Preschool–Grade 6

Jairus' Daughter

Sunday School Lesson for Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 45 minutes

Main point: Don't be afraid. Only believe Jesus.
Bible passage: Mark 5:21–43. Read it before class.
Memory verse: "As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe." *Mark 5:36 (KJV)*
You need: a Bible, 5 paper strips, a marker, tape, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: write the memory verse on the 5 paper strips (see part 4). Put a bookmark in your Bible at Mark 5:36.

1. Opening game: Shiver or Smile (5 minutes)

Say something. If it would make you afraid, kids shiver and shake. If it would make you happy, they smile big. "A loud storm at night." "A puppy licking your hand." "Getting lost in a store." "Your birthday." "A big dog barking at you." "A hug from Grandma." Ask: *What do you do when you are afraid?* Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a dad who was very afraid. Jesus told him what to do."

2. Bible story: Jesus and Jairus' Daughter (10 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Mark 5, so the kids can see the story comes from God's Word. Tell it in your own words:

Jesus came across the sea in a ship, and lots and lots of people gathered around Him (Mark 5:21). A man named **Jairus** came. He was a ruler of the **synagogue**, the place where people met to pray and hear God's Word. Jairus fell down at Jesus' feet. He begged Jesus to come and lay His hands on his little daughter, who was very, very sick, so she would be healed and live (5:22–23). So Jesus went with him, and the crowd pushed all around them (5:24).

In the crowd was a woman who had been sick for **twelve years**. She had gone to many doctors, and she had spent all her money, but she only got worse (5:25–26). She said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole" (5:28), which means, "If I can just touch His clothes, I will be well." She came up behind Jesus and touched His **garment**, His robe. Right away she was healed (5:27, 5:29)! Jesus turned around and asked, "Who touched my clothes?" (5:30). The woman came, shaking, fell down before Him and told Him everything (5:33). Jesus said, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace" (5:34).

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The story continues: While Jesus was still talking, some men came from Jairus' house. They said, "Thy daughter is dead," which means, Your daughter has died (Mark 5:35). But Jesus heard them. **Read Mark 5:36 from your Bible:** "Be not afraid, only believe." Say: "Jesus said, Don't be afraid. Just believe Me."

Jesus took only three of His disciples with Him: Peter, James and John (5:37). At the house, people were crying loudly (5:38). Jesus said, "the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth" (5:39). A **damsel** is a girl. The people laughed at Jesus (5:40). So Jesus sent them all out. He took the girl's father and mother and His three disciples, and went in where the girl was lying (5:40).

Jesus took the girl by the hand. He said, "**Talitha cumi**." Those words mean, "Damsel, I say unto thee, arise" (5:41). That is, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!" And straightway, right away, the girl got up and walked! She was twelve years old (5:42). Everyone was amazed. Jesus told them to give her something to eat (5:43).

3. Questions to ask (5 minutes)

1. What was the dad's name? *(Jairus, Mark 5:22)*
2. How long had the woman been sick? *(Twelve years, 5:25)*
3. What did the woman touch? *(Jesus' garment, His clothes, 5:27)*
4. What did Jesus tell Jairus? *("Be not afraid, only believe," 5:36)*
5. What did the girl do when Jesus took her hand? *(She arose and walked, 5:42)*

4. Memory verse: Five Strips (5 minutes)

Tape the 5 strips up in order: *As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, / he saith unto / the ruler of the synagogue, / Be not afraid, only believe. / Mark 5:36.* Explain the old words: **saith** means says, **the ruler of the synagogue** is Jairus, and **only believe** means just trust Jesus. Read the verse together. Then take one strip away and read it again. Keep taking strips away, one each time, until the kids can say the whole verse by themselves.

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5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "Jesus has power over sickness, and even over death. God loves you very much. But everyone has done wrong things. The Bible calls that sin: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means none of us is as good as God. Jesus is God who came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us how to obey the gospel, the good news about Jesus: 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means we are sorry for our sin and we turn away from it. We are **baptized**, buried all the way under the water, in Jesus' name, so our sins are washed away (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16). **Remission** means God takes our sins away. And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, His own Spirit, and we speak in other tongues, words God gives us, just like the believers did in the Bible (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.
This week: when you feel afraid, say Jesus' words: "Be not afraid, only believe," and pray.

6. Activity (10–15 minutes)

Choose one: the **Jairus' daughter word search** (vbshq.com/puzzles/jairus-word-search), crossword, maze or worksheet, the craft (vbshq.com/crafts/jairus-craft), or **Arise!:** everyone lies down on the floor with eyes closed. You walk around, gently take one child by the hand and say, "Arise!" That child stands up and walks with you, and takes the next child's hand. Keep going until everyone is up. Then all say together: "Be not afraid, only believe!"

7. Prayer

"Dear Jesus, thank You that You care about every one of us, and that You have power over sickness and even over death. When we are afraid, help us believe You. Thank You for loving us and coming to save us. In Jesus' name, amen."

If a child is sad or has lost someone: be gentle. Say that Jesus cares when we are sad, and that He has power over death. Don't promise that someone who died will come back now; keep it simple and let parents and the pastor talk with the child more.

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