

POINT ➡ WE TRUST GOD.

Open your Bible to John 4, and show kids the words. SAY: ➡ **WE TRUST GOD. God's special book, the Bible, tells us about a man who had a very sick son. Jesus healed the son without ever seeing him. And the man trusted Jesus to do it. Amazing! Let's tell what happened together.**

Form three groups. Assign each group one role: the government worker, Jesus, or the little boy. As you read the paraphrase below, point to the appropriate group to repeat the lines after you.

SAY: **There was a government worker who heard that Jesus was going to be in the next town. This man's son had a boo-boo; he was very sick. The man knew he could ask Jesus for help, so he went to see Jesus. The man begged Jesus to come to his home to heal his little boy.**

The man said to Jesus, "Lord, please come now before my little boy dies!" Point to the official group.

Then Jesus told him, "Go back home. Your son will live!" Point to the Jesus group.

Then the boy said, "I'm healed!" Point to the little boy group.

Review the passage by pointing to the groups in order a few more times and helping them repeat their lines.

ASK: **Why can you trust God to help you like he helped the boy?**

What can you do to show you trust God?

SAY: **When the government worker needed help, Jesus was ready to help him. He didn't even need to see the boy to help him. Even when we can't see him, ➡ WE TRUST GOD to help us. He can do anything!**



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SAY: **We learned about a boy in the Bible with a boo-boo who was healed without Jesus even seeing him. The boy's father went to another town to ask Jesus for help. The man knew that ➡ WE TRUST GOD and that God can help us with our problems. Today we're going to draw pretend maps to help us remember how the boy's father traveled to ask Jesus for help.**

Give kids each a piece of paper and one of the *Pip-Squeaks Markers*, and help them draw simple maps. SAY: **Draw a dot on one side of the paper to mark Capernaum (where the sick boy was) and another dot to mark Cana (where Jesus was).** Have kids who know letters write the letter "B" by one dot for the boy who was sick and "J" for Jesus by the other dot.

SAY: **Using a squiggly line, draw a road from where the boy is to where Jesus is.** While kids draw, set up one spot in your room as Capernaum and another spot across the room for Cana.

Once kids have finished, SAY: **Okay, let's use our maps and pretend to walk to Cana, where Jesus was.**

Have kids take their maps and walk across the room in a route similar to the lines on their maps. It's okay that they aren't walking on the same path—just have them "travel" from one side of the room (Capernaum) to the other (Cana).

ASK: **Tell about a time you went on a trip that took a long time.**

How far away do you think Jesus is from you right now?

Why can you trust God no matter where you go?

SAY: **Even though we can't see Jesus, he's here with us all the time. He's right next to you! That's why ➡ WE TRUST GOD anywhere we go.**

POINT ➡ **WE TRUST
GOD.**

SAY: The man in the Bible knew that ➡ **WE TRUST GOD.** The man was right to trust that Jesus could help; Jesus healed his son without ever seeing the boy. Let's take a walk and pretend we're traveling to another city to see Jesus.

Have kids hold hands, and ask them to be as quiet as they can as you lead them outside for a walk. Take them for a walk around the church and then back to your room. If the weather is bad, you can walk quietly inside the church (or just walk around the room).

ASK: Tell about a person you'd take a long trip to see.

How do you know you can love and trust that person?

SAY: The dad in the Bible traveled very far to ask for Jesus' help. And Jesus helped him and showed him love! We don't have to go on a long trip to ask Jesus for help. ➡ **WE TRUST GOD** and know that he's always ready to help us.

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SAY: The boy's father must have been so thankful for Jesus healing his son! Today we're going to make a thank-you card for Jesus.

Give kids paper and *Pip-Squeaks Markers*. Fold each paper in half, and have kids draw a picture of something they're thankful for on the outside half of the paper. When they've finished drawing, help them write, "Thank you, Jesus, for [one thing they're thankful for]" on the inside.

Have kids show their cards to the group. **SAY:** We're thankful that ➡ **WE TRUST GOD** to help us. You all made beautiful thank-you cards!

ASK: What's one thing you're the most thankful for?

Why are you thankful you can trust God?

SAY: Your cards were one way to thank Jesus, but you can thank him all week long whenever he shows you that you can trust him! Watch for the things he does to show how much he loves you, like the way he healed the sick boy. Let those things remind you that ➡ **WE TRUST GOD**. Then just say thank you, and he'll hear you.

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SAY: Jesus healed the boy's boo-boo without even seeing the boy. Today we're going to use *Penny the Puppy* and play a game of Hide-and-Seek. We'll look for Penny—even though we can't see her.

Have kids close their eyes while you hide the puppet. Once she is hidden (don't make her too hard to find), have kids open their eyes.

SAY: **Jesus couldn't see the sick boy, just like you can't see Penny. But Jesus was still able to heal the boy. Let's find Penny.**

Allow kids to search, helping as needed. Once they find the puppet, "heal" her by putting her on your fingers and making her move. Have Penny SAY: ➡ **WE TRUST GOD.**

You may hide the puppet several times, allowing the child who finds the puppet to make Penny move and SAY: ➡ **WE TRUST GOD** to the rest of the group.

ASK: **How could you help Penny even though you couldn't see her at first?**

Why can you trust God to help you even though you can't see him?

SAY: **The sick boy didn't see Jesus. And we can't see God. But he can see us! ➡ WE TRUST GOD because he can always see our problems and wants to help us.**