



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7
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 lay all day on a mat. In order to go anywhere, he would need to be carried by others.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Mark 2:1-5, 10-12. Pray. Read.

THE WAY WE CAN BRING FRIENDS TO JESUS

How did the men help the paralyzed man? (They lowered him through a roof into the room where Jesus was.) **Imagine how hard it was for the men to carry the man on the mat safely up the steps to the roof. What might have been difficult about that?** (The man may have been heavy, the mat may have been unsteady, they had to be careful not to injure anyone.) **Imagine digging a hole through the straw roof and lowering the man on the mat safely down to the floor. What might have been difficult or dangerous about that?** (They had to be strong and keep the mat steady as it lowered so no one would be injured.)

The four men chose to face these challenges just to bring their friend to Jesus. What do you think they believed Jesus would do? (Heal him.) **The men had faith. What two miracles did Jesus do when He saw their faith?** (He forgave the man's sins and healed his body.)

Being forgiven by God for all our wrongdoings is the biggest miracle of all—even bigger than healing the man who could not walk! Jesus did far more than the friends or the crowd expected. We never know what great things will happen when we bring our friends to Jesus!

The four men believed Jesus would help their friend. Do you have a friend that needs help? Do you believe Jesus can help your friend? Do you believe that enough to take action as the four men did?

What are ways we can bring our friends to Jesus? Bringing friends to Jesus can include praying for them, inviting them to church, sharing Bible stories to help them know about Jesus, or talking about what Jesus has done for us. Sometimes, we can bring our friends to Jesus by simply loving them and caring for their needs. Have you ever helped a friend come closer to Jesus?

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 and read Proverbs 18:24b. **What does this verse say about a friend?** (A friend sticks closer than a brother.) **If you were sick or sad, how would you feel if a friend stayed with you?** (Comforted, happy, safe, encouraged, etc.) **How is Jesus that kind of a friend to you? Jesus is closer than a brother because He is with us wherever we are, all the time!**

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