

Children's Church at Home 25 April 2021

Acts 3:1-10 Peter heals a crippled man

and Acts 4:5-12 Peter and John before the Sanhedrin

Craft: paper, Sellotape, a rubber band, card, pens, scissors, something to make a hole with, string or wool.

First: do you like dancing? What do you need if you want to dance?

If you had a superpower, what would it be?

How many words can you think of which mean 'wonderful'?

The Story: [Acts 3:1-10 ERV - Peter Heals a Crippled Man - One day - Bible Gateway](#)

Peter and John were on their way to the temple for the afternoon service when someone called out to them for help. It was a man who was disabled and couldn't walk. He couldn't work, and his friends brought him to the temple so that he could ask people for money. (There weren't any benefits for people like him in those days, you know.) The place where he sat was called 'Beautiful Gate'. Isn't that lovely? And he would call out to people as they went by asking for money. Well, Peter and John stopped. They looked at him. 'Look at us,' they said. And he looked up hopefully. 'I don't have any gold or silver', said Peter. The man's heart must have sunk. What use could they be to him, then? 'but I do have something else I can give you,' continued Peter. 'By the power of Jesus of Nazareth, stand up and walk!' And he reached out and grabbed the man's hand. His right hand. And he pulled him up!

Well, do you think he fell over again? That would be a nasty trick, wouldn't it? But no tricks here. Real superpower. Peter felt full of the Holy Spirit of God and he knew, deep down, that the man could be healed! And it worked! The man got up and found he could walk. Then he tried jumping! And he could do that too! And he could dance! And all the while, he was praising God! He went into the temple with Peter and John, dancing and saying things like, 'hooray for God the amazing!' and 'God is superbly wonderfully marvellous, fantastic, brilliantly terrific.' and 'look what God the magnificent one has done for me!' (Did you think of any more marvellous words? He probably said them too!)

Well, the people in the temple recognised him. They knew he was the disabled man who sat by the Beautiful Gate. They were astounded! A miracle! Peter talked to them about Jesus, actually he was cross with them and he told them off, because they were the same people who had shouted for Jesus to be killed just a short time before, on Good Friday. But then he explained to them about how Jesus was alive again and that there was hope for all of them. All they had to do was believe in Jesus and do what he said.

And then some other people heard him. And they were not so happy. The priests, the temple police and some Sadducees got Peter and John arrested and the next day, had a meeting. 'who told you to do this?' they demanded. 'Who put you in charge here?' 'What business do you have doing this?' Peter didn't hold back! He asked if he was being arrested for making the man well! He told them about Jesus being alive again. And he told them that it was through Jesus' superpowers that the man could walk now. They talked about it. Hmm. Everyone knew about the miracle now. They couldn't pretend that it hadn't happened. But they didn't want there to be any more trouble from Jesus' followers. They decided to tell

Peter and John not to say anything more about Jesus, or there would be trouble. And they sent Peter and John away.

Video: <https://youtu.be/orp4ZT9710Y> Peter and John and the man who couldn't walk.

Now read or watch the whole story. <https://youtu.be/rQTFNyctPVU>

or read Acts 4:5-12 [Acts 4:5-12 ERV - The next day the Jewish rulers, the - Bible Gateway](#)

Quiz: where were Peter and John going? Who did they meet? What was the name of the place? What did he want? What did they tell him to do? What happened? What happened when the priests, the temple police and some of the Sadducees found out? What did they tell Peter and John to do?

Think: do you think Peter and John were happy / curious / frightened when they were told to keep quiet about Jesus? What might happen to them if they did talk about Jesus and even do more miracles? Why do you think the priests and the others didn't want them to talk about Jesus? Were they bored / worried / envious?

Do you think you could use Jesus' superpowers? We can't all make sick people well, but we can all do something to share what we know and believe about Jesus. Think about what you can do. If someone asks you about Easter, tell them the story! You know it's not just about bunnies and chicks and Easter egg hunts, but not everyone does! If someone wonders why you always share your sweets, tell them that Jesus wants you to! and do you remember, Peter helped the man up by holding out his right hand to him? We can all lend a hand, offer a hand of friendship, give someone a hand, in Jesus' name.

Craft: make a dancing man!

Activity: Do you have some chalk? And a small stone? And an outside space you can chalk on, like a patio? Play hopscotch! Here are some instructions in case you're not sure how to play, but there are lots of varieties, so you could make up your own rules too!

https://youtu.be/aUiOV6_ROW

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for miracles! Thank you for your blessings on me and my family. Show me how to explain about Jesus to the people I meet. Please care for all my family and friends. Amen.

The Grace: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.