



Jesus Demonstrates His Authority

Mark 1:21-28

Most first- and second-graders still think very highly of their parents. Dads and moms are all-powerful, as far as young children are concerned. There is nothing their parents can't handle. This lesson will help the children in your group grasp the reality of Jesus' power in their lives. Use this lesson to tap into this core belief that Jesus is the only one who is truly all-powerful.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Power Source <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Compare powerful things they know of to Jesus' power.	My Bible Fun, pencils, red markers	Tear out the Lesson 9 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
2 Bible Exploration	Special Report <i>(about 25 min.)</i> Listen to a special report from Capernaum, and learn the Key Verse.	Bibles, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



► **Bible Point**
Jesus is all-powerful.

Key Verse

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will recognize that Jesus is all-powerful and will share his love with others.





LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>3 Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>Drawn by His Power <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Perform an experiment.</p>	<p>small paper clips, magnet, paper</p>	
	<p>Changing Puppets <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Make puppets.</p>	<p>My Bible Fun, plastic spoons, scissors, permanent markers, tape</p>	
<p>4 Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	<p>My Bible Fun</p>	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





Jesus Demonstrates His Authority

Mark 1:21-28

BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

Jesus Preaches With Authority

Mark begins this passage with a demonstration of Jesus' authority. Jesus was different from those who usually spoke in the synagogue. When Jesus interpreted the passage he read, he did so with authority—so much authority that the people noticed how different he was from the normal teachers of the Law.

Demons Take Notice of Jesus' Authority

Jesus apparently was making such an impression that the demon possessing a man felt the need to create a distraction. The demon referred to himself in the plural. Apparently more than one demon—perhaps many of them—were controlling this man.

Demons and demon possession are not often discussed in the church today. In Jesus' day, it seems that demon possession was commonly known. Perhaps it was more apparent because the demons opposed Jesus' ministry.

Jesus Demonstrates Power Over Demons

The demons in this story clearly knew who Jesus was. "The Holy One of God" is a name for the promised Messiah. So why would a demon make himself known to Jesus? The demons may have been attempting to deceive people listening to Jesus that he was in league with them. However, Jesus cut short the demons' dialogue. Notice that there was no protest when Jesus spoke to the demons. They knew they had to obey and did so immediately.

People Spread the Word About Jesus

The people present were amazed at Jesus' authority just from hearing him teach. But when demons obeyed his commands, those watching saw that Jesus had the power to back up his authority. He was the all-powerful Son of God. And when people left the synagogue that day, they began telling everyone in the whole region who Jesus was. After this event, Jesus could no longer go anywhere in the region of Galilee without being recognized and surrounded by people wanting to be healed by his miraculous power.

The Jesus Connection

Jesus' power goes far beyond what we can comprehend. Yet we can begin to understand the worth of Jesus' love for us.

We may not understand the demon possession that's described in this passage, but we can stand amazed at Jesus' power. Do you comprehend the magnitude of Jesus' power? What do you believe Jesus' power can do in your life? Go to Jesus with your needs, your hopes, your fears, and let his power comfort and guide you. You can write your prayer here.





Power Source Supplies

My Bible Fun
pencils
red markers

Power Source Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 9
pages from each My
Bible Fun student book.

1 GETTING STARTED

Power Source

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Say: **Today we'll learn about power. Let's see what kinds of things we think are powerful.**

Give each child a My Bible Fun page. Then point out the "Plenty of Power" section. Have kids use the pencils to circle the three most powerful things they see pictured in the grid.

Say: **Raise your hand if you chose the train.** Pause. Then invite a child to explain why he or she chose that picture. After a child or two shares, say: **A train certainly is very powerful, but think about who made the people smart enough to make trains.** Point out that God made those people, and trains wouldn't exist if God hadn't.

Continue reviewing each picture on the grid individually, each time encouraging kids to think of how those items or people came to be—or where the power came from. For example, you could ask kids where the fuel for the rocket comes from, or if superheroes are real or just made up by people.

Say: **Well, we can see from these pictures that Jesus is more powerful than anything or anyone.** Have kids use red markers to circle the picture of Jesus on the grid.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How do you know if something is really powerful?
- How can you tell that Jesus is powerful?

Say: **Today's lesson is all about Jesus' power. We'll read in the Bible about something really amazing that he did. And the extra cool thing is that what we'll read about is just one of the powerful things he did. Let's get excited today as we hear about how ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL.**





2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Special Report

What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Mark 1:21-28, and show the passage to the children.

Say: **When Jesus began his teaching ministry, many people wondered who he was and what he could do. One of the first places we hear of Jesus' amazing power is in a town called Capernaum.**

Today we'll hear what happened from a news reporter. When someone tells about an exciting event like this, he or she usually tells the where, when, why, what, and how. Split your group into five teams, assigning one of the questions to each group.

Say: **As you listen to the news report, listen for your assigned question.** Check that each group understands what to listen for.

Play Part 1 of "Special Report" (track 19 on the CD). Pause the CD when directed. Allow time for the kids to confer within their groups.

Say: **I want to know not only what you heard about your question, but why you think it might be important.** Allow time for kids to discuss. Then invite one child from each group to give a quick explanation.

Say: **I'm glad we had someone focused on each question. It's really helping us to get a full picture of what happened. Let's go back to the report to hear the rest of what happened.** Switch each group's role for the second part of the audio.

Play Part 2 of "Special Report." Allow time for kids to discuss the questions within their groups, and why each question matters. Then invite groups to share.

Say: **What Jesus did was really amazing. Here's how the people around reacted:** Read Mark 1:27-28.

Say: **These Bible verses really did show us that ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL. Jesus had the power to send an evil spirit out of a man! Our Key Verse goes a step further to help us understand even more how powerful Jesus is.** Help kids find Romans 8:38-39 in their Bibles.

Say: **Listen to what the Bible says: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).**



Special Report Supplies

-
- Bibles
 - CD player
 - Teacher Pack**
 - CD: "Special Report"
(track 19)





Say: **That means absolutely nothing can separate us from the love of God! Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead kids in repeating the simplified verse several times: **For I am convinced that nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39).**

Jesus showed God's love to the man in our Bible verses by helping him. Not even an evil spirit could separate the man from God's love, because Jesus was right there to show God's love in action.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think was separating the man from the love of God?
- What seems most powerful to you about Jesus?
- How does Jesus show God's love to you and your family?

Say: **Our Key Verse tells us that nothing—nothing at all—can separate us from the love of God, because Jesus will be right there to show us God's love. That's because Jesus is more powerful than anything that could try to get between us and God. Our Bible Point says that ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL. He can do anything!**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Drawn by His Power

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place several paper clips on a table, and have children gather around.

Say: **Let's pretend that these paper clips are us. And let's pretend that this magnet is Jesus.**

Demonstrate how the magnet attracts the paper clips.

Say: **The force of the magnet is so powerful that it pulls the paper clips right over to it. And the force of God's love in Jesus is so powerful that he pulls us toward him, just as the magnet pulls the paper clips.** Let children take turns attracting the paper clips to the magnet.

Say: **But sometimes problems get in the way of God's love and separate us from Jesus. In the Bible today, the problem was an evil spirit.**

The Bible says that nothing can separate us from the love of God that's in Jesus. Let me show you what that's like.

Drawn by His Power
Supplies

small paper clips
magnet
paper

! **MAGNET
WARNING**





Have two children hold the sheet of paper horizontally above the table. Place the paper clips on the paper.

Say: **Let's say that this sheet of paper stands for all of the problems that separate us from God.**

Place the magnet under the paper, and demonstrate how the magnet still moves the paper clips. Then invite children to try the same experiment.

Say: **See how the magnet still moves the paper clips? The paper couldn't separate the paper clips from the force of the magnet. That's how it is with Jesus' love. His love is so powerful that nothing—no problems that we have and no fears that we face—can ever separate us from Jesus' love.**

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What were you thinking during this experiment?
- Tell about some problems people have.
- Explain whether you think those problems are more powerful than Jesus' love.
- What do you like about the power of Jesus' love?

Say: **The magnet's power was really cool. But not as cool as Jesus' power and how he sent the evil spirit from the man. Jesus' love for you really is the most powerful thing. This week, remember that nothing can separate you from Jesus' love because ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL!**

Changing Puppets

What You'll Do

Say: **Let's make puppets to help us remember and tell others what Jesus did in Mark 1:21-28. Remember how Jesus' power changed the man with the bad spirit? We're going to make puppets that change, too!**

Give each child a spoon, and show kids how to draw a sad face on the bowl of the spoon and a happy face on the rounded side of the spoon. Explain that the sad face represents the man before Jesus used his power to help him. The happy face represents the man after Jesus helped him.

Give each child a My Bible Fun page, and point out the "Changing Puppets" section. Have children cut out the costumes. They'll tape the neat-looking clothing on the side with the happy face and the disheveled-looking clothing on the side with the sad face. Kids can then tape the edges of the costumes together at the sides.

Say: **Use your puppet to retell the Bible passage when you get home.** If time allows, let kids practice with each other.



Changing Puppets Supplies

-
- My Bible Fun
 - plastic spoons
 - scissors
 - permanent markers
 - tape





Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you like about your changing puppet?
- Why do you think it's cool that Jesus can change people like that?
- How would you like Jesus to change you?

Say: **The Bible says that the news of Jesus' power spread quickly all over the area. Jesus' love is so powerful that it can help us and change us every time we need it. This week, when something seems hard or sad, remember Jesus' love and remember that ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL.**

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

Daily Challenges
Supplies

My Bible Fun

What You'll Do

Say: **Let's think about how ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Run around your front yard until you start to get tired, and then thank Jesus that he's all-powerful so that when we're weak, he's strong!**
- **Help your family members with their chores this week. Remind them that even though we can't do everything, God can!**
- **Each time you turn the lights on in your room, thank Jesus for his power.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: **► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL. He made a bad spirit leave a man, and he does many other amazing things. This week, let's remember that ► JESUS IS ALL-POWERFUL and follow through on our Daily Challenges.**



Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about Jesus' power. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

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

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids. Let each child tell something they know that's powerful about Jesus. Then pray: **Jesus, thank you that you're the most powerful one in the universe. Thank you that you love us so much and you'll take care of us with your great power. In Jesus' name, amen.**



