

LESSON 56

Lesson Truth

The Holy Spirit gives you courage to speak about Jesus.

Procedure

Turn to Acts 1:4. Read Acts 1:4-5. Jesus' followers were waiting in Jerusalem for a "gift" from God, just as Jesus had instructed them to do. They waited for several days, not knowing exactly what they were waiting for. But when the gift from the Father came, they recognized at once that this was what Jesus had promised to send them. The "gift" from God was the coming of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came to the disciples, they spoke in different tongues. Those who were visiting Jerusalem from foreign countries heard the disciples speak about Jesus in their own language. But some of the Jews who were watching and listening accused the disciples of being drunk. Peter immediately stood up and assured the people that the disciples were not drunk, but were speaking by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Turn to page 27. Read the verses from Acts beside the roosters, and write 6 things that Peter said or did. Check students' answers, adding:

1. Peter stood up in the middle of thousands people and began to preach.
2. Peter was very bold. He openly accused the Jews of killing Jesus and called them wicked for doing it.
3. The Jews hated the idea that Jesus had risen from the grave. They had even paid the soldiers who guarded the tomb to say that the disciples stole Jesus' body. But Peter boldly reminded the Jews of something they already knew...that Jesus did rise from the dead.
4. Peter told the Jews that Jesus, whom they killed, is Lord. When Peter said that Jesus is Lord, he was saying that Jesus is the God of the Old Testament.
5. When Peter told the people to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, Peter was saying that the only way of salvation was by believing in Jesus. Since the Jews did not believe in Jesus, they did not like it when Peter told them that the only way that they could be saved was by believing in Jesus.

6. Peter's sermon must have lasted a long time, because Acts 2:40 says that he used many other words to try to encourage them to be saved.

Why do you think roosters are pictured in the lesson that you studied today? Turn to page 22. Do you remember what Peter did in this lesson? Discuss. At Jesus' trial, Peter was afraid. He denied

that he knew Jesus. Then Peter was afraid, now Peter was unafraid. Why? Discuss. "With God's Help," that is, with the Holy Spirit living inside Peter, Peter was unafraid. The Holy Spirit gives you the strength to be strong and admit that you are a Christian. Read the Lesson Truth.

Who is the Holy Spirit? Turn to Galatians 4:6. Read the verse. When Jesus left the earth, He sent His spirit to be with the disciples in His absence. That same Holy Spirit lives in you and me today. "With God's Help" through the Holy Spirit, you can be like Peter and tell others about Jesus.

LESSON 57

Lesson Truth

The name of Jesus has great power.

Procedure

Turn to page 27. Look at the pictures as you listen to this story.

"This is a lousy way to make a living," the crippled man grumbled as he was being carried along by a friend.

"It is the only way you have," the friend replied, "be thankful for it."

"I'm tired of begging, and tired of being crippled," the man continued.

"Yes, and I am tired of carrying you," the friend grumbled as he set the man down on the ground. This is where the man came every afternoon, because it was about this time each afternoon that people began making their way to the temple to offer their daily prayers.

"I can make lots of money here by the temple gate," the man thought. "These people think that God will hear their prayers if they give me some money before they go inside the temple to pray."

As people began to pass by, the crippled man cried out, "Help the lame

What Peter did (Acts 2:14)...
Stood up and spoke.

What Peter said (Acts 2:23)...
You took Jesus and crucified Him.

What Peter said (Acts 2:24)...
God raised Jesus up.

What Peter said (Acts 2:36)...
God made Jesus Lord and Christ.

What Peter said (Acts 2:38)...
Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus.

What Peter did (Acts 2:40)...
He preached a long time.

Acts 3:6
I do not have silver and gold. In the name of Jesus get up and walk.

Acts 3:8
He jumped up, stood, walked, followed them into the temple and praised God.

JOHN AND PETER HEALED A MAN WHO WAS CRIPPLED. BUT THE PRIESTS AND JEWISH ELDERS WERE ANGRY. "BY WHOSE NAME WAS THIS MAN HEALED?" THEY ASKED. "OUR SALVATION IS FOUND IN ONLY ONE NAME," PETER REPLIED. "THERE IS NO OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN BY WHICH A MAN CAN BE SAVED." BUT THE ELDERS ORDERED, "DO NOT SPEAK THIS NAME AGAIN!" THEY ALSO THREATENED TO HURT JOHN AND PETER.

1. **What John and Peter prayed** (Acts 4:29-30)...
Give us more boldness and heal more people and give great signs in the name of Jesus.
2. **How God answered their prayer** (Acts 4:31)...
They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke more boldly about Jesus.

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and crippled...I have been this way since birth...please give me money for food."

Many passed by without even looking at the poor man dressed in dirty, ragged clothes, but some dropped coins in his old cup and quickly hurry off.

"Thank you, and may God hear your prayers," the crippled man said over and over again.

As the crowds walking along grew larger, the crippled man cried louder, "Please anyone, put money in my cup!"

To the man's amazement 2 men stopped briefly and looked at him.

"Look at us," one of the men called to the crippled man above the noise of the crowd.

"Oh, this is my lucky day," the man thought as he stared up at Peter and John. "These men are going to give me several coins, and they want everyone to see them."

Others were slowing down and looking to see what Peter and John were going to give to the man.

Read Acts 3:6, and write in the voice circle on page 27 what Peter said to the crippled man. Read Acts 3:8, and write in the blue box what the crippled man did.

Turn to Acts 4:1, and listen to what happened when the Jewish leaders learned that the crippled man had been

healed. Read Acts 4:1-4. The priests were very upset that Peter and John had healed the man, but they were even more upset that the number of believers had grown to over 5,000 people. The Jewish leaders felt that something had to be done. Listen to what happened next. Read Acts 4:5-12.

Read the Lesson Truth. The Jewish leaders were in a bind. If they allowed Peter and John to continue preaching and healing, all Jerusalem would become followers of Christ. But the elders could not say to the people that Jesus was not from God, because all of the people had just seen the crippled man healed in the name of Jesus. As much as they hated to, the elders had to let Peter and John go. In the next Bible class, you will discover what the Jewish leaders decided to do to try to keep so many people from becoming believers in Christ.

LESSON 58

Lesson Truth

Be bold and unafraid to talk about Jesus.

Procedure

Turn to page 27. Read the paragraph in the middle of the page to see what the Jewish leaders told Peter and John. The name that Peter and John were **not** supposed to say is hidden in the paragraph that you just read. Use a red crayon to circle the name "Jesus" in the paragraph. Here is a clue to help you find the name.

Look near the front

Where the letters go DOWN.

At the first of each line

Is where the name is found.

What was the name Peter and John could not speak? Was the name of Jesus hidden in the paragraph? The first letter of each line spells "Jesus."

After Peter and John were warned by the Jewish leaders not to speak the name of Jesus anymore, they went back and told the other believers what the Jews had said. Read Acts 4:29-30, and write beneath number 1 on page 27 the amazing prayer that Peter and John prayed. Read Acts 4:31, and write beneath number 2 on page 35 how God answered their prayer.

Peter and John prayed that the Lord would give them **more** boldness to speak about Jesus. Read the Lesson Truth. If you lack boldness to talk about Jesus, ask the Lord to help you. God answered Peter's and John's prayer and He will answer your prayer also.

LESSON

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Lesson Truth

Never lie to God.

Procedure

Turn to page 28. Look at the list of words on the left-hand side of the page. Read Acts 5:1-11. As you read the story, circle any word on the list that you find in the story. What words did you find in the story and circle?

Read the Lesson Truth. Have students repeat the Lesson Truth out loud several times.

Who killed Ananias and Sapphira? Why do you think God killed them? Discuss. Locate

the word in the list on page 28 that tells why God killed Ananias and Sapphira, and use a red crayon to circle that word. What word did you circle? Lied. Have students repeat the Lesson Truth again. Ananias and Sapphira did not have to sell their land or give the money to the apostles. They volunteered to sell their land, then volunteered to give **all** of the money to the apostles. What Ananias and Sapphira really planned to do was sell their land, give part of the money to the apostles, and keep the rest without anyone knowing it.

Who did Ananias and Sapphira lie to when they promised to give all the money from the sale of the property to God? Have students repeat the Lesson Truth. If you promise God something, be sure to keep your promise. If you don't plan to keep your promise to Him, don't ever make the promise.

Was death too harsh of a punishment for just telling a lie? Will God kill you if you lie to Him? Discuss. Death was a very unusual punishment for telling a lie. I doubt if God would kill you for lying to Him, but this story illustrates how much God hates lying, especially lying to Him. God's message to believers in the book of Acts and to us in modern times is don't lie to anyone, and for sure, don't lie to God.

Acts 5:1-10

MOSES
ANANIAS
ESTHER
WIFE
MOTHER
SAPPHIRA
EUNICE
SOLD
BOUGHT
WORSHIPPED
KEPT
FED APOSTLES
GAVE TO APOSTLES
SATAN
BRAIN
HEART
TOLD TRUTH
LIED
JUMPED UP
HE FELL DOWN
DIED
LAUGHING
FEAR
RAN AWAY
BURIED
4 DAYS
3 HOURS
JUDAS
PETER
LEGS
FEET
ROBE
SHE DIED
SCHOOL
CHURCH
GROCERY STORE

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False Witness 1
(Acts 6:11)

He spoke blasphemous words.

False Witness 2
(Acts 6:13)

He speaks blasphemous words against the holy place and law.

False Witness 3
(Acts 6:14)

Jesus will destroy this place and change customs.

Acts 7:60



What Money

Can Buy		Can't Buy
Stu- dent's list.		Student's list including health, happiness, heaven.

LESSON 60

Lesson Truth

Forgive others, even if they do something terrible to you.

Procedure

Turn to Acts 6:8. Let's learn about a Christian man named Stephen. Read Acts 6:8-10.

Turn to page 28. Look at the letters that spell out the word "LIE" at the top of the page. The Jewish leaders could not argue with Stephen, because the Holy Spirit gave Stephen wisdom to answer the elders' accusations. Since the Jewish leaders were getting nowhere debating with Stephen, they brought in false witnesses to make up lies about him. Read Acts 6:11, and write in the letter "L" on page 28 what the first false witness said about Stephen. ...Acts 6:13, and write in the letter "I" what the second false witness said. ...Acts 6:14, and write in the letter "E" what the third false witness said. All of these things were lies that the Jewish elders told the false witnesses to say about Stephen.

Stephen knew that the Jewish leaders had made these false witnesses tell lies about him. Stephen did not even