

Joyful Catholic Families
Lesson #2 – Healing the Blind Man

Blind:

What book is this? (the Bible)

- The Bible is full of stories about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.
- Today I am going to tell you a story that can be found in the Bible.
- This story is about a blind man.
- What does “blind” mean? (can’t see, can’t see people’s faces, can’t see trees)

Let’s see what it is like to be blind.

- You are going to put this blind fold on like this so you cannot see.
- I’m going to give you a sack that has some things in it.
- You will take one thing out of the sack and try to figure out what it is by just feeling it.
- When you figure out what something is, then take something else out of the bag and see if you know what it is.
- Alright, go back to your parents and put on your blind folds.
- (Hand out sacks of small items and children take one thing out of the sack.)

- When the children are finished: Were you able to figure out what the things in the bag were?
 - When people are blind they can figure out what some things are by the way they feel.

Now I’m going to give you a piece of paper.

- I want you to draw a happy face on the paper with your blindfold on. (show what a happy face looks like).
- Was it easy to draw without looking?
- It is hard for blind people to do lots of things.
- If you were blind, would you want to be able to see?

Story: Tell the story of Jesus healing the man who had been born blind. (John 9) I use the story “No Longer Blind!” in the book [30 New Testament Interactive Stories for Young Children](#) by Steven James. You can see this story in [Google books](#).

I use the version that begins on page 68 and has a refrain that children repeat several times with actions. I did change the first action (pretending to spit) to hitting your hands on the ground. I knew my parents would not like me teaching their children how to pretend to spit! Telling the story with actions and words that repeat makes it a fun way to learn the story.

Healing the Blind Man Puppet:

(Go to this post for PDF.)

(Show the blind man puppet.)

Do you think this man can see? (He is blind.)

- What did Jesus do to make it so the blind man could see? (Put mud on his eyes)
- Let's pretend that Jesus put mud on this man's eyes.
- What do you think will happen? (He can see)
- (Move the blind man part of the mask to show the man that can see.)

Children go back to the parents to make the Blind Man puppet.

- Color the man.
- Cut out the man who can see. Also cut out his eyes.
- Cut out the face of the blind man. Cut away the dotted line. Leave the other lines.
- Punch holes where the circles are.
- Put a brad into the hole on the left side of the face of the man who can see.
- Leave the brad loose.
- Tape it on the back of the puppet so the brad sticks out from the front of the puppet.
- Put a brad through the hole on the right side of the face of the blind man and the man that can see.
- Rest the "hook" part of the blind man's face on the loose brad.
- Glue a large craft stick to the back of the face.



Life-size game board:

(Go to [this post](#) for more information.)

- Use colored cardstock to make a life-size game board – a path for the children to follow around the room. Some options for the life-size game board are:
 - If you don't have a large space, tape the cardstock on the walls of the room with painter's tape. The children can walk around the room and stand in front of the squares when playing the game.
 - If you have a large space, tape the sheets of colored cardstock to the floor so it looks like a path on a game board. The children can stand on the cardstock while playing the game.
 - If you have a large space and don't want to tape down each individual piece of cardstock, tape two pieces of cardstock together and put over a small cone. The children stand by the cone when playing the game.

The children start throughout the game board with all the children standing on different squares that are the same color (for example, all the children are on a red square.)

- Ask the children a question.
- After the question is answered, tell the children to move forward to a certain color of cardstock (i.e., "Go to the yellow one.")
- You can also tell the children to move a number of spaces (i.e., 3).

Some Possible Questions:

- What is the name of our priest?
- Do we talk to our friends and family during Mass? (no)
- Who healed the blind man? (Jesus)
- What is the name of our church?
- Should we sit still in Mass? (yes)
- What color of vestment did Father wear today?
- Should you kick the pew in front of you during Mass? (no)
- When we enter church, we put our fingers in the holy water and (what do we do)? (make the Sign of the Cross).
- How did Jesus heal the blind man? (putting mud on his eyes)
- Should you listen to the readings at Mass? (yes)
- What do we do before we go into the pews at church? (genuflect towards the tabernacle and make the Sign of the Cross)
- Should we run up and down the pews? (no)
- Whose birthday do we celebrate at Christmas? (Jesus')
- Should we make the Sign of the Cross after dipping our fingers in Holy water? (yes)
- Who is Jesus' mother? (Mary)
- Should we play in the holy water? (no)
- Who is Jesus' earthly father? (Joseph)
- Should we go to the bathroom before Mass begins? (yes – then you won't have to leave during Mass)
- Is it okay to run in church? (no)
- Should we be quiet in church so people can pray? (yes)
- What was Jesus on when he died? (a cross)
- Should we pray in church? (yes)
- What do we celebrate on Easter? (Jesus rising from the dead)
- Should we kneel when everyone else kneels? (yes)
- Should we sit when everyone else is standing? (no)
- Should we talk while others are singing in church? (no)

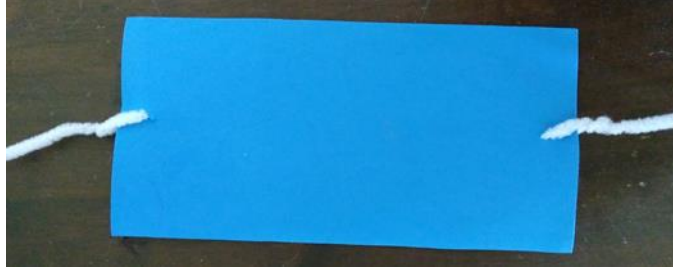
Stickers: Give each child a sticker as they leave.

Supplies:

Nametags & permanent markers
Prayers for prayer rings
Home lessons
Snack
Plates, napkins, water & glasses
Stickers (for each child at the end of class)

Bible

Blindfolds: I use the thin foam sheets from Dollar tree and cut into thirds (4 inches x 8 inches). Stick a pipe cleaner through the foam sheet at each end (about ½” from the edge so it doesn’t pull through) and twist it to secure it. Some children may be able to see under the bottom of the foam, especially if they want to. I just ignored if they were looking.



Paper sacks with spoon, ping pong ball, straw, crayon, rubber band, Lego, toy car

Picture of happy face (draw a happy face on a sheet of paper)

Paper for the children to draw happy faces on

Crayons

Sample Blind Man Puppet

Blind Man Puppet copies

- Go to <https://craftingthewordofgod.com/2014/05/13/pauls-conversion-mask/> , click on “Template”, and print the man who can see on white cardstock.
- Also print this PDF on white cardstock: <http://joyfulcatholicfamilies.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Blind-man-sees-craft.pdf>

Craft sticks (tongue depressors)

Scissors

Brads

Hole punchers

Glue sticks

Tape

Colored cardstock/paper for large game board

Blue painters’ tape or cones