

JESUS HEALS A SICK BOY

At that time, a man came to Jesus. He knelt before Him and said, “Lord, have mercy on my son! He needs to be healed. He has an illness that makes him act strangely. Sometimes he throws himself into water, and sometimes into fire. Your disciples could not heal him.”

Jesus said, “Bring him here to me.” Jesus commanded the demon to come out of the boy. The boy was healed instantly.

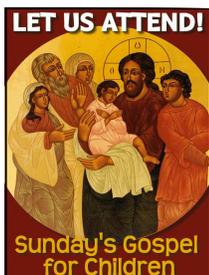
The disciples later asked, “Why couldn’t we cast it out?” Jesus explained, “Because you have no faith. If you had even a little faith, you could move this mountain. But for this kind of healing you also need to pray and fast.”

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Can you find the father in the icon? What is he doing?
2. Where is the boy? The black shape above the boy is telling us that the boy was sick and could not control himself.
3. Who healed the boy?
4. Jesus wants us to stay close with him, through prayer and fasting.



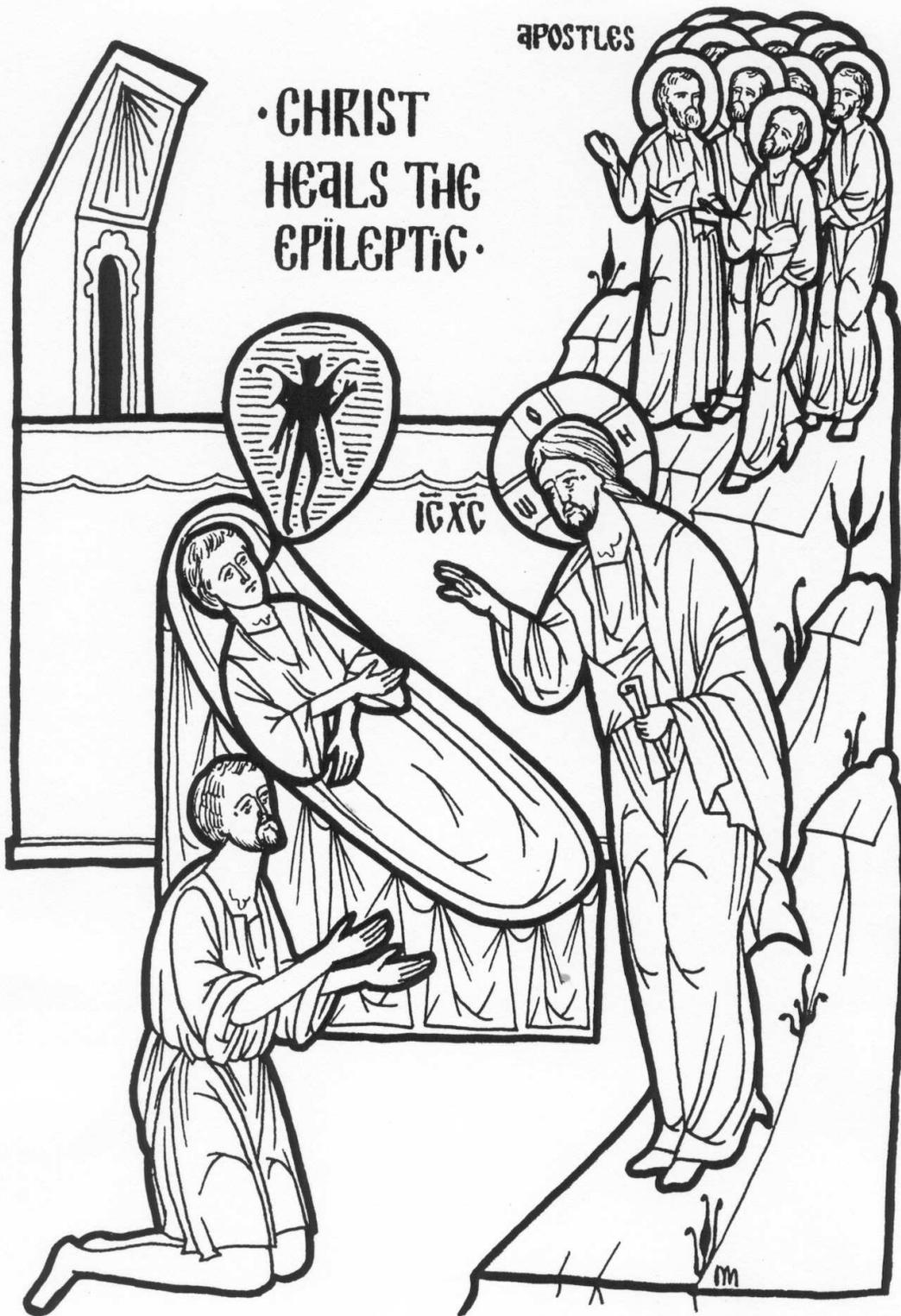
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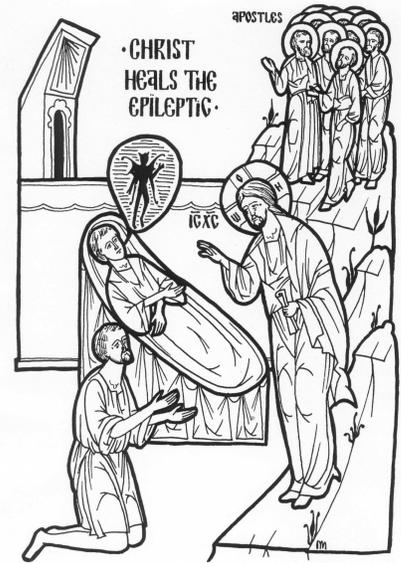
One day, a man came to our Lord Jesus Christ. He knelt before Him and said, “Lord please have mercy on my son. He has a sickness that hurts him. Sometimes he falls into the fire, and sometimes he falls into the water. I took him to your disciples, but they could not heal him.”

Jesus said, “Oh, you people with not much faith! How long do I have to put up with you? Bring him here to me.”

Then Jesus spoke sharply to the demon in the boy and it came out of him. The boy was better right away!

Later, the disciples asked Jesus, “Why couldn’t we cast that demon out of the boy?”

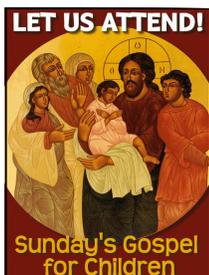
Jesus said, “Because you have no faith. But if you have faith—even a tiny bit—you can even tell a mountain to move, and it will! With faith, you can do anything.”



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Who came to find Jesus? What did he do when he found Jesus?
2. Why did the boy need help?
3. What happened when the man took his son to Jesus’ disciples?
4. How did the boy get better?
5. Why did Jesus say the disciples could not cast out the demon?
6. In this Gospel story, we learn that faith in God can help us to things we can’t usually do. Is there anything you need to do that seems too hard? Pray and ask God for help, then have faith that He will help you do the hard thing!



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JESUS HEALS A SICK BOY

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.”

And Jesus answered, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.” And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?” He said to them,

“Because you have no faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith, even as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting.”

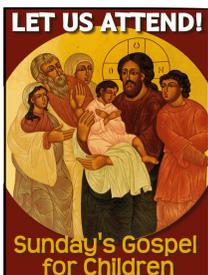
As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will rise on the third day.”



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Why did the man come to Jesus? What did he want?
2. What problem did the man’s son have?
3. Did Jesus help? How?
4. Why couldn’t Jesus’ disciples cast the demon out of the boy?
5. Mustard seeds are very small, but they grow into a large plant. What do you think Jesus meant when He said, “If you have faith, even as a grain of mustard seed...”?
6. Have you ever moved a mountain with your faith? Ask your parents or godparents to tell you the story (or help you find the story) of Our Holy Father Mark of Trache when St. Serapion visited him.



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JESUS HEALS A SICK BOY

Characters: Narrator, Man, Jesus, Disciples

Jesus: The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will rise on the third day.

Narrator: At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said,

Man: Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him.

Narrator: And Jesus answered,

Jesus: O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me.

Narrator: And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said,

Disciples: Why could we not cast it out?

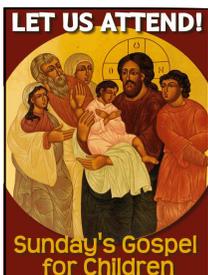
Narrator: He said to them,

Jesus: Because you have no faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith, even as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting.

Narrator: As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them,



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JESUS HEALS THE BOY WITH EPILEPSY

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him."

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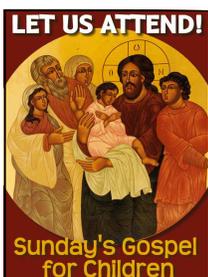
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As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is to be deliv-

ered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will rise on the third day."

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus say when He hears the disciples could not cure the boy?
2. Who is He talking about? Why do you say that?
3. Is he talking about us? Why or why not?
4. Why does He call them faithless?
5. What does perverse mean?
6. Why does He call them perverse? What is He saying is wrong with them?
7. Why do you think He asks how long He must put up with them? What does He mean?
8. Do you think we are part of the faithless and perverse generation? Do you think Jesus wonders how long He has to put up with us? Why or why not?
9. Are you part of the faithless generation if you have faith? So what does that tell us about how Jesus will respond to us if we have faith?



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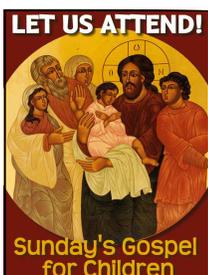
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What can a person do who has faith the size of a mustard seed?
2. Why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon?
3. What does Jesus say this kind requires?
4. How is that tied to faith? How can prayer give one faith the size of a mustard seed? How can fasting do that?
5. Do you think this is true of prayer? Of fasting? Why or why not?
6. Why do you think prayer and fasting are emphasized in our Church?
7. How is that helpful to you? What seems silly about it to you?
8. Do you think we should pray and fast even if it seems silly sometimes? Why or why not?



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