



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 2, Lesson 7

Healing the Paralyzed Man

Lesson Aim: To challenge children to bring their friends to Jesus for healing of their bodies and souls.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: Who are your closest friends?

GAME: Man on the Mat Race

THE WORSHIP JESUS AS THE GOD OF HEALING

Read Worship Scripture: 1 John 1:8-9.

Sing songs and worship God.

Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Bonzai Brothers script or read storybook.

THE WORD JESUS HEALED THE PARALYZED MAN ON THE MAT

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Jesus healed the centurion's servant with words alone.

Today, let's learn how some men in Capernaum brought their friend to Jesus for healing. Point to Capernaum. **In the Bible, we read the man was a paralytic. That means he could not move or walk. In those days, a paralyzed man would need to be carried by others. The Bible doesn't tell us how the four men knew the man. They acted as good friends by choosing to carry him all the way to Jesus.**

Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Mark 2:1-12. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Mark 2:10-11. Pray. Read.

THE WAY WE CAN BRING FRIENDS TO JESUS

What were the physical challenges the four men faced in bringing their friend to Jesus? (Taking him up the steps to the roof, digging a hole in the roof, and safely lowering him down into the crowded room without injuring anyone.)

The crowd came to hear Jesus teach about God's Word. What do you think the men hoped Jesus would do for their friend? (Heal his body.) **When Jesus saw their faith, what was the first thing He said**

to the man? ("Your sins are forgiven.") **Taking our sins away is something only God can do. By saying this, Jesus was claiming He was God.**

What did the teachers of the Jewish law accuse Jesus of doing? (Blaspheming.) **Blasphemy is being disrespectful to God. It was disrespectful to falsely claim to be God. Jesus asked them which the bigger miracle was: healing the man's body or forgiving the man's sins. How would you have answered Jesus?**

Why did Jesus say He healed the man's body? (He did this miracle to show the teachers He had authority from God to forgive sins.)

Everyone needs Jesus. We need to know His teachings. Some of us need healing in our bodies, but we all need God's forgiveness. Our sins separate us from God. God's forgiveness is healing for our souls—the part of us that lives forever. His forgiveness brings us close to God again.

Do you have a friend who needs healing? Do you have a friend who doesn't know God's forgiveness? Let's talk about ways we can bring our friends to Jesus. (Pray for them, invite them to church or to an event that focuses on Jesus, tell them Bible stories about Jesus, love them as Jesus does, tell them what Jesus has done for you.)

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The man on the mat was blessed to have friends who cared. Let's see how the Bible describes a good friend. Reveal Proverbs 18:24b. Find It First. Highlight. Read. **What does it say about a friend?** (The friend sticks closer than a brother.) **Have you ever had a friend like this? Jesus can be that kind of friend. He sticks by us, no matter what!**

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Invitation to church
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Four men lowering the man on the mat to Jesus
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Stuck Together

GAME: Friend Tag

CRAFT: Rooftop Prayer Drop

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Bible Memory Verse Brainstorm, Hot Potato Scramble

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW