

# Jesus Heals

## Scripture:

Mark 2:1-12

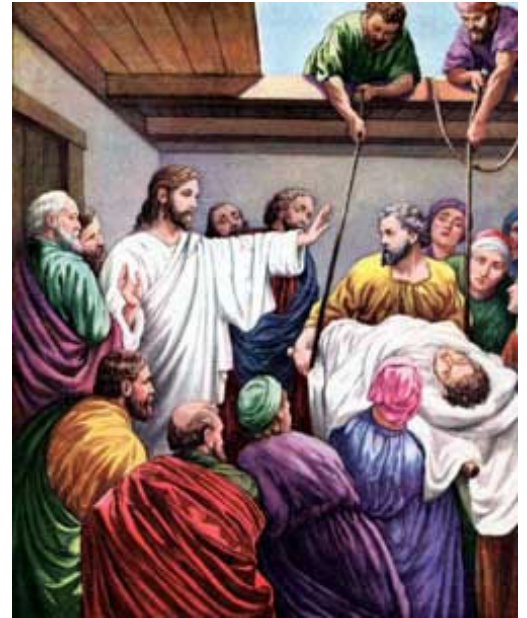
## Bible Truths:

- A sick man needed help (Mark 2:3).
- Four friends were kind (Mark 2:3-4).

## Bible Memory Verse:

**"Do to others as you want them to do to you."**

**Luke 6:31**



## Overview the Session

Determination was a defining characteristic of the four friends who overcame obstacles to grant their sick friend an audience with Jesus. Their determination was rewarded by seeing their friend forgiven and whole. As teachers, we, too, need the same kind and quality of determination. We need a sense of urgency that this time is the right time to bring our children to Christ. We can pray for them, visit them, encourage them, and teach them in Christ's name. During this session commit yourself to being a determined teacher.

## Check-In Activities

As the kids begin arriving, ask them if they would like to play at the table or free play in the toy area. **Since this story is about four special friends who took their sick friend to Jesus to be healed, start your conversation with the children about friends. As them about their different friends. Ask them who their school friends are, who they play with in their neighborhood, and who they like to see at church.** Listen carefully as the children talk about their friends, being sensitive to the child who may not have a lot of friends to name. Reassure them that you are their friend, and that you are glad that they came to learn about Jesus today.

## Craft Activity: Making a Bible Story Picture

**Supplies:** picture of Jesus healing paralyzed man copied on white card stock-one/child, brown yarn, fabric scraps, brown tissue paper cut in small squares, markers, crayons

**What to do:** Invite the children to come to the table for craft time. Give each child a picture of Jesus healing the paralyzed man. Show the children how to decorate the picture with yarn for the rope, fabric scraps for Jesus' clothing and the paralyzed man's clothing, and the tissue paper for the man's palate. Encourage the children to use markers or crayons to further decorate their pictures.

**As the children are working on their craft, ask:**

- **Have you ever been really sick? What did your parents do when you were sick?**
- **Have you ever been to a hospital? What was it like?**
- **Do you think that the man who was lowered down from the hole in the roof was scared? Would you be scared?**

**Inclusion tip:** For special needs children, water coloring the picture would be a great option.

## **Bible Story**

**Open** your Bible to Mark 2:1-12 and tell the following story in your own words.

One day four men decided to help their friend. They wanted to take him to see Jesus. Their friend could not walk. But the men did not give up. They picked up their friend and carried him on his bed. They took him to the house where Jesus was teaching. It was so full of people that they couldn't get close to Jesus. But they did not give up. They made a hole in the roof and lowered their friend right in front of Jesus. Do you think Jesus was surprised?

When Jesus saw that man coming down in front of him, he said, "Stand up and walk!" And the man stood up. He picked up his bed and walked. He and his friends were very happy and said thank you to God.

**Questions for Discussion:**

- **What do you think paralyzed means? (explain) Why did this man need to see Jesus?**
- **How do you think the paralyzed man felt when he saw Jesus' face? Do you think he was scared? Excited? Confused?**
- **What do you do for your friends or family when they are sick? (pray for them, take them food, make them cards, etc.)**
- **Do you have kind friends? Are you a kind friend to others?**

**4's and 5's**

**March 2, 2008**

**Pray.** Thank God for the four men who took their friend to Jesus. Thank God for people who help us when we are sick (parents, grandparents, friends). Continue until you have prayed for each child.