

Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead Acts 9:36-43

Young children are natural mimics and will mirror your presentation of prayer. Prayers of thanksgiving can be integrated into conversation. Prayers for healing can be introduced as children experience normal scrapes and bumps. One of the greatest blessings of prayer at any age is the peace that comes from communing with God. Help children learn to draw away into peaceful prayer by providing quiet moments.

INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
Bible Exploration	Pray Tell? Hear the story of Peter and Tabitha in a fun rhyme.	facial tissue, scissors, tape Teacher Pack: Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set)	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.
3 Weaving Faith	"Touchy-Feely" Fabric Touch different fabrics to learn more about Tabitha.	Teacher Pack: fabric squares	
	Get Up, Tabitha! Participate in an action rhyme to review the story.		
Into Life	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► Bible Point God hears our prayers.

Key Verse

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will begin to learn that when we pray, God hears our prayers.

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TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
Bible Exploration	A Well-Woven Story Play with finger puppets as they hear the story of how Peter prayed for Tabitha.	Bible, scissors, tape Teacher Pack: Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set)	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Pop Up, Tabitha! Perform a finger play.	fine-tipped marker	
	Gifts of Clothing Dress up in different clothes to learn more about Tabitha.	dress-up clothes	
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Lesson 8

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



2-YEAR-OLD

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Bedside Manner Gather on a "bed" to hear the story of Peter and Tabitha.	Bible, blanket, pillow, scissors, tape, adhesive bandages Teacher Pack: Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares, "Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)	Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets, and hang the "Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster on a wall in your meeting area. Spread a blanket on the floor, and place a pillow at the top. Have adhesive bandages ready.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Puttin' on the Ritz Make and wear a vest.	1 paper grocery sack per child, scissors, markers, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Tabitha and Bed" page (at the end of the lesson), glue sticks	Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Make vests out of paper grocery sacks by cutting holes for the arms and head. Cut a slit up the middle of the front of the sack to the head hole, creating an opening.
	Will You Get Up? Play a game to remember what God did for Tabitha.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead

Acts 9:36-43



BIBLE BACKGROUND

Peter Arrives to Find Tabitha Dead

It appears from the text that no one thought to send for Peter until after Tabitha had died. Peter was in Lydda, about nine miles away. It would have taken about five or six hours to bring him from there, so it was necessary for him to hurry. If he delayed, the people in Joppa would have to bury Tabitha's body.

When Peter entered the room, he sent away the widows and the mourners, just as Jesus had done when he raised Jairus' daughter in Mark 5. Peter wanted some time to be alone with the Lord. Peter knew what the Christians in Joppa wanted him to do, and he no doubt expressed that to God. But he undoubtedly wanted to find out what the Lord wanted to do. From Peter's actions, it is apparent that the Lord gave Peter the direction he needed. Peter then used the same wording that Jesus had used in raising Jairus' daughter, with the exception of one letter: "Tabitha arise," instead of "Talitha arise."

Miracles Establish the Apostles' Credibility

How did Tabitha hear Peter's command if she was dead? As Peter spoke, the Lord returned her to life. The Lord made Tabitha hear and arise. She was instantaneously and completely restored. The disease was gone, and any decay that had taken place since death was wiped away. Imagine the joyous scene when Peter presented Tabitha alive to the crowd!

The result of this miracle, as with other miracles the apostles performed, was that many believed in the Lord. Miracles testify to God's power and encourage people in their faith.

The Jesus Connection

Thanks to Jesus, who offers life—not just beyond but through death. No amount of bleakness can fade the wonder of this miracle.

Think about Peter's previous goof-ups and how God ultimately used him as a key leader in the startup of the church. God goes beyond forgiveness; he restores. What do you feel ashamed of? Confess your shortcomings to him now, and experience complete healing. You can write your prayer here.



INFANT



Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing "God Hears Us" (track 13) to the tune of "Oh, When the Saints" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Help babies clap in time to the song.

Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
God hears us each time we call him.
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
(Repeat.)

Sing "Prayer Psalm" (not on CD) to the tune of "Edelweiss" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Sing as you rock, feed, or play with the infants. Sing the song as a lullaby in your rest area.

Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father. Send your peace, as I pray, Hear me, heavenly Father. Help me live for you each day. You give me joy and gladness. Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father.



EXPLORATION

Pray Tell?

What You'll Do

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Sit with a baby.

Say: The Bible tells us a kind woman named Tabitha was very sick. Her friends wrapped her, put her in a bed, and didn't think she'd ever be with them again. Wrap



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack** CD: "God Hears Us" (track 13)

Pray Tell? Supplies

facial tissue scissors tape **Teacher Pack** Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set)

Pray Tell? Easy Prep

Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.

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the Tabitha finger puppet in the facial tissue, and set it aside. Hold up the Peter finger puppet. This is Jesus' friend Peter. Direct the following words to the puppet.

Say: Tell me, Peter, tell, tell, tell,

Can you make Tabitha well?

"I cannot, but our God can. (Use a deep voice for Peter's words.)

Listen to me. I've got a plan!

We'll ask God. He'll hear our prayers.

We'll watch and wait and see from there."

Peter spoke. Tabitha got well, (raise up the Tabitha finger puppet)

And those who were there had a story to tell.

Many believed from what happened that day,

And you and I know that God hears when we pray.



3 WEAVING FAITH

"Touchy-Feely" Fabric Supplies

fabric squares

"Touchy-Feely" Fabric

What You'll Do

Set a baby on your lap. Hold a fabric square in your open hand, and help the baby feel the fabric.

Say: Tabitha made fabrics. This piece of fabric feels [describe the texture of the fabric you are holding]. Tabitha made clothes from fabric like this and gave them to people. Repeat this process with each fabric square.

When Tabitha was sick, God heard Peter's prayers. ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS, too.

Get Up, Tabitha!

What You'll Do

Hold a baby on your lap, and do this action rhyme.

Tabitha made clothes; she made them very quick. (Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.)

Tabitha helped the poor, but then she got sick. (Lean baby back.)

Peter came and prayed; Tabitha arose. (Raise baby up.)

She got back to making everyone new clothes. (Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.)

Say: Tabitha's story reminds us that ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.

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Lesson 8

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.





GETTING

STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

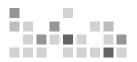
What You'll Do

Sing "God Hears Us" (track 13) to the tune of "Oh, When the Saints" anytime during the lesson. During the song, have the toddlers clap as indicated in the parentheses.

Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
God hears us each time we call him.
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
(Repeat.)

Sing "Prayer Psalm" (not on CD) to the tune of "Edelweiss" anytime during the lesson.

Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father. Send your peace, as I pray, Hear me, heavenly Father. Help me live for you each day. You give me joy and gladness. Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father.



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack** CD: "God Hears Us" (track 13)



A Well-Woven Story Supplies

Bible scissors tape

Teacher Pack

Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set)

A Well-Woven Story Supplies

Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets.

Pop Up, Tabitha! Supplies

fine-tipped marker



A Well-Woven Story

What You'll Do

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Gather a few toddlers, and show them your Bible opened to Acts 9.

Say: Our Bible story today is about a woman named Tabitha. Hold up the Tabitha finger puppet. Tabitha loved God. She made clothes for poor people. Have the children feel their clothing. How does your shirt [or dress] feel? Is it soft?

Tabitha helped many people. One day she got very sick, and she died. Let each child make the Tabitha finger puppet lie down. All the people she helped were very sad. When Peter heard that Tabitha had died (hold up the Peter finger puppet), he went to her house. Peter asked God to make Tabitha well. Show me what you think Tabitha did. Let each child hold the Tabitha finger puppet and move it around. Tabitha got up and moved! God heard Peter's prayer and made Tabitha well. ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.



Pop Up, Tabitha!

What You'll Do

Use a fine-tipped marker to draw a face on a toddler's index finger. Show the child how to close his or her fist to hide the face and then lift only the index finger. Do the following finger play together.

Pop up, Tabitha! God heard Peter's prayer.

Don't hide under the covers! Please come out of there.

Dance a little dance! (Have child wiggle finger.)

Turn around and around! (Have child rotate hand.)

God has healed your body,

So make a happy sound. (Encourage the child to cheer.)

Say: We are happy because ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.

Spring Quarter

Lesson 8

Infants, Toddlers & 2s





Gifts of Clothing

What You'll Do

Set out a variety of dress-up clothes.

Say: Tabitha was a good friend. She showed God's love by making clothes for many people. Let's pretend we're getting clothes from Tabitha. Choose a toddler to wear each clothing piece, and help the child put it on.

I, Tabitha, give you this [article of clothing] to show that God loves you! God, please bless my friend [child's name]. I love to pray for you because I know ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

2-YEAR-OLD

1 GETTING STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing "God Hears Us" (track 13) to the tune of "Oh, When the Saints" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, substitute other actions for the claps indicated in the parentheses. You can stomp your feet, pat your knees, or touch your head. Let children create their own unique actions!

Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us. (Clap, clap.)
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
God hears us each time we call him.
Oh, God hears us when we pray.
(Repeat.)



Gifts of Clothing Supplies

dress-up clothes

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player **Teacher Pack** CD: "God Hears Us" (track 13)



Sing "Prayer Psalm" (not on CD) to the tune of "Edelweiss" anytime during the lesson.

Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father. Send your peace, as I pray, Hear me, heavenly Father. Help me live for you each day. You give me joy and gladness. Hear my prayer, hear my prayer, Hear me, heavenly Father.



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EXPLORATION

Bedside Manner Supplies

Bible blanket pillow scissors tape adhesive bandages Teacher Pack

Peter and Tabitha finger puppets (from the teaching picture set) fabric squares

"Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

Bedside Manner Easy Prep

Cut out the Peter and Tabitha finger puppets, and hang the "Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster on a wall in your meeting area. Spread a blanket on the floor, and place a pillow at the top. Have adhesive bandages ready.

Bedside Manner

What You'll Do

Form the puppets around your index fingers, and tape them. Have all the children sit on the blanket you spread out earlier. Open your Bible to Acts 9.

Say: Our Bible story takes place around a bed.

Ask:

Have you ever been so sick that you had to stay in bed? How did you feel? Allow children time to respond.

Hold up the Tabitha finger puppet.

Say: Tabitha was a woman who loved God. She made cloth like these pieces into clothes for many people. Pass the fabric squares around, and let the children feel them. One day Tabitha got so sick that she died. Lay the Tabitha finger puppet down. Her friends were sad. Have all the children pretend to cry. Show children the "Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster hanging on the wall.

Let's put bandages on poor Tabitha to show that she was really sick. Give each child an adhesive bandage, and help kids stick their bandages on Tabitha. Then have kids gather on the blanket again.

Say: When Peter heard what had happened, he went to her house and prayed that God would do a miracle. Show the Peter finger puppet. He prayed that Tabitha would be well. Direct the children to make praying hands.

Peter knew God answered his prayer, so he told Tabitha to get up. Lead children in saying, "Get up, Tabitha!" Tabitha got up. Have the Tabitha finger puppet get up. Let's remove the bandages on Tabitha to show that God made her well.

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Lesson 8

Infants, Toddlers & 2s



Have children remove the bandages they placed on the "Peter Raises Tabitha From the Dead" poster. Then have kids gather on the blanket again.

Say: When everyone saw Tabitha up and walking around, they knew that ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS. Many people believed in God because of Tabitha's story. Do you believe in God? God hears your prayers, too! Let's pray right now. Thank you, God, for hearing our prayers. In Jesus' name, amen.





Puttin' on the Ritz

What You'll Do

Give each child a "Tabitha and Bed" page, and show children the paper-sack vests. Help each child put on a paper-sack vest, and explain that like Tabitha, they're going to make something pretty to wear.

Say: God made Tabitha well so that she could go back to making pretty clothes for people. Let's decorate your vests with marker designs. When you finish, you'll color a picture of Tabitha and her bed to remind us that ▶ GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS.

When the kids finish coloring the vests, let them color the picture of Tabitha and her bed.

Will You Get Up?

What You'll Do

Have the twos sit in a circle. Stand in the center, and explain that you will sing a song asking either the boys or the girls to stand. Sing this song to the tune of "Mulberry Bush" (not on CD).

Little [boys or girls], will you get up? Will you get up, will you get up? Little [boys or girls], will you get up? Will you get up today?

Say: You got up because you are strong and healthy. Was Tabitha strong and healthy? No! But Peter prayed and asked God to make her well. Did God hear Peter's prayers? Yes! Whose prayers does God hear?

Allow children to respond. Repeat the game and the dialogue several times, giving both the boys and the girls a chance to stand. You can substitute other words for "get up," such as "jump up" or "climb up," and have the children pantomime the actions.

Puttin' on the Ritz Supplies

1 paper grocery sack per child scissors markers My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Tabitha and Bed" page (at the end of the lesson)

Puttin' on the Ritz Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 8 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Make vests out of paper grocery sacks by cutting holes for the arms and head. Cut a slit up the middle of the front of the sack to the head hole, creating an opening.



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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Growing With Jesus



our child learned God hears our prayers (from Acts 9:36-43). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

INFANT

Get Up, Tabitha!

Hold your baby on your lap, and do this action rhyme.

Tabitha made clothes; she made them very quick. (Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.)

Tabitha helped the poor, but then she got sick. (Lean baby back.)

Peter came and prayed; Tabitha arose. (Raise baby up.)

She got back to making everyone new clothes. (Gently make a sewing motion with baby's hands.)

Say: Tabitha's story reminds us that God hears our prayers.

TODDLER

Pop Up, Tabitha!

Use a fine-tipped marker to draw a face on your toddler's index finger. Show your child how to close his or her fist to hide the face and then lift only the index finger. Do the following finger play together.

Pop up, Tabitha! God heard Peter's prayer. Don't hide under the covers! Please come out of there.

Dance a little dance!
(Have child wiggle finger.)
Turn around and around!
(Have child rotate hand.)

God has healed your body,

So make a happy sound. (Encourage your child to cheer.)

2-YEAR-OLD

Puttin' on the Ritz

Make a vest out of a paper grocery sack by cutting holes for the arms and head. Cut a slit up the middle of the front of the sack to the head hole, creating an opening. Let your child put on a paper-sack vest.

Say: Tabitha was sick, but Peter prayed for her, and God heard Peter's prayers. God made Tabitha well so that she could go back to making pretty clothes for people. Let's decorate your vest with marker designs.

When your 2-year-old has finished coloring the vest, help him or her put the vest back on. Pray with your child, thanking God for hearing our prayers.



Practical Prayers

Here's a practical guide to praying with children of nursery age:

- Infants—Pray short prayers within normal conversation and prayers of blessing as you snuggle or put baby to bed
- Toddlers—Set aside prayer times by folding your hands and bowing your head. Don't expect toddlers to keep their eyes closed. They're too busy watching you pray.
- Twos—Encourage
 2-year-olds to list
 prayers within a
 category such as people
 to bless, things that
 make us happy, or
 things they need help
 with.

Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Have your child feel the textures of many different pieces of clothing. Remind your child that Tabitha made clothes and that God healed her when Peter prayed.
- Create a refrigerator photo-gallery of people to pray for regularly. Together pray for someone each time you get your child a snack.



Tabitha and Bed



