



# The Name of Jesus!

By Deborah Wassenberg

## Introduction:

What's in a name? Everything when it is the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth! This lesson explains the power of the name and person of Jesus and the enormous benefits children have when they belong to Him and use His name.

## Warmup Activity: The Story of My Name

Set up a table at the entry to your Kid's Church space. Have a supply of name tags and felt pens. As children enter they write their name on the tag and wear it throughout the program. It should be bigger and bolder than their 'sign in' name tag. Before the Bible lesson have each child share their name and whatever they know about why they were given that name. Children can share things like who they were named after or if there is a funny or interesting story surrounding their name. For children who may not have any information about their names, consult a baby name book or website and discuss the information found.

## Bible Lesson: Healing the Beggar Who Was Unable to Walk

Bible References: Acts 3:1-26; Acts 4:1-22; Acts 5:12-32

## Visuals You Will Need:

*You'll find free illustrations for the Bible story at [Free Bible Images.org](http://Free Bible Images.org)*

1. Name tag
2. Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus
3. Upset child
4. Jesus' ascension
5. Peter, John and the lame man
6. Lame man healed!
7. Peter preaching
8. Peter and John before the High Priest
9. People being healed/Peter's shadow
10. Rescued by an angel
11. Back before the High Priest
12. Jesus, King of kings and Lord of lords!

## Words:

1. You have a name and I'm sure your parents put a lot of thought into it. They thought about the meaning of your name and what it might be shortened to or the nickname you could be called. Maybe you are named after someone to carry on a family name. Names are important and there is one name that is more important than any other name and that is the name of Jesus Christ.
2. The name of Jesus Christ is important because it's the name of God's Son. Through an angel, God told Mary and Joseph to name their baby Jesus because it means Saviour. He would save people from their sins. (*Mathew 1:21*) People are baptised in the name of Jesus. (*Acts 2:38*) People are healed in the name of Jesus. (*Acts 3:16*) People pray in the name of Jesus. (*John 14:13-14*) It's an important name because God superexalted (*in the Greek exalted with all exaltation*) His Son and gave Him a name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth, and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Philippians 2:9-11*) That means every person will eventually know and say that Jesus Christ is Lord even if they did not accept Him!
3. It's because the name of Jesus is so important and powerful that the devil has worked so hard to try to destroy it. Many children only know the name of Jesus as a swear word. The devil has separated the name from the person because the devil realised if children knew Jesus as a person, they would love Him and live for Him for the rest of their lives, and he would do anything to stop that!
4. Before Jesus returned to heaven He left His disciples some instructions. He told them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. The one who has believed and has been baptised will be saved; but the one who has not believed will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who have believed: **in My name** they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not harm them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.'
5. It wasn't long before the disciples experienced this! Peter and John were going up to the Temple to pray. A man who had been lame was being carried to the Temple gate. He sat at the gate each day begging from those going into the Temple courts. When the lame man saw Peter and John going into the Temple, he asked them for money.

6. Peter said, 'Look at us.'  
The man looked at them hoping for money.  
Peter continued, 'I don't have silver or gold but I'll give you what I have.  
**In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth get up and walk.'**  
Peter took the man by the hand and helped him to his feet.  
Instantly the man's ankles and legs became strong.  
The man began to walk and followed Peter and John into the Temple courts.  
Then he started walking and leaping and praising God.  
He had been lame since birth and now was forty years old!
7. People were astonished and gathered around so Peter began to preach.  
'It is by faith **in the name of Jesus** that this man is now completely healed as you can all see.'  
He told them about Jesus and urged them to turn back to God and have their sins forgiven.
8. The next morning Peter and John were brought before Annas the High Priest and the elders and teachers of the law who demanded, 'By what power or what name did you do this?'  
Peter said, 'Salvation can only be **in the name of Jesus**. There is no other name with the power to save people from their sins.'  
Those listening were astonished at the courage of Peter and John.  
As the healed man was standing before them the Priest, elders and teachers were lost for words, so they ushered Peter and John out while they discussed what to do.  
'Everyone has seen them perform this miracle,' they said.  
'We cannot deny it. We must stop them speaking about Jesus and doing things **in His name**.'
9. At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people and the people held them in high esteem.  
And increasingly believers in the Lord, large numbers of men and women, were being added to their number.  
People even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any of them!  
The people from the cities near Jerusalem were coming together as well, bringing people who were sick or tormented with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.
10. But the High Priest stood up, along with all his associates, and they were filled with jealousy.  
They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public prison.  
But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the prison and led them out.  
He said, 'Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple area the whole message of this new life.'  
So they did.

11. Now the High Priest and his associates called the Council together and sent orders to the prison for the apostle's to be brought before them. But the officers who came did not find them in the prison, and they returned and reported, 'We found the prison locked quite securely and the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.' But someone came and reported to them, 'The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple area and teaching the people!' Then the captain went along with the officers and proceeded to bring them back and when they had brought them, they had them stand before the Council. The High Priest interrogated them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching **in the name of Jesus.**'
12. Peter said, 'We must obey God before human beings. God has raised Jesus from the dead and has exalted Him as Prince and Saviour to grant repentance and forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses to this.' The name of Jesus is as powerful today as it was in the time of the early Church so pray **in the name of Jesus** for everything you need for yourself and others.

## Ministry to the Children:

Romans 10:13 says, 'For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' It's that easy to be saved and anyone can do it! When you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and repent, and call on Him to forgive your sins, you will have a new life. Then you belong to Jesus and then He gives you His name to use. You can pray in His name!

## Memory Verse: Romans 10:13

'For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

### Learn through actions:

For	= hold up four fingers
Everyone	= open arms to include all
Who	= flap arms like an owl
Calls	= hold hands around the mouth
On the	=pretend to sit
Name	=point to name tag
Of the Lord	=point to the sky
Will be	=nod your head
Saved	=catch a rope and pull it towards yourself
Romans	=salute like a Roman soldier
10	=hold up ten fingers
13	=hold up three fingers

## Game 1: Elbow Tag with Names

### **You will need:**

A large space free of hazards.

### **What to do:**

Give everyone a partner. The pairs link arms and stand with plenty of space between them and any other pair.

One pair will start the game. They will unlink their arms. Choose one to be the tagger and one to be the runner. The runner begins by running away from the tagger anywhere in the designated space. The runner being chased can run as long as they want to but when they want to stop running they must link arms with any child but call out their name loudly.

Once they have linked up and called out the name of the child, the child now left without a partner becomes the runner to be chased until he or she chooses to link up with another child remembering to call out their name.

If the tagger gets too tired, the leader can call out, 'SWITCH!'

## Game 2: Red Rover, Come Over

Divide the children into two teams. The teams join hands and stand in lines facing each other, several metres apart. Choose one child in each team to be the 'caller'. The 'caller' in the first team calls, 'Red rover, red rover, let (insert name of child) come over.' The chosen child from the second team runs and tries to break through the first team. If the child succeeds, he or she returns to the second team. If not, the child joins the first team. This is repeated with the 'caller' from the second team who chooses a child from the first team. At the end of the game, the team with the most members wins. Change the 'caller' on each team often.

## Craft: Name Bracelet

### **You will need:**

- Alphabet beads
- Embroidery thread/thin stretch elastic/jewellery wire/nylon monofilament cord or beading thread
- Scissors
- Additional beads (optional)

### **What to Do:**

- Children find the letter beads to create their name or the name of a friend or family member

- They thread the beads on in the correct order, adding additional beads at the beginning or end of the name if you choose to add extra beads
- Tie a knot to secure