might also have a key to their safe at the bank. Most keys unlock very important things.**

Most of us use keys every day, but today we are going to talk about a key that we may never even think about. It is a key called FAITH. Now faith isn’t a key that is made of metal like these keys on my key ring, but it may be the most important key, because it is the key that unlocks the power of God. Our Bible lesson today tells us about a man who used his faith to heal someone that he cared for very much.

One day Jesus was in a town called Capernaum. There was a centurion, a Roman army officer, who had a servant who was very sick and about to die. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some men to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The men came to Jesus and pleaded with him to heal the centurion's servant, so Jesus went with them.

Before Jesus even arrived at the house, the officer sent some men to say to him, "Don't even go to the trouble to come to my house, because I am not worthy of such an honor. Just say the word and my servant will be healed."

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. He turned to the crowd of people that was following him and said, "I haven't seen faith like this in all of Israel!" The officer's friends turned and went back to the centurion's house. When they arrived, they found the servant completely healed.

There is a song that we love to sing that says:

***My God is so big (great)
So strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do.***

PRAY: Heavenly Father, help us remember that no matter what problems we may face, our faith in you is the key that unlocks your mighty power. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bible Memory Verse

“When Jesus heard this, He was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, He said, ‘I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.’ ” (Luke 7:9)

You’ll Need:

- **Bibles**
- **Jumbo craft sticks**
- **Thin markers in various colors**

Get Ready: Before class, write today’s Bible memory verse on the jumbo craft sticks (2-3 words on each), and create a set for each group using the same color marker for each set. Hide the jumbo craft sticks around the room.

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Invite a child to read the Bible verse out loud to the class.
- Form groups of 3-4 kids and assign each group a color that corresponds with the color of their Bible memory verse.
- Invite kids to search the room for all of the pieces to their memory verse.
- Have kids use their Bibles to put the verse in order as a group.
- Take it one step further: once groups have gotten the verse in order, remove a craft stick or two at a time and have them put it in order again.

ASK:

- What was Jesus amazed by?
- How can you have great big faith?

SAY: Great job learning today's Bible memory verse! Today we're learning that when faith in God is the key to unlocking God's power.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A Bible
- Nametags
- Markers

Get Ready: Before class, label 5 nametags: Jesus, Centurion, Servant, Friend and Friend.

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps:

- Invite a few kids to read Luke 7:1-10 out loud.

SAY: Today we're learning that because of one man's great faith in God, Jesus was able to heal another man. Faith is the key that unlocks God's power.

- Have kids gather at the front of the room.
- Choose five children to act out the skit in front of the class. Give each actor their name tag.
- Read the passage again, this time narrating as kids act out what you're reading.

- Run through the skit several times as time allows.

ASK:

- **What does it mean to have faith in God?**
- **How can you show others your faith?**
- **How can you have faith when others might not?**

Faith Is The Key

You'll Need:

- **"[Faith Is The Key](#)" video lesson**
- **Something to play the video**

Do This:

Show the video.

ASK:

- **Why do we have faith in God?**
- **How can our faith in God help others have faith?**

Keyhole Snacks

You'll Need:

- **Donuts - 1 per child**
- **Plates**
- **Napkins**

Get Ready: Have kids wash their hands before the snack.

Do This:

Follow these steps to enjoy the “Keyhole” Snacks:

SAY: Today we’re learning that faith is the key that unlocks God’s power. The hole in this donut reminds me of a keyhole where you might unlock something with a key. Let’s remember the centurion’s faith as we enjoy our snacks.

- Give each child a plate and a Donut.
- Enjoy.

ASK:

- How does God show us His power?
- How does God make us feel safe?

SAY: Our God is so powerful, and He uses that power to love and care for us. Faith in God is the key to unlocking His power.

Virtual Lesson Tip

You can do this activity with the entire family.

My God Is So Great

You’ll Need:

- A large playing area

Do This:

Follow these steps to play the “My God Is So Great” game:

- Have kids line up on one side of the room.
- Choose two children to link arms at the other end of the room.
- Lead kids in singing, “My God is so great, so strong and so mighty, there’s nothing my God cannot do for you.” Each time you finish singing, the kids linking arms will choose one child to run to the other side of the room to try and break their link.
- If they do not break the link, the child will link up with those who called on them. If they break the link, they get to go back to the lineup with the rest of the classroom.
- Play several rounds until all of the kids have become part of the chain.

ASK:

- **How do you feel when you hear Jesus loves you?**
- **What is something that can help grow your faith in Jesus?**

SAY: When we have faith in what God can do and who He is, there’s nothing He can’t and won’t do for us. Faith is the key to unlocking God’s power.

Powerful Shields

You’ll Need:

- **Large cardboard boxes**
- **Scissors**
- **Markers**
- **Duck tape**

Get Ready: Before class, cut a shield (it can be any shape) out of the cardboard boxes, one shield for each child.

Do This:

Lead kids in the following steps to make the “Powerful Shield” crafts:

- Give each child a pre-cut “shield” and markers.
- Invite kids to decorate their shields, and encourage them to use things from today’s Bible passage.
- Fold two pieces of duck tape in half for each child and help them attach to the back of the shield in a way that allows their arm to pass through the folded tape.

SAY: Great job making your “Powerful Shield” crafts! The centurion in today’s passage would have been a Roman soldier in the military. Take these shields home as a reminder of his great faith, and how it unlocked God’s power to heal someone else.

Virtual Lesson Tip

You can do this activity with the entire family.

Unlocking Prayers

You’ll Need:

- **Small pieces of paper**
- **Pencils**
- **A container**

Do This:

Lead kids in these steps to pray:

- Invite kids to write prayer requests they're comfortable sharing on a small piece of paper and put them all into a container.
- Invite kids to pull a prayer request one at a time and read it to the class.
- Pray as a class for each prayer request before moving onto the next one.
- Close in prayer.

PRAY: Dear God, thank You for giving us more than we deserve. We pray for faith that will unlock Your power in our lives and the lives of those around us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Time to Praise God

You'll Need:

- **Song:** "Only Believe"
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track
- **Song:** "God Is So Good"
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

SAY: When we follow Jesus with our hearts, we're able to worship Him with joy in every season. Let's give God honor and praise now.

Lead children in singing "Only Believe" and "God Is So Good."

If You Have Extra Time...

Use these activity sheets to fill in any time and keep kids learning.

- [Coloring Page](#)

Complete Supply List

- A ring of keys
- Bibles
- Jumbo craft sticks
- Thin markers in various colors
- Nametags
- Markers
- "Faith Is The Key" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- Donuts - 1 per child
- Plates
- Napkins
- A large playing area
- Large cardboard boxes
- Scissors
- Duck tape
- Small pieces of paper
- Pencils
- A container

[Back to the top](#)