

A LIVING FAITH Lesson on FAITH

Theme: Faith - Have faith at all times; especially during a sickness or in times of trouble. Jesus loves us - have faith in your hardest times that this is true!

Object: A pad of sticky notes or paper; A doctor's prescription

Scripture: Luke 4:14-23 (RSV or KJV)

Message Focus: Luke 4:18-21 *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."*



Paree Looy!

ASK: It's been a week since we've been together. How was your week? Did anyone have any days that were difficult? Did anything happen this past week that was hard for you? (Allow for answers. As children volunteer their "problems," write them a "prescription" on a sticky note the way Jesus might have solved this problem . . . try to incorporate the word FAITH in your prescription - you can even ask students to help write the prescription based on what Jesus might do! Stick the prescription on the student's shirt saying, "Just what the doctor, I mean JESUS, ordered!")

Example: "I didn't study and did poorly on my school work." Jesus' Prescription: The Bible teaches us to be responsible in our obligations like school work, so next time put aside enough time to be prepared. And always take a moment to pray, and ask God for guidance - with **faith**, all will be well!

We often hear someone say, "That was just what the doctor ordered." What do they mean? They usually mean that something happened which was exactly what they wanted or needed. Do you know where we got that expression? Well, when we are sick, we usually go to the doctor. After checking us over to find out what is making us sick, the doctor takes a piece of paper like this one and writes out a prescription. The prescription tells us what kind of medicine we need to take to make us well. After leaving the doctor's office, we take the prescription to the drug store and the pharmacist fills the prescription with the medicine that the doctor ordered. If we take the medicine as the doctor ordered, we usually get well. That's where we got the expression, "That was just what the doctor ordered."

When God created us, he wanted us to be happy and well. He didn't intend for us to be unhappy and sick. He never wanted people to be crippled or blind. But sadly, something happened - and that something was sin. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they changed life for all of us. But God still loved us and he had a plan to make us well again. Jesus knew God's plan too.

One day Jesus was in Nazareth on the Sabbath so he went to the temple as he always did. When he stood up to read the Scriptures, he was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. He looked through the book until he found the part that said, "The Lord's Spirit has come to me and has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. He has sent me to free the prisoners, give sight to the blind, and to set everyone free from their suffering."

When he had finished reading, he handed the book back to the man who was in charge and sat down.

Everyone in the place was looking at Jesus and waiting to see what he would say. Jesus said to them, "What you have just heard me read has come true today."

What did Jesus mean? He meant that He was the one who came to make us happy and whole the way God intended for us to be. He came to heal the sick and the lame. He came to make the blind to see and to free us from sin. Now if we want to have what Jesus came to give, we must have **faith** in Him and do what He has told us to do. **Jesus** is just what the doctor ordered!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for your love. We thank you for sending your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ to free us from sin so that we can know the joy that you want for us. Amen.