

# WORDS HAVE POWER

## ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

**WELCOME:** Hey Families! While it is hard to be cramped up at home for the next few weeks, we want to do our best to provide helpful resources for your family to invest in devotionals at home! Today we are going to talk about how our words impact others!

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITY SUPPLIES – Encouragement Cards

- Paper (colored)
- Markers
- “Mailboxes” Decorate a box or a bag for each family member.

**YOUTUBE PLAYLIST** – Check out our YouTube playlist that we built to help you engage with this story!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILCz6SF-0os&list=PLC4q9g\\_3-ZgBtBNwp\\_O3hk8DPb8Hhk2Rz](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILCz6SF-0os&list=PLC4q9g_3-ZgBtBNwp_O3hk8DPb8Hhk2Rz)

- 1.) **PRAY** – Start by praying together as a family. In your prayer, ask God to help you use your words to encourage others!
- 2.) **READ** – Open your Bibles and read Matthew 8:5-13
- 3.) **WORSHIP** – As a family, turn the volume up and worship together. Our two songs today remind us that God should be the center of our lives!
- 4.) **WATCH** – **Puppets: Our Words Have Power** - After watching, discuss these questions.
  - **Talk about the Bible Story we read!**
    - What happened in the story?
    - How did Jesus use His words to encourage others?
    - How did the centurion use his words to encourage others?
  - **What can you do?**
    - How do you feel when someone calls you a mean name?
    - How do you feel when someone encourages you or says something nice about you?
    - Why do you think our words have such a big impact on each other?
    - Has it been harder, or easier to be encouraging during the quarantine?
  - **As a family...**
    - What can we do as a family to be encouraging while we are stuck at home?
    - Go around the circle and share one encouraging thing about each person.
- 5.) **ACTIVITY** – “Encouragement Cards”
  - Make a special “mailbox” for each member of your family. This can be a lunch bag, a shoebox or an existing little mailbox. (Check out “My Positivity Box For Kids” for an example)
  - Cut out lots of little slips of paper and place them in a basket near your mailboxes.
  - Throughout the day, write an encouraging note on a slip of paper and stick it in someone’s box!
- 6.) **Pray** – Pray that God would give you a heart for encouragement!