

# Exploring the Miracles of Jesus

## Theme: The Alpine Express

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**PreTeen Teacher's Manual**

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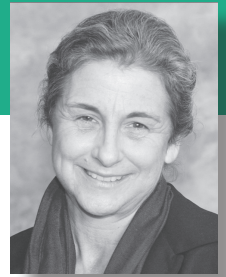


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All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version unless otherwise noted.

## Our Awesome God

by Deanna Barnes



**W**e all desire to help our students develop a greater awe, admiration, respect, amazement, surprise, wonder, reverence, honor, and worship of God.

Pause a moment to reflect.

First, think back to a childhood experience you've never forgotten. Maybe it was the first time you saw snowflakes whispering from the sky, covering the landscape with a soft white blanket. Perhaps you were surprised by the fragrant warmth when holding a newborn baby. Your early memories might include the thrilling excitement of a roller coaster ride. Whatever your particular memory may be, the purpose of considering the experience is to become aware of the childlike wonder within every human

being. Incidents that involve our emotions often imprint our minds for a lifetime.

Next, take the concept into the classroom and connect Scripture emotionally. Instill biblical truth in such a way that it stays with a child forever. Transmit a sense of wonder as you explore the miracles of Jesus. Explain the fascinating details. Relate the sounds and scents of the text. Portray the excitement of the awesome power of God. It is astounding!

Finally, while we know and understand His power, many of our students aren't quite sure yet. They struggle against opposition to their Christian faith within their communities, schools, and circles of friends. We must use every opportunity to help our students comprehend Jesus as the miracle worker.

### CUSTOMIZE THE CURRICULUM

The PreTeen Teacher's Manual is now available as PDF and DOC documents that can be customized to fit your teaching style, classroom setting, and schedule. Cut and paste, edit material out of or into the lesson, and make it your own using the following instructions. Downloadable resources for both the teacher's manual and the teacher's resource packet (TRP) are available through access codes.

#### Downloadable Resources

To access the PDF and DOCs of the teacher's manual online:

1. Visit [www.pentecostalpublishing.com](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com) to access the download site.
2. If you are an existing customer, click *sign in* to log in to your account. If you are a new user, click *create an account* to open an account for the site.
3. Hover over the *view cart* menu link and click the *view cart* button.
4. Enter in the Coupon Code box on the screen and click *update cart*. (The file should display on the screen and reflect that the download comes at no charge.)
5. Click *continue* and then *submit order*. You will see a button with the name of the zip file. Click on this button to download the resource.
6. This coupon code will be valid for one year from the date of the first lesson.

#### Teacher's Resource Packet Downloadable Resources

To access the reproducible items from the resource packet (TRP), see the resource packet instruction sheet. If you have not purchased a packet, you can do so by going to [www.pentecostalpublishing.com](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com) or calling 866-819-7667.

NOTE: Not all lessons offer downloadable resources.

Reproduction of these resources is granted for local church use only, and only to those who have purchased the appropriate Word Aflame materials.

Our archive of teacher training articles is available online without access codes. Click the "Teacher Training" link at the bottom of the Pentecostal Publishing website home page. Other resources at this link include a classroom Standard Supply List, Childhood Characteristics, and Student Information Form.

# Theme Development

## The Alpine Express

Inspire students to explore the miracles of Jesus by connecting the quarter's lessons to an imaginary journey through the beautiful country of Switzerland aboard the Alpine Express. The rail journey includes panoramic views of snowcapped mountains, breathtaking rivers, peaceful pastures, enchanting castles, and charming villages. The route encompasses the Matterhorn, the largest mountain in Europe, with stops along the way to enjoy snowy scenes and yummy Swiss chocolates.

## Room Decoration

The decorating ideas can be adapted for any size classroom or teaching situation. Decorations can be simple, detailed, or three-dimensional. Wall décor suggestions can be reduced in size to fit bulletin boards. Simply choose the best ideas for your students.

For a complete room décor, consider covering each wall in the classroom with plastic-backed painter's drop cloths to prevent paint seepage. Then attach white mural paper or butcher paper over the drop cloths. An overhead projector and the transparency (TRP) can then be used to transfer desired scenes to the walls. Details of each scene can then be completed with paint. If you live in a humid area or have a basement classroom, be aware that mold and dampness could form behind the plastic.

Another option is to use rolls of colored art paper or tablecloth plastic. For sky scenes many school and art supply stores have paper imprinted with cloud designs.

While decorating the classroom, keep all important items for interaction and teaching at students' eye level. Anything higher should simply be used for decoration.

## Create an Exciting Entry

Place the door poster (TRP) on the door or on a wall students see when they enter the classroom. Consider playing a train soundtrack at the beginning of each class session.

## Teaching Walls

### Wall 1: The Alpine Express

Create a wintery background of a snowcapped mountain range. Use light blue paper or paint for the sky. Add cotton for clouds. Use gray or brown paint or crinkled paper for the mountains. Snowcaps can be created from white paint or polyester fiberfill.

Build a tunnel on one side of the scene with foam blocks painted gray or brown. Add dimension to the train tracks by cutting the shapes from painted foam and attaching to the wall.

The transparency (**TRP**) may be used to create a train for the foreground. Add as many train cars as necessary to display your students as passengers. Take photos of students. Print the photos and cut out students' faces to place inside the train cars. Cellophane may be added to simulate windows.

### **Wall 2: The Matterhorn**

Construct a copy of the famous Matterhorn using an entire wall if possible. First create a blue background for the sky and a snowy white foreground. Then create a large but simple mountain shape with crinkled gray or brown paper. Add polyester fiberfill snow to most of the mountain and to the ground below it. Place a Swiss flag on a dowel near the base of the mountain.

During the winter months the Matterhorn is nearly covered in snow. Clouds often hang below the peak. Consider changing the wall every few weeks by adding, removing, lowering, or raising cotton clouds around the mountain.

Add cutout photos of your students posed as climbers along the sides of the mountain or gathered in groups around the base of the mountain. Prop a few skis and ski poles nearby.

### **Wall 3: God's Benefits**

Help students realize the rewarding benefits God offers His children. Attach the God's Benefits posters (**TRP**) to the wall. Add an extra touch by creating a simple candy shop scene with a banner declaring the words of Psalm 34:8. "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

### **Wall 4: Bible Memorization**

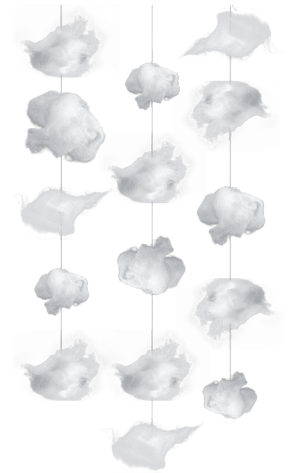
Using a border of trains, snowflakes, or similar art, frame appropriate spaces to display each unit's Bible verse poster (**TRP**) and the special memory passage poster (**TRP**).

If you offer prizes for attendance and memory work, this would be a good place to add a shelf or basket of incentives.

### **Additional Décor and Snack Ideas**

- Dress in traditional Swiss attire to teach the lesson.
- Check online sites such as [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com) for Swiss-related prizes and items.
- Serve Swiss cheese and crackers.
- Prepare mugs of Swiss Miss hot chocolate.

- Surprise students with Swiss chocolate prizes.
- Purchase glittery paper snowflakes or cut snowflake patterns from paper and dangle from the ceiling.
- Stack pinecones on window sills or shelves. Place a basket of pinecones in one corner.
- Gather tree branches (without leaves) and twigs to decorate with silver glitter or plastic icicles.
- Drape twinkling lights around the windows and bulletin boards.
- Warm up the classroom with flameless candles placed on dishes of Epsom salt for a glittery effect.
- Create an atmosphere of falling snow by gluing or threading cotton balls to long strands of clear thread or fishing line. Use various sizes of cotton balls placed several inches apart in random patterns. Apply a dab of glue to hold each cotton ball in place. Dangle each strand of cotton balls from the ceiling.



## Attendance

Use the Alpine Express Attendance Tickets located in the back of the activity paper tear-off pages, (TRP) 📄 to track attendance. Students should write their names on the tickets. The tickets should be kept in the classroom in a container or folder. The teacher or a student helper can punch a hole above the corresponding lesson number for each student attending during the week.

If awarding attendance prizes at the end of the quarter, please be sensitive to students who may be unable to attend class due to circumstances out of their control. Provide opportunities for those students to earn a punch for class participation or examples of Christian character. In this manner all students will be included regardless of attendance.

## Memory Work

In an effort to help students retain Scripture in their long-term memory and apply it to daily living, students will study, repeat, and memorize a Scripture passage for each unit. The process of repeating a verse for a few weeks encourages students to plant God's Word in their hearts.

The memory work charts for this quarter are in the activity paper tear-off packet. A Swiss map is included with four blank circles. When a student memorizes a Bible verse, the teacher should initial one circle. An extra copy of the Swiss map is provided (TRP) 📄 so that teachers may create copies as needed.

## **Activity Papers: Engaging Activities and Connection with Home**

Whether you use this quarter's activity papers to build excitement before class or keep the excitement going after class, your students will stay active and have fun learning God's Word. Page one will be referenced in the lesson as one of the activities, and page two provides additional engaging activities for students. Each student should leave class with something in their hands, so encourage students to take their activity papers home.

## **Home Connection**

The Home Connection is a take-home paper designed to equip parents in reinforcing the lesson. It is available in the TRP for photocopying, or it is available via the URL listed on page two of the activity paper.

## **Volunteers**

Drawing names as a way of selecting volunteers can help maintain order and share the classroom duties with all students. For this quarter consider buying or borrowing a collection of toy railroad cars. Then assign a student's name to each car by applying the names with stickers or tape. Put all the cars in a basket. When it's time to call for a volunteer, simply pull one railroad car from the basket and read the name on it. If the railroad cars have been purchased rather than borrowed, consider giving each student their individual car at the end of the quarter.

As an alternative option, use ping pong balls imprinted with students' names. Place all the balls in a basket or plastic bucket labeled "Snowballs."

## **Research/Field Trip**

Consider a class visit via Internet or travel DVD to view the landscape, cities, animals, clothing, and people of Switzerland.

## **Kids in Missions**

The *Kids in Missions* newsletter is now in this teacher's manual on page 7. Inspire a love for global missions by encouraging students to participate in suggested ideas and activities. The map is still available in the resource packet as a visual aid.

## **Facebook**

Join us on our Facebook group, "Word Aflame PreTeen Curriculum Teachers." Interact with editors and Sunday school teachers. Share tips and gather ideas. Post pictures of your class and encourage others by posting what God is doing in your students' lives. We teach together; now, we can interact together.

## **Teacher Training Resources**

Teachers can explore free informative articles and creative ideas at:  
[www.pentecostalpublishing.com/t-teacherstraining1.aspx](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com/t-teacherstraining1.aspx)

# KiDS Missions PACIFIC

**Regional Directors: Roger and Becky Buckland**

## Key Project:

The Pacific Region is made up of twenty-six island nations that represent several thousand islands. The island nations were established by different European and Asian nations, so the people speak many languages and have different cultures even though they are neighboring nations. Our missionaries and Aimers need help and more workers in the area. Can you help us pray for this region? Each week your students can be “Fishers of Men” by praying for the nations of the Pacific region.

Cut twenty-six construction paper fish and write a nation on each one. Attach a paper clip to each fish and place in a pond (blue tablecloth on the floor) or a large flat tub. Create a fishing pole by screwing an eyehook into the end of a dowel rod. Tie a string through the eyehook and attach a magnet to the end of the string. Each week a volunteer goes fishing for a new fish (nation) to pray over. Below are some prayer idea starters as they reach out and touch the nations of the Pacific.

## Pray:

- That God would send more laborers into the nations.
- That the missionaries would have funds and the freedom to move to the Pacific quickly.
- For preachers, teachers, Bible School workers, youth leaders and children’s evangelists.
- For doors to open and the gospel to be spread into the remote islands.
- That the villagers would give up their old idols and customs and follow Jesus.
- That God will give favor to the missionaries and churches in the leadership of nations.
- For safety in travel for the missionaries, MKs, and national workers.
- For revival to flourish in the Pacific Region.

## Special Focus:

In March 2016, the nation of Vanuatu was hit with Cyclone Pam. This was a strong storm that destroyed many of the homes and buildings on the island. Missionaries Peter and Robyn Gration have purchased a cement block maker to help re-build the churches on this island. They need help in raising funds for supplies to make the blocks. Why not let your class help with this project? Encourage the children to bring in Lego blocks and twenty-five cents for each block each week. As the children build the churches of Vanuatu each week, have them pray for new souls to fill the church. Upon the completion of this quarter, mail your church check to Global Missions with the account number of **GMGP.130965.2202**.

## Missionary Facts:

- 12 missionary families or units
- 26 nations of several islands
- 9,698+ churches and preaching points
- 514,328+ constituents
- 258 million+ souls

## Fundraising

Upon completion of your fundraising, write a church check for the amount and send it to Global Missions, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042. Be sure to include the project account number below so the funds are disbursed to the correct account. Let the children make and sign a card to send with the check. It will go to the regional director, who will share it with missionaries or MKs.

## Account Number:

GMGP.130965.2202

Please feel free to send a card or note from your children to the missionaries of the Pacific Region or their MKs. Send all correspondence through Global Missions, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042. They will include your notes with the next shipment going out to the missionary. See the map for a complete listing.

## Resources:

Check out these sites for additional facts and figures.

- [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)
- [www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/index.html](http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/index.html)
- [www.geographia.com](http://www.geographia.com)
- [www.factmonster.com/world.html](http://www.factmonster.com/world.html)

Visit these sites for prayer tools and resources to help your students become missions minded.

- [www.kidsprayer.com](http://www.kidsprayer.com)
- [www.cartpioneers.org/categories/Kids/Prayer-Tools/](http://www.cartpioneers.org/categories/Kids/Prayer-Tools/)

## [www.upwithmks.com/ profilesheets.html](http://www.upwithmks.com/profilesheets.html)

We are excited to present our missionary kid profile sheets. This tool gives you hands-on information regarding their nation, how to pray specifically for each MK, their picture, and even a great activity corner for children. Thank you for praying for our MKs and learning more about their nations. If you would like to become a prayer pal with our MKs, please contact Cylynda Nickel at [cylyndanickel@gmail.com](mailto:cylyndanickel@gmail.com)



# Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man

## Unit 1:

Miracles of Healing

## Unit Bible Verse:

Psalm 103:1–3

## Scripture Text:

Matthew 9:2–8; Mark 2:1–12;  
Luke 5:18–26

## Truth about God:

God cares about our friends and us.

## Bible Point:

God cares about me.

## Bible Lesson Verse:

Mark 2:11

## Students will:

- » Identify benefits of serving God.
- » Formulate a hypothesis about why Jesus forgave before He healed.

### Welcome to the Word

**Welcome** Attendance tickets (TRP)📄, hole punch, activity paper, memory work charts

**Activity** Cut out the printed circles (TRP)📄. Place twelve or more colored plastic cups upside down on a table. Hide small candies under several cups. Distribute the printed circles randomly under the other cups.

**Worship** “He’s Real” by Hillsong, “10,000 Reasons” by Matt Redman

### Prayer

### Open the Word

**Memory Work** Write the unit 1 Bible verse on the whiteboard. Erase everything except the first letter of every word.

Unit 1 Bible verse poster (TRP), Bibles, memory work charts

### Reveal the Word

**Bible Lesson** Bibles, sheet, white sash, five sashes in various colors, hammer, wood, newspaper

### Do the Word

**Life Application** Paper; watercolor paint, markers, or colored pencils; construction paper; worship music; glue

### Optional Activities and Ideas

#### Option 1

**Option 2** Cut several colors of paper into a variety of shapes (rectangles, hearts, circles, and squares, approximately one inch in size).

Construction paper, glue, markers

**Option 3** Make a copy of the word search (TRP)📄 for each student. Around the room, hide notes with words describing God’s benefits, written as small as possible. Make a few copies of the Matthew 6:25–33 Scripture passage (TRP)📄.

Magnifying glasses, microscope, dictionary, pencils, highlighters, paper, eyeglass frames (no lenses)



## Bible Background

Luke, the physician, mentioned the Pharisees and doctors of the law observing the healing of the paralyzed man in Capernaum. The Pharisees did not believe in Jesus as Christ, but they believed in the promise of a Messiah who could forgive sins. Jesus discerned their thoughts and demonstrated that He was the Son of God by forgiving the man's sins before healing his paralysis. The Pharisees left the scene amazed. Jesus showed everyone the most important priority.

## Teacher Insight

During this first session of the new quarter, make it a priority to observe your students. Eavesdrop on their conversations. Observe their body language. Watch how they relate to one another. Look for clues about their experiences at school. Try to understand their family systems. Take note of the games and activities they discuss. If they mention reading a book, find a copy at the library and read it. Listen to their favorite songs. Do everything possible to comprehend the world in which they live. Your understanding will expand your ability to connect biblical principles to their daily lives.

## WELCOME TO THE WORD

Welcome students to the new quarter with a walk around the classroom to explain the decorations, attendance tickets, and memory work charts. Ask students to share their opinions about traveling on a train through the mountains of Switzerland. Discuss God's amazing benefits and the privilege to study His Word.

## Activity

Before class place twelve or more colored plastic cups upside down on a table. Hide candy under several cups. The remaining cups should cover a random assortment of the printed circles.

Choose one student at a time to lift one cup in search of candy. After a student has a turn, rearrange the cups without lifting them. When the circles are found, ask the students:

What is most important? Forgiveness or healing? Why?

After everyone has a turn, or time runs out, give each student an activity paper and pencil. Create a unique comic strip on page one of the activity paper.

## Prayer

Gather students in a circle. Ask each one to thank God for a specific benefit. Then worship and praise the Lord together.

### Welcome Supplies:

- Attendance tickets
- Hole punch
- Activity paper
- Memory work charts

### Activity Supplies:

- Small pieces of candy
- Twelve or more colored plastic cups
- Printed circles

### Worship Suggested

#### Songs:

- Suggested songs: "He's Real" by Hillsong, "10,000 Reasons" by Matt Redman