

Kids (Mini Lessons)

Revised Common Lectionary

LIVING THE WORD

**Kids (PK-6th)
Mini Lessons**

Leader's Guide



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Living the Word: Kids Mini Lessons (Revised Common Lectionary, Years B & C)

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The Persistent Woman

Gospel Reading: Mark 7:24-37

Key Verse:

Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter..”

– Mark 7:29

The Point:

We need to persist in our prayers for others as the gentile woman did.

Gospel Summary:

To get away from the crowds, Jesus heads north. A local woman has a daughter afflicted by an unclean spirit and heard about Jesus’ power over the spirits. She loves her daughter and is willing to interrupt this foreigner to heal her. Jesus’ first response might seem strange to our ears; he refuses her request because she is not Jewish, and his mission is to the Jews. It is uncertain whether Jesus is insulting the gentile woman by comparing her to a dog or if he simply uses a vivid illustration. But the woman argues that even dogs get the crumbs the children drop. She does not take offense; she demonstrates her faith that even a small amount of Jesus’ power could heal her daughter. Jesus is satisfied by her persistence and faith, and he heals the daughter.

The Point:

We need to persist in our prayers for others as the gentile woman did. We begin our year by looking around us. The texts for today’s lesson speak to the importance of speaking out on behalf of others, and acting on behalf of those who are in need. It is our job to pray and serve on behalf of others, and to work for the good of all people.

Prayer of Preparation:

Jesus, help us to be persistent in asking in your name, in doing good to help others, and in hearing the lessons that you teach. Amen.



Lesson Plan

Learning the Word

He Does All Things Well

15 min.

Jesus miraculously heals.

Supplies:

- Bible
- Video projector

Preparation:

1. Find and cue the video clip from the show Family Guy of Stewie trying to get his mother's attention. One version of the clip can be found at <https://youtu.be/aOLxQGLJouI?si=mKYTsiyC1X24qNjP>. Website hyperlinks are provided for your convenience and are correct and relevant at the time of publication but may not be at the time of use. You may wish to preview the clip to determine appropriateness for your setting.

Instructions:

1. **Our lesson today is found in Mark 7:24-37. Let's listen to verses 24-30.** Read the passage aloud or invite a volunteer to read. **Have you ever felt like an outsider? When or where?**
2. **It sounds like Jesus is not sure about healing the gentile woman's daughter. Why does the text say he was not sure?** [*Because she was an outsider; a Gentile.*]
3. **But she keeps asking. How many of you are familiar with this type of persistence?** Show the "Mom" clip of Stewie.
4. **What is your first thought when you watch this clip? Are you annoyed? Or would you give in and pay attention? Why?**
5. **If someone in your family, maybe a sibling or an adult, needed you what would you do for your family?**



6. **Jesus finally does heal the daughter, and from a long way away! What does this say about the power of Jesus?** [*Jesus is really powerful!*]
7. Read verses 31-37. **What does Jesus do well in this story? How do the people react?**
8. **How do you feel when you are impressed and excited about something? When was the last time you felt this way and wanted to tell everyone about it? Why do you think Jesus asked people to not tell about what they witnessed?**
9. **Have you ever seen something amazing? Perhaps you witnessed a remarkable sports play or saw a bird hatch. Did you tell your friends and family about what you saw?**



Additional Activities

Opposite Simon Says

5 min.

Do not do what you are told.

Supplies:

- None

Instructions:

1. **Our story today ends with Jesus instructing the crowd to not talk about what they have seen. But what do they do? The exact opposite of what he says!**
2. **We are going to play Simon Says, but with a twist. When Simon gives their instruction, people will respond by doing the opposite: if Simon says stand up, people sit down. If Simon says sing loudly, they sing quietly. Let's try it.**
3. Invite different students to play Simon. You might want to have some ideas for activities prepared to help.
4. **Sometimes it is hard to do what we are asked, and we end up doing the opposite. Jesus asked people not to tell about the healing, but they were so astounded they could not help themselves.**



Additional Activities

Persistence Pays Off

10 min.

Practice persistence.

Supplies:

- Paper
- Optional: paper airplane instructions

Preparation:

1. If needed, print off instructions for various types of paper airplanes.

Instructions:

1. Make paper airplanes and see whose flies the furthest. What can you change about yours to make it fly further? Try again. Play against each other, in small groups, or against your own distance.
2. What did you have to do to be persistent? Make changes, keep trying, try something new? What are ways that the mother in today's story was persistent? What are ways that you can be persistent in your prayer life?



Sending

Today we heard a story of persistence. Does persistence work in your prayer life? This week, keep a journal of your prayers. You can suggest that pre-writers do so as a family or with an older family member or caregiver. Write down your prayers and record any answers that you receive. Thank God for God's willingness to hear our prayers.

Let us pray:

God, we know that you hear us. Help us to be patient with your answers. Amen.

