LESSON 21

JESUS TRIUMPHS OVER EVIL



Aim: **To show the children that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has defeated the demons and all evil powers.**

Scripture Reading: **Luke 8:26-39**

Memory Verse: **Luke 8:39**
"Return home and tell how much God has done for you."

Presenting the Lesson

Starting Point

Ask one of the children to stand in front of the class. Let about six others stand around him or her in a circle. When you say, "Go," they must all simultaneously start to tell the one in the middle to do different things like: Stand up! Sit down! Jump up and down! Raise your arms! Clap your hands! Shout! Laugh! You see? Your friend in the middle became so confused that he [she] did not know what to do!

Main Points of the Lesson

1. In the other lessons we have done so far we have learnt about Joshua, Gideon and Samson, who triumphed by relying on God's power. Jesus lived many years after them. Jesus is the Son of God, he himself is God, and he has defeated all evil powers.
2. One day Jesus met a man who was very confused. He had so many demons living in him, each giving him different orders, that they drove him mad. **Describe how this man lived (8:27).** When he met Jesus the evil spirits recognised Jesus as the Son of God. They knew very well Jesus had power over them. The man was very afraid of what the evil spirits might do to him because of Jesus (8:28-29).
3. The man's name was Legion. A legion was a large group of soldiers in the Roman army. So this man's name meant that he was in the power of a large number of angry spirits. But when Jesus commanded them to leave Legion, the demons were forced to obey. He allowed them to go into some pigs that were feeding close by. Immediately, the whole herd of pigs jumped into the lake and drowned (8:30-33). **Show Picture 21.**
4. Legion was like a new person. He wanted to follow Jesus everywhere, but instead Jesus gave him a new job to do. He had to tell others of God's power over evil and God's love that saves us from evil (8:35, 38-39).

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Our Response to the Story

Yoane Akudri, a young Zairian Christian, was called back to his village when his eldest cousin died. Before the funeral, the family told Yoane, "You must take your place as leader of the dance of sorrow. That is how we do things, as you know."

How could a Christian take part in this? On the other hand, how could Yoane hurt his relatives, whom he'd not seen for a year?

He thought and prayed, and then said, "My dear brothers and sisters, I know your fear and sorrow. You fear because of this witch doctor and the power you think he has over you. All my life, I believed it too. But now I have come to know Jesus Christ, who has power even over the evil spirits. I will have nothing to do with the dance of sorrow. I will show you a better path."

When he heard this, the witch doctor screamed, "Yoane is the prince of devils! He must be killed!" He tried to attack Yoane with a razor-sharp knife, but suddenly fell down twitching on the ground, powerless. A higher power was in control!

Taken from *Akudri* by Peter Brashler

Instil the Memory Verse



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