



## Power of the Kingdom ~ 1

### (Leader's Notes)

Follow the introduction on the worksheet and then study the chart given of the miracles of Jesus.



**Discuss**

What did Jesus do for these people in need?

*(You could do this as one group, or divide into smaller groups. Do not read all the stories, just the verses given in the right hand column.)*

**Answers for the chart:-**

Who did Jesus touch?	Reference	What did Jesus do?
1. The man with leprosy	8:1-4	He reached out His hand and touched the man. <i>(Leprosy was contagious and usually no-one wanted to touch a leper, but Jesus did!)</i> Jesus said, "I am willing. Be clean." He spoke the word of faith.
2. Centurion's servant	8:5-13	He said, "I will go and heal him." <i>(Jesus was willing to go out of His way to help this Gentile. Would we be willing to do that for a stranger of another race?)</i>
3. Peter's mother-in-law	8:14-17	Jesus touched the mother-in-law's hand. The power of God is released through touch. This also shows Jesus' tenderness.
4. The storm	8:23-27	He rebuked the wind and the waves.
5. Two demon possessed men	8:28-34	He commanded the demons to go.
6. Paralyzed man	9:1-8	Jesus forgave his sin. <i>(Notice how Jesus encouraged the man first, telling him to 'take heart'. He knows our deepest needs.)</i> Then Jesus told the man to get up and go home.
7. Woman subject to bleeding	9:20-22	He assured the woman she was healed. Again a kind word to encourage her, 'Take heart'.
8. A dead girl	9:18-19 9:23-26	He took the girl by the hand. We see the tenderness of Jesus.
9. Two blind men	9:27-31	He touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith." <i>(Notice the importance of the word of faith and the power of touch.)</i>
10. Demon possessed man	9:32-34	He drove the demon out.

**A closer look at:**

Jesus healing the centurion's servant

Matthew 8:5-13

Briefly explain where Capernaum is from the map and who the centurion was. If you have not divided into groups, it is good to divide now. Once the groups have finished, share the answers to the questions one at a time.

Where did this miracle take place? \_\_\_\_\_

Who was the centurion?

- He was a Roman military officer in charge of 100 soldiers.

**Discuss**

What do you think the Centurion meant in v8-9?

The centurion understood that:

- Just as he had been delegated authority from the Roman government, Jesus had been delegated authority from God.
- Just as he had power over his soldiers, Jesus had power over the spiritual realm.
- Just as he spoke and the soldiers would obey him, Jesus only had to speak and the spiritual powers would obey Him.

**Discuss**

What can we learn from this story to help us be more effective in praying for the sick? (Below is a suggested answer.)

If we want to be more effective in praying for the sick we need to:-

- We need to be under authority.  
The centurion understood that Jesus had power because He was under authority from God. Jesus only did what the Father wanted Him to. If we want God to use us we need to submit to His authority and be totally obedient to Him in every area of our lives. James 5:16 says, "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."
- We need to know the authority we have been given.  
Authority is something that is given. Jesus knew that God had given Him authority. See Matthew 28:18. Now we have been given authority by Jesus to go in His name and do what He did. However we need to know this!
- We need to speak with authority.  
As we look through the miracles Jesus performed we see again and again that He spoke with faith. He knew what the Father wanted Him to do, and so He could speak with authority. When we pray for someone who is sick we need to learn to listen to the Holy Spirit. He will show us what to do and say, then we must speak with faith, knowing that Jesus has given us authority.

The Kingdom of God is powerful! Jesus shows us what this means. He demonstrated power and authority over sickness, demons, nature and death. Now He has delegated this power to us. Let's rise up and use it so His Kingdom will be established.

