

Activity Ages 3-6: Jesus Heals the Woman

Materials Needed
copies of *Jesus & the Woman*, scissors, markers or crayons

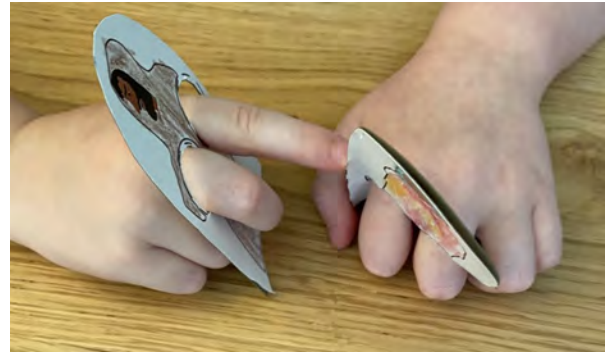
Prepare in Advance
Print a copy of the *Jesus & the Woman* for each child. Two sizes are given for different sized hands. For very young children, cut out the two figures ahead of time. To cut multiples, stack several templates so the pictures line up, and cut around the outlines of the figures. Cut the finger holes individually, bending the paper and cutting semi-circle holes.

New Church Concept Teacher Background

Not doing any work on the sabbath day means not doing anything that begins in ourselves, but only what begins in the Lord. In heaven angels do not will or do—they do not even think or say—anything that begins in themselves. This is what their being joined to the Lord consists in. This state with the angels is the heavenly state itself; and when they are in it they experience peace and rest. Also the Lord has rest, for when the angels have been joined to Him their labor ceases; they now abide in the Lord. See *Arcana Coelestia* 8495

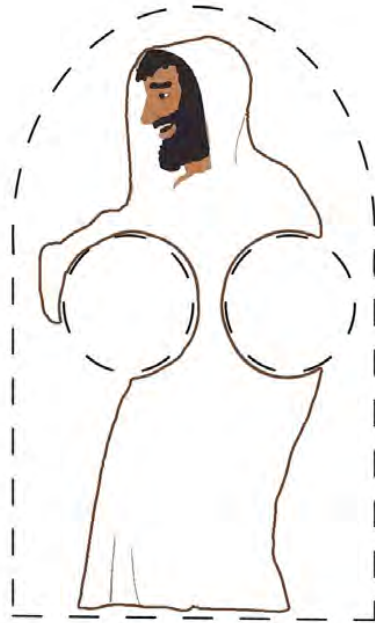
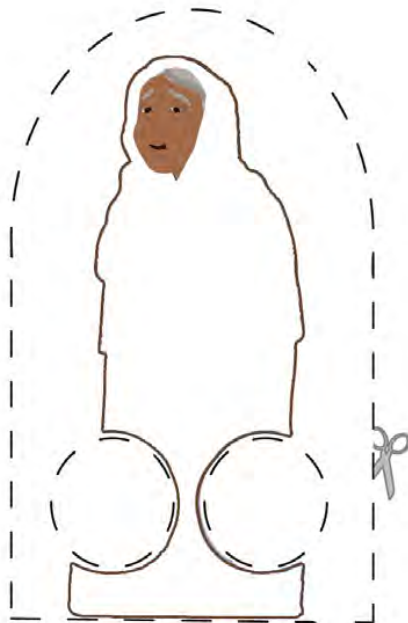
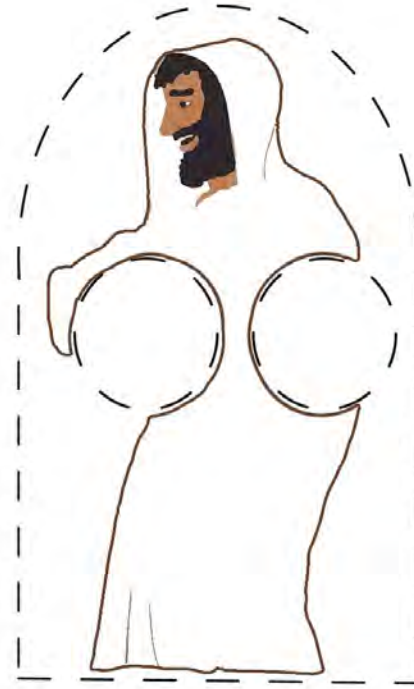
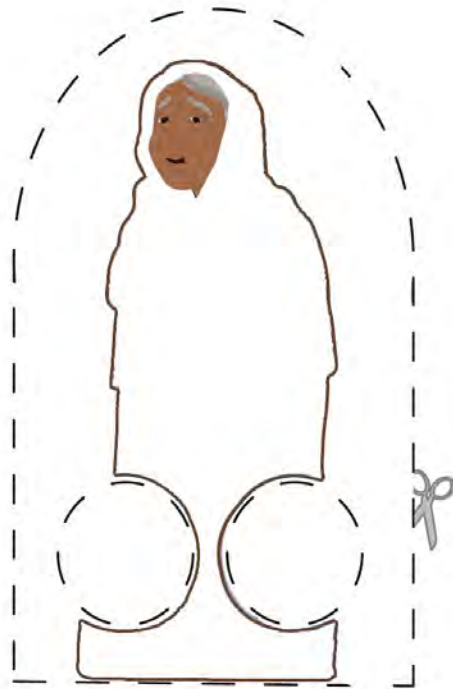
As Jesus was speaking in the temple a woman came in. She had a bent back. He called her to Him and said she was healed. He laid His hands on her, and she stood up.

Children will start by experiencing what it is like to be bent over and then make the finger puppets to re-enact the miracle of the Sabbath healing.



1. Let's all stand up. Stretch your hands up to the ceiling. How high can you reach? Now, bend over and see if you can touch the floor. Now freeze. I want you to stay bent over to see what it must have been like for the woman. How does it feel? What can you see? What can you do? Can you walk? What would be hard to do? Stay frozen until I come and touch you. As soon as I touch you, you can stand up straight!
2. Now, we're going to make puppets so we can act out the story.
3. Seat children and give each child a copy of *Jesus & the Woman*, markers or crayons. Color the picture of the woman and the picture of Jesus.
4. If you haven't pre-cut the figures, hand out scissors and show children how to cut around the figures. Children may need assistance cutting the finger holes. Demonstrate folding the paper gently and cutting a circle on the fold.
5. Once both puppets are complete, invite the children to put their fingers through the holes and re-enact the story using both hands. Their fingers will be the arms for Jesus and the legs of the woman. This allows them to show the dramatic parts of the story—Jesus touching the woman with His hand, and the woman being bent over and then straightening up.
6. Retell the story simple while children act it out with their puppets.
 - a. Jesus is in the temple. The woman comes in bent over.
 - b. Jesus sees the woman and calls her to come to Him. She comes to Him.
 - c. He tells her she is free, and He touches her.
 - d. The woman is healed! She stands up straight and praises the Lord.

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
The Lord raises those who are bowed down;
The Lord loves the righteous. (Psalm 146:8)



Note: Two sizes of template are given for larger and smaller hands.
Choose the right sized template for your students!