

Bible Point ▶

Jesus cares about people who are sick.

Bible Verse

“With God everything is possible” (Matthew 19:26b).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- experience being unable to use their fingers,
 - hear a story about Jesus healing 10 men with leprosy,
 - talk about what their bodies can do, and
 - thank God for healthy bodies.

Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- **Jesus heals 10 men with leprosy.**



Leprosy was a terrible disease. It often resulted in open sores and terrible disfigurement. People with advanced stages of the disease were banished from cities and required to live in isolation. And even there they were to stay away from other people who might be passing by.

In at least one other healing of a leper, Jesus actually reached out and touched the leper, which was something people just did not do! (Luke 5:12-13). However, in this case it appears that Jesus didn't approach the 10 lepers who were calling out to him from a distance. He didn't say, “Your faith has healed you” or anything like that. Instead, he forced them to take action on their faith before any healing had taken place. He told them to go and show themselves to the priests, which was the normal procedure for anyone who had been healed of leprosy. The priest was the one who would verify the healing and declare a person safe for re-entering society.

As the lepers were on the way to the priests, they were healed—but only after they had demonstrated their faith in Jesus. And only one of the lepers returned to thank Jesus before going on to the priests. But Jesus healed all of the lepers anyway. He cared for the sick, even when they didn't show him their gratefulness for what he had done. Isn't it great to know that even when we aren't thankful for what God does for us, he still cares for us?










Prayer

- Read Luke 5:12-13.
- In what area do you need Jesus' loving touch today?
- In what way can you give God's loving touch to your class today?
- Pray: Lord, thank you for the way you've shown your care for me this week by...

Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed on the chart.
- Make photocopies of the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God’s direction as you teach the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Welcome Time	Welcome! —Receive name tags, and be greeted by the teacher.	“Caring Heart Name Tags” (p. 95), scissors, marker, safety pins or tape	
Let’s Get Started Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Option 1: Pick-Up Problems —Try to pick up objects with socks on their hands.	Socks, string, plastic coins, and other small items	
	Option 2: Outside the City —Build block walls.	Blocks	
	Option 3: Bandage Wrappers —Wrap bandages around partners.	Elastic bandages, rolls of gauze	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they pick up toys and gather for Bible Story Time.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Setting the Stage —Practice ways to care for people.	CD player, stop-and-go sign from Lesson 1, Caring Box from Lesson 6	 
	Bible Song and Prayer Time —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	Bible, CD player	 
	Hear and Tell the Bible Story —Hear the story from Luke 17:11-19 about Jesus healing the 10 lepers.	Bible, dot stickers	
	Do the Bible Story —Learn an action rhyme about the 10 sick men Jesus healed.		
Closing 	Tail Tales —Hear about Whiskers’ broken tail.	Gauze or bathroom tissue, CD player	 
	Wiggle Prayers —Thank God for healthy bodies.		

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: “Caring Hearts Name Tags” (p. 95), scissors, marker, safety pins or tape

- Bend down and make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them how they put last week’s lesson into practice. Use questions such as “What did you tell others about the blind man?” and “How did you show Jesus’ love last week?”
- Say: **Today we’ll learn that** ▶ ***Jesus cares about people who are sick.***
- Hand out the caring hearts name tags children made during Lesson 6, and help them attach the name tags to their clothing. If any name tags were damaged or if children weren’t in class that week, make new name tags using the photocopyable handout.
- Direct children to the Let’s Get Started activities you’ve set up.



Let’s Get Started

Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate between the activities to offer help as needed and direct children’s conversation toward the point of today’s lesson. Ask questions such as “What kinds of things can you do with your fingers?” or “How do you feel when you’re left out?”

■ Option 1: Pick-Up Problems

SUPPLIES: socks; string, plastic coins, and other small items

Have children slip clean socks over their hands. Set out small items such as string, large paper clips, and plastic coins. Have children try to pick up the objects. (Make sure children don’t put the items in their mouths.) Talk about what it was like to pick things up without using their fingers. Tell them that today’s Bible story is about a time Jesus healed 10 men with leprosy. Explain that people with leprosy sometimes had problems using their fingers.

■ Option 2: Outside the City

SUPPLIES: blocks

Have children build walls around themselves with blocks. Talk with children about what it was like to build the wall and what it might be like to be left on the outside of a wall. Tell them that today’s Bible story is about some men who had to live outside the city walls.

■ Option 3: Bandage Wrappers

SUPPLIES: elastic bandages, rolls of gauze

Set out elastic bandages or rolls of gauze. Form pairs, and have children take turns wrapping each other’s hands, feet, and foreheads with the bandages. Encourage them to wrap the bandages loosely. As children work with the bandages, remind them that



Avoid choking hazards by making sure the small items are larger than a 50-cent piece.




BIBLE POINT ▶

▶ *Jesus cares about people who are sick.* Tell them that today's Bible story is about 10 sick men who might have had to wear bandages.

When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

■ Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



track 2

Lead children in singing "Come Along With Me" (track 2) with the *CD* to the tune of "Come and Go With Me." Encourage children to sing along as they help clean up the room.



SING

**Come along with me and pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things,
Pick up all our things.
Come along with me and pick up all our things
So our room will be clean.**

(Repeat 2x.)

Bible Story Time

■ Setting the Stage

SUPPLIES: CD player, stop-and-go sign (from Lesson 1), Caring Box (from Lesson 6)



track 12

Tell children you'll hold up the stop-and-go sign to get their attention. Explain that when you show the red side, the children are to stop what they're doing and listen. When you show the green side, you'll stop talking and listen to them. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Ask: • **What did you make or do when you came to our class today?** (Tried to pick up string; made a wall; wrapped my partner up.)

Say: **Raise your hand and make a fist if you tried to pick things up with a sock on your hand.** Pause. **If you sat inside a block wall, stand up, and then sit down.** Pause. **Gently wrap your arms around your partner if you wrapped each other up with bandages.** Pause.

Our Bible story today is about some men who were wrapped up in bandages. They had a very bad disease called leprosy, and they wanted Jesus to make them well. ▶ *Jesus cares about people who are sick,* and in a few minutes we'll hear how Jesus cared for the men with leprosy. But right now, let's bring out our Caring Box and discover some more ways we can care for people.


BIBLE POINT ▶

Hold up the Caring Box you prepared in Lesson 6. Say: **This is the Caring Box. Inside the Caring Box, there are ways we can care for people. Let's pick out some pictures and practice caring actions with a partner.**

Form pairs, and then say: **I need one set of partners to come up and choose our first picture.**

Invite two children to come up, choose a picture, and hold up the picture for the class to see. Say: **Show me how you would** [caring action shown in picture].

Have all the children demonstrate how they'd practice the caring action in the picture; then hold up the red sign to regain their attention.

Collect the picture, and then say: **Let's show that we've practiced the actions in this picture by stamping it with our Jesus cares stamp.**

Choose a new pair of children to stamp the picture. Have them come up, stamp it, and then return to their place. Then choose another pair, and have them select a new picture from the Caring Box.

Have all the children practice the action in the second picture, and then hold up the red sign to regain their attention. Collect the picture, and choose another pair to come up and stamp it.

Lay all the pictures on the floor, and have children gather around them.

Ask: • **Which pictures show ways to care for people who are sick or hurt?** (Giving a bandage; bringing flowers; helping someone who has fallen down.)

• **What other ways can we care for people who are sick or hurt?** (Draw them a picture; play quietly so they can rest.)

Say: **Those are good ideas! You can practice those actions next time someone you know gets sick or hurt. ► Jesus cares about people who are sick, and he wants us to care about and help sick people, too. Let's sing "Jesus Helps Us All" to help us remember to do that.**

Lead children in singing "Jesus Helps Us All" (adapted from Matthew 11:28) (track 12) with the CD to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," and demonstrate the actions below.



It's important to say the Bible Point just as it's written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point again and again will help children remember it and apply it to their lives.



SING

Jesus loves us all (*cross hands over heart*),
He loves us all the time. (*Turn in a circle.*)
Me and you (*point to self and another*),
His love is true. (*Point up.*)
He loves us all the time! (*Cross hands over heart.*)

Jesus helps us all (*extend arms, palms up*),
He helps us all the time. (*Turn in a circle.*)
Me and you (*point to self and another*),
His love is true. (*Point up.*)
He helps us all the time! (*Extend arms, palms up.*)

After you sing the song, say: **Now let's bring out our Bible and find out how Jesus cared about and helped 10 men who were sick with leprosy.**

■ Bible Song and Prayer Time

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player



tracks 3 & 4

Say: **Each week when we come to our circle for our Bible story, I'll choose someone to be the Bible person. The Bible person will bring me the Bible marked with our Bible story for that week. Every one of you will get a chance to be the Bible person one week. Before I choose today's Bible person, let's learn our Bible song. As we sing, I'll pass around our special Bible. The person who's holding the Bible when the music stops will be our Bible person today.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad for the Bible" (track 3) with the *CD* to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp." As you sing, pass around the special Bible.



SING

**I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
I'm so glad for God's book today.
I'm so glad for the Bible.
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'—
Keep me learnin' all about his way.**

**Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let me hear 'bout God's love for me.
Let me hear 'bout God's love—
Keep me learnin', learnin', learnin'.
Let's shine the light for all to see.**

(Repeat first verse.)

When the music stops, invite the child who's holding the Bible to bring it to you. Lead the class in clapping for the Bible person, cheering, and making fun applause sound effects by slapping your thighs with your palms. Stamp the child's hand with the *Jesus cares stamp*, and thank the child for bringing you the Bible. Then stamp the other children's hands. Return the *Jesus cares stamp* and *ink pad* to the Learning Lab.

Say: **I'm thankful for [name of child who brought the Bible], and I'm thankful for everyone in our class today. Each of you is a special part of our class! Let's thank God together for all our friends in this class.**

Lead children in singing "I'm So Glad We're Together" (track 4) with the *CD* to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp."



SING

**I'm so glad we're together.
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'.
I'm so glad we're all here today.
I'm so glad we're together.
Keep us prayin', prayin', prayin'—
Prayin' for each other every day.**

Lead children in folding their hands and bowing their heads as you continue to sing.

**Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful.
Thank you for everyone who's here.
Thank you, Lord, for each one.
Keep me thankful, thankful, thankful—
Thankful for our friends both far and near.**

Hear and Tell the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, one dot sticker per child



Gather the children together. Open the Bible to **LUKE 17:11-14**.

Say: **Our story today comes from the book of Luke in the Bible, God's special book. Raise your hand if you've ever been sick.**

Pause. **Now show me what you look like when you are feeling sick.** Pause, and then ask:

• **What do you do when you're sick?** (Go to the doctor; stay in bed; take medicine.)

Say: **When you get sick, sometimes you go to the doctor, and the doctor helps you feel better. Our Bible story is about 10 men who had a very bad sickness called leprosy. People with leprosy had sores on their bodies and had to stay far away from other people so they wouldn't give anyone else their sickness. They even had to yell at people who were walking by them and say, "Unclean! Unclean!" That meant, "Don't come near me, you might catch leprosy!" No one wanted to have these sores on their bodies. Let's see how it might feel to have leprosy. We're not going to put real sores on our skin, though. We will just have pretend leprosy.**

Place a dot sticker on each child's forehead. Have them walk around the room, shouting, "Unclean! Unclean!"

Ask: • **If you wanted to care for someone with leprosy, what would you do?** (Take them to the doctor; give them medicine; pray for them.)

Say: **I'm going to pretend to be a doctor who has just the right medicine to make your leprosy go away. I'm going to put on my doctor's coat and come help you all feel better.**

Put on *Joseph's coat* from the Learning Lab. Approach each child, take the dot sticker off his or her forehead, and stick it on the coat. After you have gathered all the dot stickers, ask:

• **What did it feel like to have pretend leprosy?** (Bad; sick; I had to stay away from other people.)

• **How did it feel when you didn't have pretend leprosy anymore?** (Good; I could talk to anyone I wanted; I wasn't sick anymore.)

Say: **We only pretended to be sick, but the lepers were sick for real. Just as I took away your pretend sickness, Jesus took away the lepers' real sickness. One man was so excited to be healed, he ran back and told Jesus a big, "Thank you!" ► Jesus cares about people who are sick. He cares about you when you're sick, too.**



Say: **Jesus was glad the man remembered to say thank you. Jesus is glad when we say thank you, too. We say thank you to Jesus because he's our friend. Jesus is a friend to you (point to each child), and Jesus is a friend to me. Let's thank Jesus for being our friend and for giving us healthy bodies. Feel your ears with your fingers and say, "Thank you, Jesus." Now wiggle your toes and say, "Thank you, Jesus."**

Pray: **Dear Jesus, we're thankful that you're our friend and that you help us. In your name, amen.**

This Bible story is featured in *My First Hands-On Bible™*. Order several now for your ministry at group.com.



Always use supervision when giving kids stickers. Be gentle so you will not hurt the children when removing the stickers off their foreheads.



■ Do the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: none

Say: **Let's learn an action rhyme to see what the 10 men might have done after Jesus healed them.** Lead children through the following action rhyme. You may want to repeat it several times so children learn the actions.

The first man kicked his heels up. (*Kick feet up with joy.*)
The second man danced around. (*Dance in a circle.*)
The third man clapped his hands. (*Clap hands.*)
The fourth man ran to town. (*Run in place.*)
The fifth man laughed and shouted. (*Cup hands to mouth.*)
The sixth man danced a jig. (*Dance a silly dance.*)
The seventh man hugged his family. (*Hug self.*)
The eighth man ate a fig. (*Pretend to drop something in your mouth and chew it.*)
The ninth man sang a song (*cup hands around mouth*)
In notes so clear and loud.
The tenth man looked for Jesus (*shield eyes with hand*)
And then before him bowed. (*Bow.*)
“Thank you, Lord,” he said (*fold hands*),
“For this great thing you’ve done.” (*Hold out hands.*)
We can all say thank you, too (*fold hands*),
To Jesus, God’s own Son.

Ask: • **Why do you think the other men didn't thank Jesus?** (They were too busy; they were so happy they forgot; they wanted to go home.)

• **What special things can we thank God for?** (For giving us families; for taking care of us; for making us better when we get sick.)

Say: ► ***Jesus cares about people who are sick.* Jesus cares about everyone! That's why it's important to thank Jesus for all he does. Let's see if Whiskers knows about the 10 men Jesus healed.**



BIBLE POINT ►



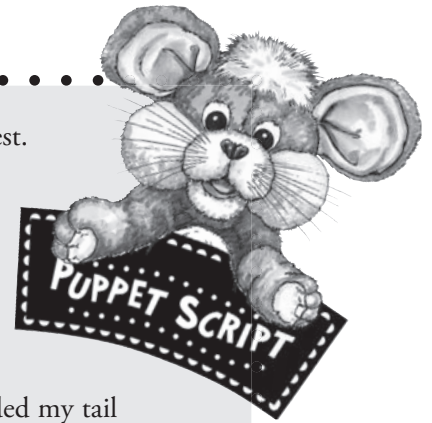
Closing

■ Tail Tales

SUPPLIES: gauze or bathroom tissue, CD player



Before class, wrap Whiskers' tail in gauze or bathroom tissue. Gather the children in a circle on the floor. Bring out Whiskers the Mouse, and go through the following script. When you finish the script, put Whiskers away and out of sight.



Whiskers: Hi, friends. I can't stay very long today. I've got to go home and rest.

Teacher: What's the matter, Whiskers? Are you sick?

Whiskers: *(Shaking head)* Not exactly. My brother accidentally shut my tail in the door. It's broken in two places, and it starts to hurt if I walk around too much.

Teacher: That's too bad, Whiskers. I hope you feel better.

Whiskers: *(Looking at his tail)* Yeah, me too. I didn't realize how much I needed my tail until it got broken. *(To children)* How would you feel if you couldn't use your tails?

Teacher: Your friends in this class don't have tails, Whiskers. But they do have fingers and toes. Children, tell Whiskers some of the things you can do with your fingers and toes.

(Let children respond; then continue.)

Whiskers: If you lost your fingers, you'd be in trouble for sure. If I lost my tail, I wouldn't be able to walk very well. My tail helps me balance. I hope it gets better.

Teacher: Whiskers, we're learning today that ► Jesus cares about people who are sick. Children, can you think of anyone you know who, like Whiskers, is hurt or sick? *(Allow children to respond.)* Our Bible verse, Matthew 19:26b, says, ► "With God everything is possible." Let's talk to Jesus about helping those people right now.

Whiskers: That's a great idea!

(Lead children in praying for those they've shared about. Let them pray aloud if they want to, and then close the prayer.)

Teacher: Dear God, thanks for giving us strong bodies. We're glad that ► Jesus cares about people who are sick. Please care for those we've prayed for and each of us. In Jesus' name, amen.

(After the prayer, lead children in singing "Everything Is Possible" (Matthew 19:26b) (track 6) with the CD to the tune of "The Mulberry Bush.")



SING
With God everything is possible,
Possible,
Possible.
With God everything is possible—
The Bible tells us so.
(Repeat.)



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BIBLE POINT

■ Wiggle Prayers

SUPPLIES: none

Say: ► **Jesus cares about people who are sick, and he helps people who are well. Jesus helps us all the time. We can be like the one thankful man in our Bible story and tell Jesus we're glad he helps us. Let's say a special prayer together to help us do that.**

God made my fingers. (*Wiggle fingers.*)

God made my toes. (*Wiggle toes.*)

God made my elbows. (*Flap elbows.*)

God made my nose. (*Point to nose.*)

God made every part of me (*touch head, shoulders, knees, toes*),

And I thank him gratefully. (*Fold hands in prayer.*)

Thank you, God!

Amen.



Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with the children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ **Lively Learning: Jesus Cares**

Set out the *Learning Mat*. Have children find the picture of the paralyzed man. Then have them lie down and then stand up, just as the paralyzed man stood up after he was healed by Jesus. Lead them in repeating the Bible Point of Lesson 6: ► Jesus cares for people.

Have children find the picture of Jairus' daughter. Then have them walk around the mat with a partner as if they're Jairus and Jesus walking together. Lead them in repeating the Bible Point of Lesson 7: ► Jesus cares about families.

Have children find the picture of Jesus and the blind man. Then have them close their eyes, rub their eyes gently, and open them as if seeing for the first time. Lead them in repeating the Bible Point of Lesson 8: ► Jesus cares about all kinds of people.

Have children find the picture of Jesus and the 10 lepers. Have them run around the *Learning Mat* as if Jesus just healed them. Lead them in repeating the Bible Point of Lesson 9: ► Jesus cares about people who are sick.

■ **Make to Take: Family Care Kits**



Before class, photocopy the "Caring Hearts" handout (p. 138), and cut out the hearts. You'll need one heart for each child.

Set out construction paper and crayons. Have each child fold a sheet of construction paper in half and draw a family picture on one half. Then give each child a heart pattern to stamp with the *Jesus cares stamp*. Help children staple their hearts to the bottom half of their construction paper to create pockets. Then help each child punch a hole in the top and thread a piece of chenille wire through the hole to make a loop.

Remind children that ► Jesus cares about people who are sick. Encourage them to hang up their care kits at home. They can use the pockets in their care kits to store adhesive bandages.

■ **Treat to Eat: Thank-You Bites**

Help children clean their hands with baby wipes or at a nearby sink. Give each child a paper cup and a snack with 10 pieces. For example, you could use 10 small crackers. Have children count the pieces as they drop them into their cups. Then have them take and eat the pieces one at a time. Lead children in saying thank you each time they eat a piece. Talk about the one man with leprosy who remembered to thank Jesus.

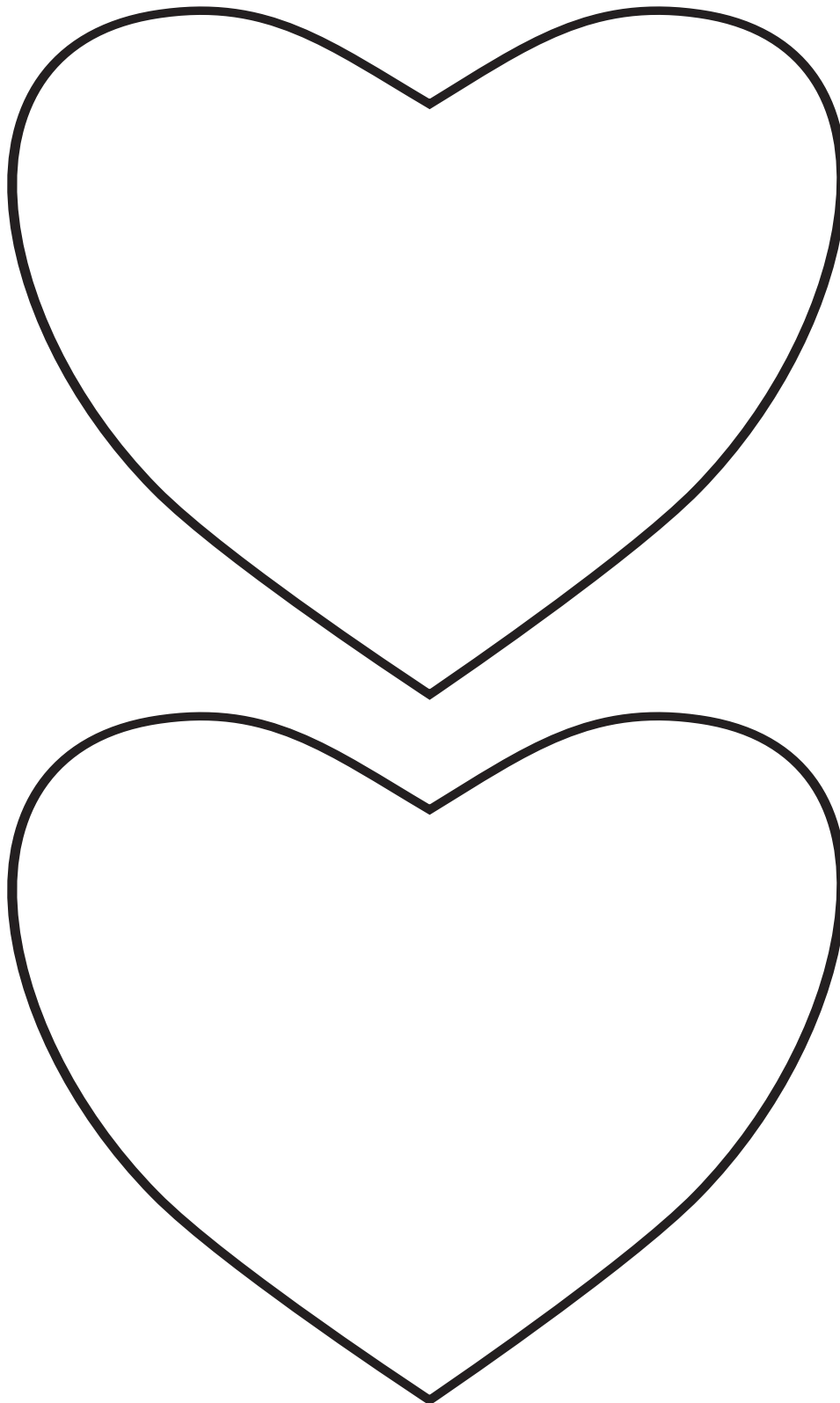


■ **Story Picture: One Man Returns to Thank Jesus**

Give each child a copy of the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson). Set out crayons and pieces of gauze. Have children color the picture of Jesus and the thankful man; then have them glue pieces of gauze to the man's bandages. As children work, review the details of today's Bible story. Remind them that ► Jesus cares about people who are sick.

Caring Hearts

Photocopy and cut out the hearts.



Today I learned...

Jesus cares about people who are sick.

Lesson 9

Today your child learned that **JESUS CARES ABOUT PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK.** The children heard how Jesus healed 10 men with leprosy. They thanked God for their strong bodies.

Help me learn this:

“With God everything is possible”
(Matthew 19:26b).

Ask me:

- How did Jesus care for the sick people?
- Who takes care of you when you're sick?
- How can our family show Jesus' love to people who are sick?

Family Fun

- Work together to create get-well or encouragement cards for children at a local hospital, and then send them to the hospital for the staff to distribute them.
- Schedule a family sports night. Spend a few minutes playing each member's favorite games. Talk about how wonderful it is to be able to catch a ball or pedal a bike. Thank God for family fun times.

One Man Returns to Thank Jesus
(Luke 17:11-19)



