



Healing the Friend

Lesson Aim: To learn friends bring one another to Jesus.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 2:1-4, 11-12

What He Has Done: Jesus healed the men's friend.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Let us love one another."

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for You are the One I praise."
 Jeremiah 17:14

Unit 2: Jesus as the God of Healing			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
6	Healing the Officer's Servant, Matthew 8:5-10, 13	Jesus healed the servant with words alone.	To see Jesus is in charge of everything, including healing; if He says we will be healed, then we will be healed.
7	Healing the Friend, Mark 2:1-4, 11-12	Jesus healed the men's friend.	To learn friends bring one another to Jesus.
8	Healing the Sick Woman, Mark 5:24b-34	Jesus healed the sick woman.	To show Jesus can heal those whom doctors and medicine cannot heal.
9	Healing the Man's Ears and Tongue, Mark 7:32-37	Jesus healed the man who could not hear or speak.	To show we can use the ears and tongue God gave us to hear about God and to tell others about Him.
10	Healing the Ten Men, Luke 17:12-19	Jesus healed the ten men with skin diseases.	To remember Jesus wants to hear us thank Him.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read 1 John 4:7-16. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the friends You give us. Surround the children with faithful friends that they may bring each other to You. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a heart
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Let us love one another."
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Heal Me, O Lord" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Love One Another" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Additional Hymn Suggestion: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 7
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Mark 2:1-4, 11-12	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 2:11 Visual: Roll up mat or blanket
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Man on the Mat	Clothespins, sturdy colored paper, crayons or markers, optional: cloth, glue
		Game: Up on the Roof	Large box, "Man on the Mat" crafts
		Game: Take Up Your Mat	Large blanket
		Snack: Food for Friends	Heart-shaped snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 2, Lesson 7 Color This Story: "Jesus Healed the Man on the Mat"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Mark 2:1-4, 11-12	None
	Up to 10	Game: Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes	None
	Up to 10	Game: Quiet Praise, Loud Praise	Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about helping friends know about Jesus or praying for their healing

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Let us love one another **THE WELCOME**

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a heart. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a friendship heart help you remember the men brought their friend to Jesus. Today's Whisper Verse is "Let us love one another."** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Let us love one another."

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with three hand motions:

- "Let us"** ("We") move hand from one shoulder to the other in a half circle motion.
- "love"** The hands hug something over the heart.
- "one another."** The thumb points to one thing and then to another thing.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Let us love one another," 1 John 4:7. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as the God of Healing

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help the children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.

It’s Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus as the God of Healing. Taking our sick friends to Jesus for healing is one way we can love one another. That reminds me of our Whisper Verse, “Let us love one another.” Let’s try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: “Let us love one another.” Include sign language.



As the offering is collected, let’s sing our Whisper Verse words with the motions and ask God to use this offering to show His love to everyone. Sing: “Love One Another” while the offering is collected.



In today’s story, four friends brought a man on a mat to Jesus for healing. He could not walk or get up off his mat, so they lowered him through the roof to get him to Jesus. Let’s see if Delbert and Lello know about the man on the mat. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 2, Lesson 7.



That day the whole crowd saw Jesus heal people. Sing: “Heal Me, O Lord.” **They were amazed at Jesus’ power to heal; they had never seen anything like it! They praised Him for what He had done.** Sing: “He Is Mighty to Save” and “Let Everything That Has Breath.”



Jesus healed the man on the mat

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Jesus used His words to heal the officer's servant. Today, we will see how Jesus healed the man on a mat. Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Mark 2:11.

WATCH THE WORD: MARK 2:1-4, 11-12

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a roll up mat or blanket. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- There once was a man who could not walk,
- So, he lay on his mat every day.
- His four friends took him to Jesus.
- They carried him all the way.

- They couldn't get in to see Jesus,
- For the room was filled with a crowd.
- So they carried their friend up to the roof,
- And slowly lowered him down.

- When Jesus saw how the friends believed,
- He healed the man on the mat.
- Saying, "Get up, take your mat and go home!"
- Then the crowd praised God for that!

Who remembers today's Whisper Verse? ("Let us love one another.") Let's say it together: "Let us love one another." Include the sign language or hand motions. How did the four men show love to the man on the mat? (They brought him to Jesus for healing.)



What did Jesus say to the man on the mat? ("Get up.") Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Mark 2:11 from the teacher's Bible.



We can take our friends to Jesus

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: MAN ON THE MAT

Purpose: To remind the children of the story of Jesus' healing of the man on the mat.

Supplies: Clothespins, sturdy colored paper, crayons or markers, optional: cloth, glue

Prepare: Draw a face with eyes and a smile on one side of the closed end (or head) of each clothespin. Cut a 2-inch x 6-inch rectangle from sturdy paper for each child. On the rectangle, print:

Jesus Healed the Man on the Mat

Mark 2:1-4, 11-12

Optional: Cut triangle or square pieces of cloth and glue to clothespin man as clothing.

Directions:

1. Color a robe and shoes on your clothespin man.
2. Color the paper to look like the man's mat.
3. Lay the clothespin man on his mat.
4. Jesus healed the man! Make the man stand up and walk.

Craft Discussion:

- **The man on the mat could not walk or move his legs. He just lay on his mat. But, he had four friends who helped him get to Jesus for healing.**
- **Why did the man have to stay on his mat?** (He could not walk.)
- **The man could not walk because his body did not move as he wanted it to move. He could not move his legs or wiggle his toes.**
- **God gave the man on the mat some friends who believed in Jesus.**
- **What does our Whisper Verse remind us that God wants good friends to do?** Say the Whisper Verse together with the hand motions: "Let us love one another."
- **How did the friends show love for the man on the mat?** (They carried him to Jesus.)

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: UP ON THE ROOF

Purpose: Children will visualize the story while connecting it to the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Large box, "Man on the Mat" crafts

Prepare: Cut a 4-inch by 8-inch hole in the bottom of the box to form the hole in the roof of the house. Cut a doorway in the side of the box.

Since the four friends couldn't get the man on the mat through the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and lowered the mat with the man on it through the opening and down to Jesus. Then Jesus healed him. Let's use your "Man on the Mat" crafts to help us picture what happened that day.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle holding their "Man on the Mat" crafts.
2. Place house box upside down (so the hole in the bottom becomes the top) in the center of the circle.
3. Children take turns lowering the Man on the Mat gently through the roof of the house box.
4. As each child lowers his or her Man on the Mat, all children chant:
"Heal me, O Lord and I will be healed! Heal me, O Lord and I will be healed!"
5. As each child removes their "Man on the Mat" craft and pretends to walk the clothespin man back to his or her seat in the circle, all children chant:
"You are the One I praise! You are the One I praise!"
6. Repeat until each child has a turn.

GAME: TAKE UP YOUR MAT

Purpose: To experience the challenges of being unable to move and of helping a friend in need.

Supplies: Large blanket

The four friends saw their friend on the mat could not walk or move like others. They knew Jesus could heal him. Let's see what it might have felt like to take their sick friend to Jesus.

Directions:

1. One child acts as the man on the mat, lying very still in the center of the blanket.
2. Three children and teacher cooperate to drag blanket with child across room to "Jesus."
3. Child acting as Jesus says, **"Take up your mat and walk!"**
4. Child on blanket stands up and carries blanket across room to the starting point.
5. Play again until each child has a turn as the man on the mat, the friends, or Jesus.

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Purpose: Children will serve a snack to each other as a way to “love one another.”

Snack Suggestion: Heart-shaped snack

Directions:

1. Ask children to help you serve snack and drink to each other.
2. **Let’s sing the “Blessing Song.”** Sing to the tune of “Frere Jacques” or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: “Let us love one another.”
 - **Do you know someone whose body will not work the way they’d like it to?** (Children respond.)
 - **How can you help them do things they cannot do?** (Children respond.)
 - **How can you play together?** Discuss ways to have fun with a friend with special needs.
 - **How can you bring your friend to Jesus?** (Pray. Ask Jesus to help you be a good friend. Ask Jesus to heal your friend.)



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let’s fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let’s pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your “Man on the Mat” craft. Use it to tell someone the story of the four men who brought their friend to Jesus for healing.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about how much God has done for your family. Think about ways you can bring friends to Jesus.**

COLOR THIS STORY: “Jesus Healed the Man on the Mat.” Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song, “Heal Me, O Lord,” as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MARK 2:1-4, 11-12

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions, then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **There once was a man who could not walk,** (Walk in place while shaking head no.)
- **So, he lay on his mat every day.** (Rest cheek on folded hands as if sleeping.)
- **His four friends took him to Jesus.** (Raise four fingers.)
- **They carried him all the way.** (Stretch arms forward with palms facing up.)

- **They couldn't get in to see Jesus,** (Shake head no.)
- **For the room was filled with a crowd.** (Shrug shoulders with palms facing up.)
- **So they carried their friend up to the roof,** (Stretch arms high with palms facing up.)
- **And slowly lowered him down.** (Lower arms slowly down with palms facing up.)

- **When Jesus saw how the friends believed,** (Point to eyes.)
- **He healed the man on the mat.** (Clap hands in applause.)
- **Saying, "Get up, take your mat and go home!"** (Point to the door.)
- **Then the crowd praised God for that!** (Point to heaven.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved,
for You are the One I praise." Jeremiah 17:14

GAME: HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES, AND TOES

Purpose: To help children understand the meaning of the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: None

Can Jesus heal any illness? (Yes.) Can He heal any part of your body? (Yes.) Let's dance and sing about some of the body parts Jesus heals!

Directions:

1. Children sing (or chant) the following words as they use both hands to touch each body part:
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes!
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees, and toes!
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose!
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes!
2. Play again. Each time you play, sing the song (or chant) and do the motions faster.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: QUIET PRAISE, LOUD PRAISE

Purpose: To help children memorize the Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse Song "Heal Me, O Lord"

Let's sing the Bible Memory Verse song very quietly; except, each time you sing the words "You are the One I praise," sing in your loudest, strongest singing voice.

Directions: Play or lead Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse song as follows:

(Quietly.) **Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed;**

Save me and I will be saved,

(Loudly.) **FOR YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE! YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE!**

OH, YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE! YOU ARE THE ONE I PRAISE!



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about helping friends know about Jesus or praying for their healing.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 2, Lesson 7: Healing the Friend

PONDER! Read Mark 2:1-4, 11-12 with your family. Talk about how the friends brought the man on the mat to Jesus. Jesus is in heaven now, so we cannot carry our friends to Him, but we can bring them to Jesus by praying for them. What are some ways we can help our friends know about Jesus?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, please heal our friends. Help us know how to be a good friend to those with special needs. Help us bring our friends to you in prayer. Amen."

PLAY! Spread a blanket or mat on the floor. One friend or family member lies on the blanket as the Man on the Mat. Remaining family members and friends work together to slowly drag the blanket with the Man on the Mat across the room. Make sure everyone gets a turn as the Man on the Mat.

Unit 2 Bible Memory Verse: Jeremiah 17:14

"Heal me, O Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for You are the One I praise."