

Snapshots of Jesus

Jesus Healing

Checklist:

- Have some fun pictures from youth group to show (project, ideally) to the group.

Pictures

Show of Hands: Who here likes to take pictures?

Say: Here are a few fun pictures...

Show some fun pictures from youth group activities.

Ask: Why do people take pictures?

(A couple possible answers: One reason people take pictures is to help remember something that happened - maybe something fun or important. Another reason is so they can show other people what they did or what happened.)

Say:

- Tonight we're going to look at a few "snapshots" from Jesus' life.
- We're going to look at what was written about a few instances from his life that helps us see something about what He did and who He is...

- But, first, let's think about a couple questions...

Healing?...

Ask:

- Who might be skeptical if you hear about someone being miraculously healed? Why?
- If you saw someone you knew, healed in front of your eyes, what would you think?

Say: Now let's take a look at some snapshots from Jesus' life...

Jesus Heals

Read Matthew 8:1-17 (while people follow along in Bibles)

Ask:

- What are some examples of healing that you see Jesus did in these verses?
- What do you think people thought about Jesus when they saw Him heal?

Say: I would like to look at another detail we can see about Jesus - it is either from the same event of healing the man from leprosy or a similar event...

Read Mark 1:40-42 (while everyone follows along in Bibles)

Ask:

- What detail does this mention about Jesus healing a man that wasn't mentioned in the other snapshot about healing a man with leprosy?
(He had pity or compassion when He healed the man.)
- What is compassion?

Say: Another place - Matthew 14:14 - talks about Jesus having compassion on a large crowd and healing their sick.

What We See About Jesus

Ask: What do these snapshots from Jesus life teach us about Him?
(they show He had the ability to heal and He had compassion.)

Say:

- In Acts 2:22, Peter said that the mighty works, wonders and signs God did through Jesus showed He was a man attested by God.
- They show He had the power of God at work in Him to heal.
- And it helps us see that He was attested by God, so we can trust what He said - like that He is the way, the truth, and the life...

- Do the miracles, themselves, also help to show Jesus is God, too?...
 - Lots of Christian say so - especially because of how often He healed and the authority He exhibits when healing.
 - However, other people in the Old and New Testament also were involved in miracles, like healing, too, and they were not God. But, whether or not the miracles themselves point to Jesus being God, there are other things that more directly point to Jesus being God in the Bible, such as John 1 that says that in the beginning was the Word and the Word was God and that the Word became flesh.

Does God Still Heal Today?...

Say:

- One question we might ask based on what we looked at is: Can God still heal today?...
- Absolutely. God is all powerful.
- Just like Jesus - the Word of God become flesh with the power of God at work through Him - had compassion and power to heal, God can still heal people today.

Ask: So, since God has the power, why doesn't He always heal?

Share any of these points that teens don't come up with...

- Maybe it sometimes has to do with a lack of faith. Many places in the Bible talk about people's faith when it comes to healing.
- But, maybe it sometimes better fits God's will not to heal. Paul talked about praying for something to be removed from his life that wasn't - and God said His grace is sufficient.
- He will eventually heal every person who has faith in Him... Even if they are not healed on earth, all those who trust Jesus as Savior and Lord will experience wholeness in heaven with a new body.

Prayer Time Application

Say: Let's spend time to ask God for healing for us or those we know who could use healing...

Allow some time for people to pray out loud for those who are sick or hurt...

Say:

- We can see through the rest of what is written about Jesus that He didn't just come to heal people of physical issues...
- Because of love, He also came to die on the cross to save people from the penalty they deserve because of sin. This is much more important!
- So, if you haven't before, trust in Jesus to cleanse you from sin and make you right with God through His death for sin.

- If you trusted Jesus to save you tonight, or if you have questions about that, talk to me, a leader, a friend or your parents tonight!

Closing Prayer

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