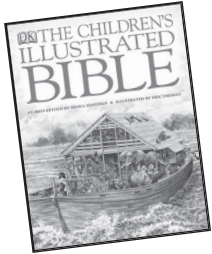


Fourth Sunday in Lent



The Children's Illustrated Bible
page 216

Jesus saw a man who had been blind from birth. Jesus spat on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smoothed the mud over the blind man's eyes. He told him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam." So the man washed and came back seeing! The neighbors asked, "Aren't you the blind man who used to sit here and beg? Who opened your eyes?" The man said, "Jesus." The neighbors drove him out of the city, but when Jesus talked to him, the man said, "Lord, I believe you are the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "I have come to give sight to the blind."

—John 9:1–41 adapted



Jesus Opens Eyes

Share the story of Jesus healing the blind man from John 9:1-41. Show the drawing of Jesus healing from *The Children's Illustrated Bible*, page 216.

Share the story again as kids create a crayon etching.

1. Kids cover their paper with a thick layer of solid crayon in a pattern of many colors.
2. Kids paint over the crayon with a dense layer of black tempera paint mixed with liquid soap. Allow tempera to dry before the next step.
3. Using an open paper clip, kids sketch a blind man, portrait-style so the eyes can be seen.
4. How did Jesus open the eyes of the blind man? (He spat in the mud and smoothed the mud over the blind man's eyes.)
5. What did Jesus tell the blind man to do next? (Wash your eyes.) Have the kids wipe off the black ink with a dry washcloth. This will dramatize all the colors of the drawing.

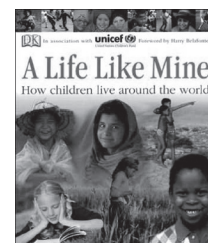
Many people questioned the blind man after he was healed. They did not know what kind of person could heal blindness. At first he told them it was a man called Jesus, then he said it was a prophet. Finally he said Jesus was the Son of God. The more people questioned the man, the more he realized what a miracle had happened. Jesus was more than just a man and a prophet. He was from God. Jesus did more than just heal the man so he could see again; he healed the man so he could see that Jesus could open people's eyes.

Do You See?

Do you see the needs of others around you, the needs of the hungry and hurt children in the world? Give kids magazines and newspapers. Have them search for stories or pictures of people who are in need of someone to care for them, as Jesus cared for the blind man. Have kids cut out those photos and articles and create a mural (on newsprint taped along the wall) of people in need. Today is World Hunger Emphasis Day. Share the book *A Life Like Mine*. It describes the needs of the hungry and what can be done. Talk about these ideas with your kids. There are many organizations in the church and the world that try to help hungry people. What can we do to help? Show kids a Mission Tithes envelope (also on their KidsPage), and show where they can give offerings to help the hungry.

I Spy!

Play a game of "I Spy." Invite kids to lie down in a comfortable position. Add something to or take something away from the classroom environment while their eyes are closed. When they open their eyes, ask them what they see that's different? At times, take kids away, or important books, like the Bible or other scriptures.



The blind man said, "I was blind and now I see." Jesus said, "I have come to give sight to the blind."

—John 9:25, 40



Jesus Heals

How many people did Jesus heal? Too many to count! But we can find some of the stories in the scriptures. Look these up and mark who Jesus healed:

Person	Scripture	Sick	Blind	Dead
Little girl	Luke 8:49–56	_____	_____	_____
Two men	Matthew 9:27	_____	_____	_____
A woman	Luke 8:40–48	_____	_____	_____
Bartimaeus	Mark 10:46–52	_____	_____	_____
Ten men	Luke 17:11–19	_____	_____	_____
Lazarus	John 11:1–44	_____	_____	_____
Peter's mother-in-law	Matthew 8:14–15	_____	_____	_____

Open Eyes

How can you open your eyes to the needs of hungry and hurt children around the world?

Look up these Web sites:

www.CofChrist.org/hunger

www.outreach-international.org www.worldhunger.org

Make a donation to the world through the Oblation fund, Outreach International, World Accord, SaintsCare, or World Hunger.