

# Jesus and Beelzebub

(S. Luke 11:14–26)

Jesus was driving out a demon that could not talk; and when the demon went out, the man began to talk. The crowds were amazed, but some of the people said, “It is Beelzebub, the chief of the demons, who gives him the power to drive them out.” Others wanted to trap Jesus, so they asked him to perform a miracle to show that God approved of him. But Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he said to them, “Any country that divides itself into groups which fight each other will not last very



long; a family divided against itself falls apart. So if Satan's kingdom has groups fighting each other, how can it last? You say that I drive out demons because Beelzebub gives me the power to do so. If this is how I drive them out, how do your followers drive them out? Your own followers prove that you are wrong! No, it is rather by means of God's power that I drive out demons, and this proves that the Kingdom of God has already come to you.

When a strong man, with all his weapons ready, guards his own house, all his belongings are safe. But when a stronger man attacks him and defeats him, he carries away all the weapons the owner was depending on and divides up what he stole. Anyone who is not for me is really against me; anyone who does not help me gather is really scattering.

When an evil spirit goes out of a person, it travels over dry country looking for a place to rest. If it can't find one, it says to itself, ‘I will go back to my house.’ So it goes back and finds the house clean and all fixed up. Then it goes out and brings seven other spirits even worse than itself, and they come and live there. So when it is all over, that person is in worse shape than at the beginning.”



# Understanding the Story



1. What miracle did Jesus perform?
2. Some people in the crowd were amazed. Others did not believe that His power was from God (or that Jesus is God). Who did they say gave Jesus power?
3. Read the story over a few times. How does Jesus explain that he performs miracles through God's power? (*Work through this answer with a family member if you need to!*)
4. Some in the crowd falsely accused Jesus because they failed to recognise God at work in the miracle. We often make the same mistake. God is at work all around us but sometimes we can't see it because His work/miracles do not meet our expectations or simply because we are not paying attention! What are some ways that you can see God at work in your life?

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T R A P C X S F L U K E T W D L L E  
X S F I C I N A G A I N S T A U T W  
F F B E L I E V E U G O S P E L H G  
M O K B K A T C H F G D B N G R I J  
I R L B X I M B E E L Z E B U B N I  
R P J L I N N A W C M H Z M Q R K A  
A D O C O B H G Z D P E L J O I I Q  
C D V W R W L R D E O A L E J N N M  
L U Z K E O E E S O D L V S J N G F  
E E R T G R W R J C M M X U I J A Y  
D V N S I G N D S F N G U S N R T R  
E G V W R G M G O D S A T A N H R N

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

AGAINST

AMAZED

BEELZEBUB

BELIEVE

BIBLE

CROWD

DEMON

FOLLOWERS

GOD

GOSPEL

HEAL

JESUS

KINGDOM

LUKE

MIRACLE

POWER

SATAN

SIGN

THINKING

TRAP



*How many of these words appear in today's reading from St Matthew's Gospel? Read the passage again and underline any words you recognise from the word search!*