

# THE MESSENGERS

WEEK 2

## BIG IDEA

We can share the stories of God's miracles.

## BIBLE

Peter Heals Tabitha: Acts 9:36-43; (Psalm 77:11-14)

## FREE TIME

### PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins.*
- *This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*

### QUESTION | Have you ever gotten a get-well message?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This question will be written on the board as a discussion starter while kids arrive.*
- **Have you ever been sick, and someone sent you a get-well card? How did that make you feel?**

### MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play a selection of worship music videos during free time. Some may choose to dance along while it may be background music for others.*
- *Alternatively, learn a few of the motions yourself, introduce them to the class and dance along together to kick things off!*

## LARGE GROUP TIME

### WHAT?

#### ACTIVITY | First Aid Game

- Welcome back! This month is all about the people who delivered the message about Jesus to the world. Part of this message involved the miracle of healing! Let's play a healing game of our own.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pick two teams of three: a dispatcher, a runner, and a medic. Enlist a brave person to be the patient (or draw the outline of a person on the board.) The dispatcher has a pair of dice and a set of "bandages" (strips of painter's tape), and stands across the room from the patient. The medic waits by the patient, and the runner goes back and forth between them. When the game begins, the dispatcher rolls the dice to determine how many bandages to give to the runner, who runs them to the medic. The medic takes the bandages and puts them on the patient. The team that uses all the bandages first wins!*

### SO WHAT?

#### BIBLE STORY | Peter Heals Tabitha

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids open their Bibles to Acts 9. Enlist kids to play Peter, Tabitha, and friends, and act out the story from Acts 9:36–43 as you tell it, with Tabitha lying down with eyes closed until being told to get up.*
- Peter was one of Jesus’s disciples who helped spread the good news about Jesus to others.
- Sometimes it was through speaking and other times, it was through actions. Peter often shared the good news by comforting people who were sad, upset, or sick.
- Today's story is about one of those times. One day, two men ran up to Peter and said, "Please, come at once!" So, Peter followed them to an upstairs room.
- There lay the body of a woman named Tabitha.
  - Tabitha was one of Jesus's disciples, too. She was always doing good and helping the poor.
  - But Tabitha got very sick and died.
  - Many of her friends who she had once helped were in the room. They were crying as they showed Peter all the clothes that Tabitha made for them when she was alive.
- Everyone was mourning, but not Peter. He sent everyone else out of the room.
  - **What do you think happened next?**
- Peter got down on his knees and started praying! Then, he turned toward Tabitha's body and said something.
  - **What do you think he said?**
- Peter simply said, "Tabitha, get up."
  - Tabitha opened her eyes and sat up! She came back to life! It was a miracle!
  - Peter took Tabitha by the hand and helped her stand up. Then he called everyone back into the room. They couldn't believe it!
- When word got out about this miracle, many people in Tabitha's town, Joppa, decided to follow Jesus, just like Peter and Tabitha did!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For more re-inforcement of what kids have just learned, you can play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).*

## **BIG IDEA | We can share the stories of God's miracles.**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Enlist the Special Messenger (SM) to "interrupt," carrying a huge greeting card with the message "We can share the stories of God's miracles."*
- **Storyteller:** That was a really sad story with a happy ending. **Can you imagine how Tabitha's friends must have felt?**
- **SM:** Special Delivery! Special Delivery! I have a greeting card meant especially for everyone in this room. Here. *[Hands card to Storyteller.]* Why don't you read it to everyone?
- **Storyteller:** Why, thank you, Special Messenger. Let's see what it says. *(Open card to show the group.)* **We can share the stories of God's miracles.**
- **SM:** Well, what do you know! That's the Big Idea for today. **We can share stories of God's miracles.**
- **Storyteller:** That's right! Let's all say the Big Idea together. **We can share stories of God's miracles!**

## **REFLECTION | Miracle Stories**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Share a story of a personal miracle in your life, or that of someone else you know. Encourage kids to think about some of the good things God has done in their lives, too.*
- We might not have all experienced a miracle like Tabitha's, but God still does great and unexplainable things!
- **What are some good or unbelievable things God has done in your life, or you've heard about from someone else?**
- When we share stories about the good things God has done, we help deliver the message about God's love for the world!

- **We can share the stories of God's miracles.**

## NOW WHAT?

### RESPONSE | Bandage Reminders

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Provide each kid one adhesive bandage and a permanent marker or pen.*
- A lot of miracles we learn about involve healing – about how God helps those who are sick.
- Think of one person you know that might need a miracle of healing. If you don't know of anyone, think of someone you want to share a story of God's miracles with this week. During small groups, we will write that person's name on your bandage and then place that bandage on your arm to remind you.
- **We can share the stories of God's miracles.**

### MEMORY VERSE | Greeting Card Unscramble

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Small chunks of the memory verse will be written on the inside of blank greeting cards. After reading the memory verse for the kids a couple of times, hand out each card to different kids. Have them stand in a row and read their section in order.*
- **"Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?' I said, 'Here I am. Send me!"**

**Isaiah 6:8 (NLT)**

### PRAYER

- God, thank you for all the wonderful things you have done. Remind us to

share the stories of your miracles and encourage the people around us. Nothing is impossible for you! Thank you for loving us and for hearing our prayers. Amen.

## SMALL GROUP TIME

### DISCUSSION

- **What was Tabitha known for before she died?**
- **What did Peter do when Tabitha's friends asked him for help?**
- **What happened when the people in Tabitha's town heard what had happened?**
- **How do you think sharing stories of God's miracles can help others?**
- **How do you know God still does miracles?**
- **Who can you share the stories of God's miracles with? What will you tell them?**

### MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month's memory verse together. Award a token to any kid that can say last week's verse from memory.*
- Let's practice this month's memory verse together!
- **"Then I heard the Lord asking, "'Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?' I said, 'Here I am. Send me!'"**

### ACTIVITY | Miracle Report

- What happened to Tabitha was a miracle! A miracle is something that happens that no amount of human reasoning could explain. It goes against logic and the rules of nature . . . which is how we know only God could have done such an amazing thing!
- The Bible is full of miracle stories like Tabitha's, in both the Old and

New Testaments. Let's learn about some together!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *In their small groups, give each student a miracle in the Bible to read about together – you could even assign leaders to read with them. You can print out passages to distribute or have kids look it up in their own Bibles ([here are a few ideas](#) to get you started). After they read about it, have each group share what happened in that miracle story through retelling or a short skit.*
- Even though some people might find them hard to believe, **we can share stories of God's miracles**, because the more we do, the more we can let people know how powerful and loving God is!