LESSON 4

THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL KNEELS BEFORE JESUS



Aim: **To show the children that people believed in Jesus when they saw how he healed a government official's son.**

Scripture Reading: **John 4:46-53**

Memory Verse: **John 1:3**
Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Where do people go to find help if someone is ill? Give the class time to respond.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. An important man once came to Jesus. His son was about to die and he was desperate for help. He probably was a rich man as he was an official of the government, so he would have already tried other healers. He had heard about Jesus, and came a long way to find him (4:46-47).
2. **Show Picture 4.** The official asked Jesus to come to his house and heal his son. Jesus refused to go! He wanted to perform an even greater miracle than the man asked for. Jesus would show the official that he did not need to go to the boy in order to heal him (4:47-50a).
3. That important official believed it when Jesus said his son would live. So he went off home. When he was still some way from the house his servants met him with good news (4:50b-51).
4. He found out that his son had started to recover at exactly the moment when Jesus had said, "Your son will live." That made the official and all his family believe that Jesus was the Son of God (4:52-53).

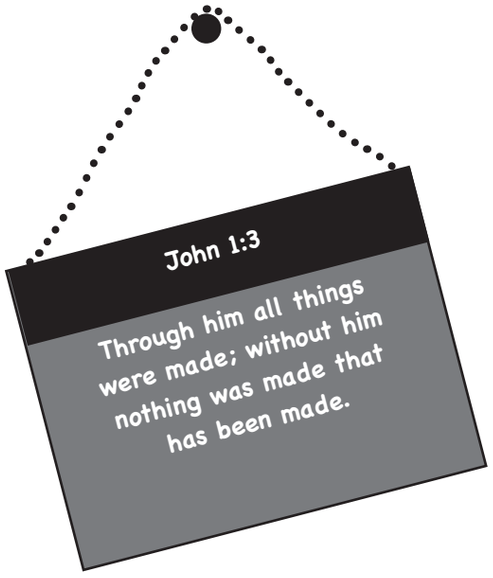
OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

In 1987 a fatal illness broke out in the Akot area in the south of the Sudan. There were no doctors or medical help of any kind available, so the disease never was identified. Hundreds died. But no sick person who was prayed for by Christians died, nor were there any graves in the Christian compounds. These healings were such a witness to the power of God that the church grew amazingly.

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Instil the Memory Verse



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