

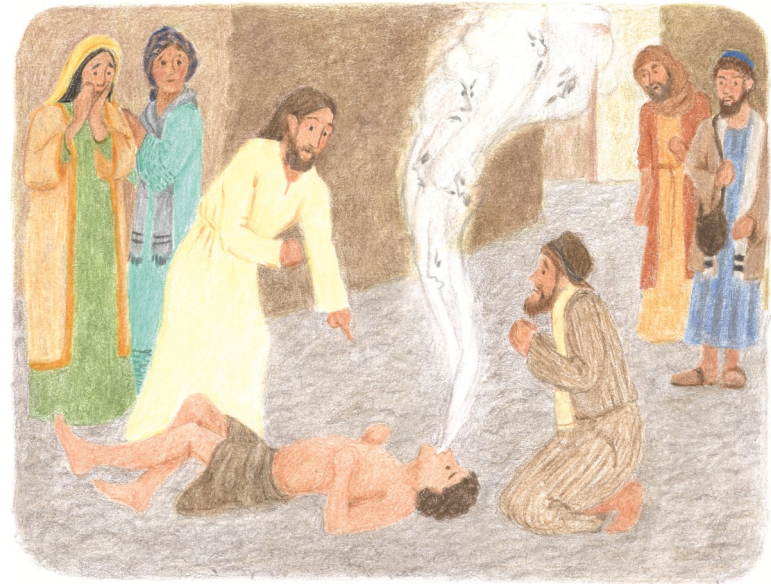
34. Healing the Demonic Boy

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

34. Healing the Demonic Boy

- a) As you read the story, make sure children can feel how horrible it was for the loving father to see his son so very sick. The boy had no ability to speak or hear what people said. He was hurting himself, so his father was always afraid he would kill himself by jumping into a fire, or drowning. For years the boy had been like this.
- b) Then the father said to Jesus “If you can do anything...” He was not sure Jesus could, because His disciples couldn’t. The Lord gave him a test: he had to believe.
- c) The poor father knew that the boy’s healing depended on his belief. Almost surely he looked into his heart and realized that part of him believed and part of him didn’t. So, he cried. He cried and admitted to the Lord that part of him didn’t believe and begged the Lord to help his unbelief. Just imagine how the father must have felt—terrified that the boy couldn’t be healed, and it would be his fault for not believing enough.
- d) But the father spoke the truth, and the Lord knows that all of us have a part which doubts Him. He knew that the father believed enough, so He cast out the spirit.



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Pictures by Dianna Echols Synnestvedt
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The Lord Saves a Very Sick Boy from an Evil Spirit

Jesus, coming to the disciples, saw a crowd of people around them and the scribes arguing with them. And when the crowd saw Him, they were amazed and ran to Jesus and greeted Him.

Then Jesus asked the scribes, “What do you argue about?” And a man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I have brought my son to You because his mind has been possessed by an evil spirit who makes him unable to speak. And whenever the sickness comes to him, he hurts himself, and he foams at the mouth and grinds his teeth. And I said to Your disciples that they should cure him, but they were not able to.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Bring your son to Me.” And they brought him to Jesus. And immediately on seeing Jesus, the spirit came over the boy, and he fell on the earth foaming at his mouth. Jesus asked his father, “How long has he been sick like this?” And the man said, “From a child. And often it makes him throw himself into a fire or into the water to kill himself. If You can do anything, feel sorry for him and heal him.”

Then Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible.” And immediately the father of the little child cried out saying with tears, “I believe Lord. Help me with my unbelief.”

And Jesus said, “You, mute and deaf spirit, I order you to come out of the boy and don’t go back into him.” Then the spirit came out of the boy, crying and badly hurting the boy so that he looked as though he was dead. And many people said that he was dead.

But Jesus took hold of the boy by his hand and lifted him up, and the boy stood up.

Mark 9

