

WE NEED JESUS

We need new life

MATTHEW 9:18-26

faith  **kids**

We need Jesus – We need new life

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Big Idea:

Jesus totally changes us by bringing us new life.



Faith in Kids looks like:

Children who enjoy the difference that Jesus makes in their lives.



Where are we going?

In just a few short verses Matthew tells us 2 amazing transformation stories. There's great emotion packed into this short episode. The broken father. The desperately ill woman whose condition is literally killing her. In faith they are both reaching out to the only one who can help them, falling at his feet, reaching for his cloak. You can hear them cry 'Please, Jesus!'

Jesus' response to their desperate situations is rich with compassion. He stops to speak to the woman who would not dare speak to him: "take heart, daughter ... your faith has healed you". This woman, who the law condemned as unclean, is sick, and desperate. Imagine

her joy at hearing him call her "daughter" and knowing she was healed. Then Jesus heads with the father to his child's bedside and reaches out for her lifeless hand. Jesus reaches into death and brings life, reaches into mourning and brings joy, reaches into desperation and brings hope. This is not just the story of that little girl and that woman. It is the story of everyone who trusts Jesus. It is our story. We have been raised spiritually now, to live a new life of faith and obedience. One day he will reach into our physical death and raise our bodies to be with him forever. Just as it was back then, this great news is worth sharing.



Get Going

Spot the difference

Set a scene from today's Bible story, e.g. someone standing with a towel as a cloak, someone else reaching out to touch it. You could use play figures or yourselves – get into position, then 'freeze'. Ask your children to look away while you change a detail of the scene e.g. move an arm, change a figure, add a hat etc. Get your children to look back and see if they can spot the difference.

➡ **Link:** In today's true story, Jesus makes a massive change to two people's lives. Everyone can see the difference in both of them.



Click here to watch

or scan the code





Teaching Time

Younger children

Have a cloth or a towel ready to use as a cloak and a covering as you act out the story together.

In today's true Bible story, 2 people desperately needed Jesus. No-one else could help them. These 2 people were totally changed by Jesus. The first was a woman who had been very ill for 12 years. *Get one person to be the woman, looking sad. Imagine how hard that was for her.* No-one could help her. The woman knew that Jesus could save her and give her her life back. *Get one person to be Jesus. Put cloth/towel round their shoulders as a cloak.* She only needed to touch the edge of his cloak and she would be better. *Woman reaches out to touch Jesus' cloak.* Jesus did not rush off. He stopped and talked to her, because he cared about her. He called her daughter

and he made her well. *Woman smiles.*

Ask your child to lie down on the floor and put the cover over them. The little girl in today's story had an even worse problem that absolutely no one else could fix. She was so ill that she had died. But then Jesus came to help. Jesus held out his hand, took the girl's hand and raised her to life again. *Jesus reaches out to the child and helps them up.*

The news that Jesus had changed these 2 people, giving them new life, spread all round the area.

We need Jesus to change us and give us new life. We can have new life now, knowing and trusting him. And new life one day when our body dies, when he will raise us to be with him.

Older children

Have a sheet of paper and pens ready. Draw the outline of the table below.

Read Matthew 9:18-26 and fill in the boxes in the table for 'Woman' and 'Girl' as you read each part of the passage.

Character	Problem	Solution
Woman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sick, bleeding for 12 years (Cut off from God - Her bleeding makes her unclean according to the law, so she can't go to the temple) Not getting better Will die if nothing changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goes to Jesus Touches his cloak Jesus says her faith heals her
Girl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead No one can do anything to help her 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father goes to Jesus Jesus goes and touches her Jesus brings her back to life
Me	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sin problem Cut off from God Can't fix it myself Dead in sins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go to Jesus Have faith in Jesus Jesus can give me new life

Now talk together about filling in the boxes for 'Me'. What is our big problem? How are we like the woman and the girl in the story? What is the solution to our problem? Do we need a change that we can make? Or one that only Jesus can make?



Hearts and Hands

Younger children

Craft time

Make a puppet little girl from card with 2 holes cut for you to put your fingers through to be her legs. Act out the story. At the start she is lying down. Jesus reaches out his hand and raises her. Now she can run around!

Did you spot it?

- How did Jesus change the woman?
She was sick, he made her better
- How did Jesus change the little girl?
She was dead, he brought her back to life.

Work it out

- Could anyone else have made the women better just by her touching their cloak? *No. Remember the story of*

Older children

Make time

You could cut out a piece of fabric or paper shaped like a cloak and draw round your hand on it to remind you of the woman who touched Jesus' cloak. You could write a prayer on the cloak, thanking Jesus that he came to give us life.

Did you spot it?

- How did Jesus change the woman's life?
From sick to better, outsider to daughter, sad to happy.
- How did Jesus change the little girl's life?
From dead to alive, no hope to joy, crying to laughing
- What difference did it make to the wider area?
News of what Jesus had done spread.

Work it out

- Could anyone else have made this change in these people's lives?
- How does the way Jesus responds to the woman and the father make you feel? What do you learn about his heart?
- Has knowing Jesus changed your life? Do you think there is more change that is needed?
- Jesus can change your life so that you know and trust him now. And one day he will raise you to be with him in heaven. What would you like to say to him today?

So what?

- What is the biggest change you think you need in your

the leper. Touching Jesus made them well.

- Could anyone else have brought the girl back to life by holding her hand? *No. Only Jesus could do that!*

So what?

- Jesus came to give you new life. Do you think you need his help?
- Jesus can change your life so that you know and trust him now. And one day he will raise you to be with him in heaven. What would you like to say to him today?

Pray

Thank you Jesus that you came to give us new life. Thank you that you change us to have new life now and forever with you. Amen.

life? To get back to normal, see your friends, have more money, or to have faith in Jesus??

- Jesus reaches into death and brings life. How is this good news for you as you live today? How is this good news for the future, when you die?

Extra Stretch

- According to the law in the Old Testament, a bleeding woman and a dead body are both unclean. Usually, when someone touches something unclean, they become unclean too. The unclean woman reaches out and touches Jesus. Jesus reaches out and touches the dead body. Yet Jesus doesn't become unclean. Instead, he makes them clean. What does that tell you about his power?
- Jesus speaks gently to the woman, who others would have looked down on, and goes to the girl's bedside at a time when women and daughters were seen as insignificant. What does that tell you about his heart?
- News of what Jesus had done spread in the region because the difference was so obvious. Does knowing Jesus make an obvious difference to your life?

Pray

Respond in thankfulness that Jesus has come to change us and offer us life now and forever with him.