LESSON 22

A Deaf and Dumb Man Hears and Speaks



Aim: **To teach the children that Jesus used his power over illness and suffering to show people that he really was the Son of God.**

Scripture Reading: **Mark 7:31–37**

Memory Verse: **Mark 7:37**
"[Jesus] has done everything well … He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Presenting the Lesson

Starting Point

Ask a few children in the class to put their hands over their ears. Then in your normal voice ask them to do something simple. For example: "Fetch a book from the table" or "Stand up." They will not hear you very well and the other children may either shout the request at them or make signs to convey your meaning to them.

This will probably cause some confusion! However, this is exactly the point you want to make. Deaf people find life very difficult because they cannot understand what is going on around them. It is bad enough to lose one's hearing, but those who are born deaf often are dumb, because people learn to speak by listening to those around them and repeating the sounds and words they hear others use.

Main Points of the Lesson

1. One day a deaf and dumb man's friends brought him to Jesus. They asked for Jesus' help (7:32).
2. Jesus took the man aside so that the man would not be frightened by the crowd that was always present wherever Jesus went. The man probably did not even know who Jesus was! As the man could not hear him, Jesus used signs to show the man what he was going to do. Putting his fingers in his ears was a sign that Jesus would cure his deafness. Touching his tongue meant Jesus would make him speak. Looking up was a sign of prayer (7:33–34a).
3. Jesus prayed, saying the words, "Open up" (7:34). **Show Picture 22.** Immediately the man could hear and speak (7:35).
4. Everyone who heard the man – who used to be deaf and dumb – speak, was amazed. They could not stop talking about the wonderful miracles Jesus performed.

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Instil the Memory Verse

Our Response to the Lesson

Everyone who saw those miracles was amazed. The people in the story said Jesus did everything well. They were right.

Jesus is perfect because he is God. But very few people trusted Jesus and loved him when he was on earth. He asks us to trust and love him because he is able to love and help us perfectly.



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