

Bandage Self-Portraits

Kids use adhesive bandages to enhance self-portraits as they remember that Jesus heals.

Resource Type: Art

Story Name: Pool of Siloam

Learner Level: Grades 3-4

Supplies:

Small containers of water

Paper towels

Watercolor paper

Watercolors

Paintbrushes

Small, circular adhesive bandages

Markers

Large roll of art paper (optional)

Tape (optional)

Set Up:

Set out cups of water and paper towels for dabbing brushes.

Instructions: In our story today, Jesus healed the blind man so he could see. Did you know Jesus has healed us so we can see? Without Jesus, we are spiritually blind. This means that without Jesus, we can never really know or understand God. Jesus is like a bandage for our eyes. Jesus helps us heal and helps us to see the truth!

1. Invite the kids to use watercolors to paint self-portraits on watercolor paper, encouraging them to paint the eyes first so that part of their paper has time to dry.
2. When kids have finished painting, direct them to place a small, circular adhesive bandage over each eye on the self-portraits.
3. To finish your artwork, write on your picture: "Jesus heals!"

Your pictures look great! I hope you can hang yours in a special place where it can remind you that Jesus heals!

If you have less time . . .

Invite kids to draw their self-portraits instead of painting them, then add the adhesive bandages to finish.

If you have more time . . .

Provide a large roll of art paper. Ask kids to take turns lying on a portion of the paper and invite them to trace each other. Once everyone has been traced, kids can use markers to color a full body portrait of themselves. Ask kids to add the adhesive bandages, then cut out their own portraits. Use them to decorate a hallway or classroom in the church. Label your display with the focus, "Jesus heals!"

Rope Course to Jesus

Kids guide each other through a rope course so their eyes can be opened as they remember that Jesus heals.

Resource Type: Activity

Story Name: Pool of Siloam

Learner Level: Grades 3-4

Supplies:

Several lengths of rope or several jump ropes
Scarf or blindfold

Tape or other way of attaching ropes to walls
(optional)

Instructions: In today's story, Jesus healed a blind man. The man was able to see things around him, but that's not all. Jesus healed him, so he also saw Jesus for who he was. Jesus is still healing the blind today, although not everyone he heals is physically blind. He heals people every day who are spiritually blind and don't know him as the Son of God. I bet some of you know that Jesus is the Son of God. If we know the truth about Jesus, it's important to help others see, too! Let's play a game helping each other get to Jesus, even when we can't see very well.

1. Gather the kids in a large, open room or outside.
2. Ask one kid to hold the end of a rope, and ask a second kid to hold the other end. Direct them to stand far enough apart so the rope is extended. Ask the second kid to hold another rope in his/her free hand, and ask a third kid to hold the end of that rope – and so on, until all the ropes are used up and you have a rope course. You may also attach the ropes to furniture or walls to create the course.
3. Ask for a volunteer to be the first kid to go through the rope course.
4. Blindfold the volunteer and lead him/her to the first kid on the rope course.
5. Ask the blindfolded volunteer to work his or her way through the rope course by touch while the other kids holding the ropes call out encouragement and direction.
6. When the volunteer reaches the end of the rope course, encourage all of the kids to yell, "Jesus heals your blindness!"
7. Remove the volunteer's blindfold, then give it to another kid. Continue the activity until every kid who wishes to try the rope course has had a turn.

Just like you helped each other find Jesus, Jesus helps us find our sight. Jesus heals!

If you have less time . . .

Invite kids to take turns leading each other blindfolded around the Sunday school room to see how it might feel to move around without being able to see.

If you have more time . . .

Invite kids to take turns moving ropes around to design more challenging courses.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

Without you in our lives, it would be dark. We thank you for opening our eyes and giving us light. Help us share that light with the rest of the world everyday.

Amen.