

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Mark

LESSON 6

**JESUS HEALS A
PARALYZED MAN**

MARK 2:1-12

Life of Christ

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

Mark 2:1-12

Younger Verse

Be kind and loving to each other.

Ephesians 4:32

Older Verse

Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.

Lesson Goals

Learn about some men who helped their friend get to Jesus
Understand that Jesus has the power both to forgive and heal
Recognize that we can help our friends come to Jesus

Opener

Do you like to take your friends with you when you go places? Have you ever had a friend that needed help with something? Did you try to help them? Let's learn about some good friends and what they did to help.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week, we learned that Jesus healed a man with a skin disease. Do you remember the name of the disease? (Leprosy) More and more people were looking for Jesus. They wanted to hear His teaching, and many wanted Him to heal their sicknesses.

Jesus returned to a town called Capernaum. As soon as people heard He was in town, they rushed to the house where He was staying. What do you think Jesus did once the people got there? (wait for responses) He started to teach the people about God. Pretty soon the house was so full, no one could sit down! People were all around the doorway just trying to hear what Jesus was teaching.

Soon, four men came to the house. But they were not alone. They were carrying a special friend with them. Their friend was paralyzed. That means that he could not walk. Why do you think they were bringing him to the house? These men were hoping Jesus could help their friend. Remember that there were so many people there that no one could sit down? That means that these four friends could not get inside. Do you think they gave up and went home? No, they did not!

The men climbed up to the roof of the house. Then they made a hole in the roof! The men got some rope and lowered their friend down through the hole to where Jesus was! These friends must have really cared for their friend that could not walk. Jesus looked at the men. He could tell that they really believed that He could help the man. Do you know what Jesus did next? He said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Remember that sins are the bad things we do. Jesus was telling him that all the bad things he had ever done were taken away.

Some of the people there did not think Jesus could forgive people's sins. These people were leaders. These leaders were not doing a good job helping people learn how to love God. The leaders began thinking, "Why is He forgiving that man? Only God can forgive people." *They did not believe that Jesus was God's Son and that He had the power to forgive people.*

Jesus knew what they were thinking, so He asked them a question. "Why are you thinking this way? Is it easier for me to tell this man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Stand up. Take your mat and walk?'" Then Jesus said, "So that you can see that I do have the power to do both..." Jesus looked over at the paralyzed man and said, "I tell you, stand up, take your mat, and walk home." The man got up and began to walk! Everyone saw what Jesus did, and they were amazed. They saw Jesus do two incredible things. He forgave the man of his sins, and He healed him.

Like the friends in the story, we can bring our friends to Jesus. We can invite them to Bible Study, share Bible verses with them, and pray for them. We can share how they can ask Jesus to forgive their sins.

Jesus wants to be our friend. He also wants us to be a good friend to other people. If you need to know how to become a friend of Jesus, please talk to me today.

Review Questions

1. Why were so many people in the house? (Jesus was there teaching the people.)
2. Four men brought their paralyzed friend to Jesus. How did they get their friend into the crowded house? (They made a hole in the roof and lowered him down to Jesus)
3. What did Jesus say to the man? (Your sins are forgiven.)
4. What did Jesus do after that? (He healed the man so he could walk.)

Prayer Time

Thank God for giving us friends to share with and have fun with. Pray that we will be a good friend to others by sharing Jesus with them.

Life Application

In 1 Corinthians 13, it says that love never gives up. The men in today's story did not give up, even when they couldn't get their friend to Jesus. They made a way to get their friend to Jesus.

It may seem hard or even impossible to get our friends to listen to us when we talk about Jesus. Maybe they really don't want to hear about how Jesus died on the cross or that He loves them. But we cannot give up! We need to keep on sharing with others and helping them to know about God's love. Pray that God will change their heart.

Planning for Lesson 7
Matthew Follows Jesus
Mark 2:13-17

Preschool Lesson for Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

For today's lesson, bring supplies for kids to act out the story. Bring a box so that you can cut a hole in it. Bring action figurines or use paper cutouts for the people. Or you can have the children act out the story as you tell it.

Last week, Jesus healed a man with a really bad skin disease. This week we will see how Jesus helped another person. Jesus and His friends went back to the town of Capernaum. They had already been there, so a lot of people had heard about Jesus. *(Have the children whisper to each other, "Jesus is back! Jesus is back!")* Everyone hurried over to see Him. *(Use the figurines to rush over to the house.)* As everybody gathered around Jesus, He began to teach them about God.

Four friends began to make their way to the house. But they were not alone. They had a special friend with them. Their friend could not walk, so they were carrying him. *(Have one of the figurines not be able to stand.)* Why do you think they were carrying him? That's right, they wanted him to see Jesus. By the time they got there, so many people had come to hear Jesus that they could not get inside. Do you think they should have gone back home? No, they cared about their friend! So they came up with another way to get to Jesus. They climbed up to the roof. Then, they began to make a hole in the roof of the house! *(Place the figurines on top and create a hole in the box.)* What did they do next? They carefully lowered their friend down into the house. *(Lift up the box so that the children can see what happened inside the house.)*

Jesus was amazed at how much the men cared for their friend that could not walk. Jesus could tell that they really wanted their friend to meet Him. So He did something special. He told the man that his sins were forgiven. Some people in the room did not believe Jesus could forgive people's sin. They thought only God could do that. They did not know that Jesus was God's Son. Jesus knew they were thinking that way. Then Jesus did another amazing thing. He told the man to stand up, take his mat and walk home. *(Have the figurine stand up and leave the box house.)* Immediately, the man stood up and went home! Everyone was amazed because Jesus did two great things. He forgave the man of his sins and helped the man to be able to walk!

We can be really good friends, too. We can be good friends by bringing other people with us to Bible Study. We can share with them what we learned about God. What are some other ways we can be a friend? Jesus was the greatest friend of all. He died on the cross and then came back to life so that we could be with Him in Heaven. All we need to do is ask Him to take away the bad things we do. Once He has taken them away, He stays with us forever.

Hands-on Activities for Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

Make an edible story. Frost graham crackers with icing, marshmallow cream, or peanut butter. Arrange small nuts, pretzels, or marshmallows to form the body of the person on the mat. Munch on the treats and ask the kids to tell what happens when the man meets Jesus.

Make a house out of a shoebox. Cut a hole in the top and “lower” the man through the roof. Let the kids take turns telling the story.

Bring a mat or sleeping bag and act out the story. Pretend to lower the man through the roof to Jesus. Assign someone to be Jesus and say His words. Be sure the man picks up his mat and walks!

Make mats out of paper sacks. Print the verse on the mat.

Make figures out of clay or play dough. Act out the story.

Make a list of friends that the children can invite to church. Make invitations for them to come next week.

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to each other. For-
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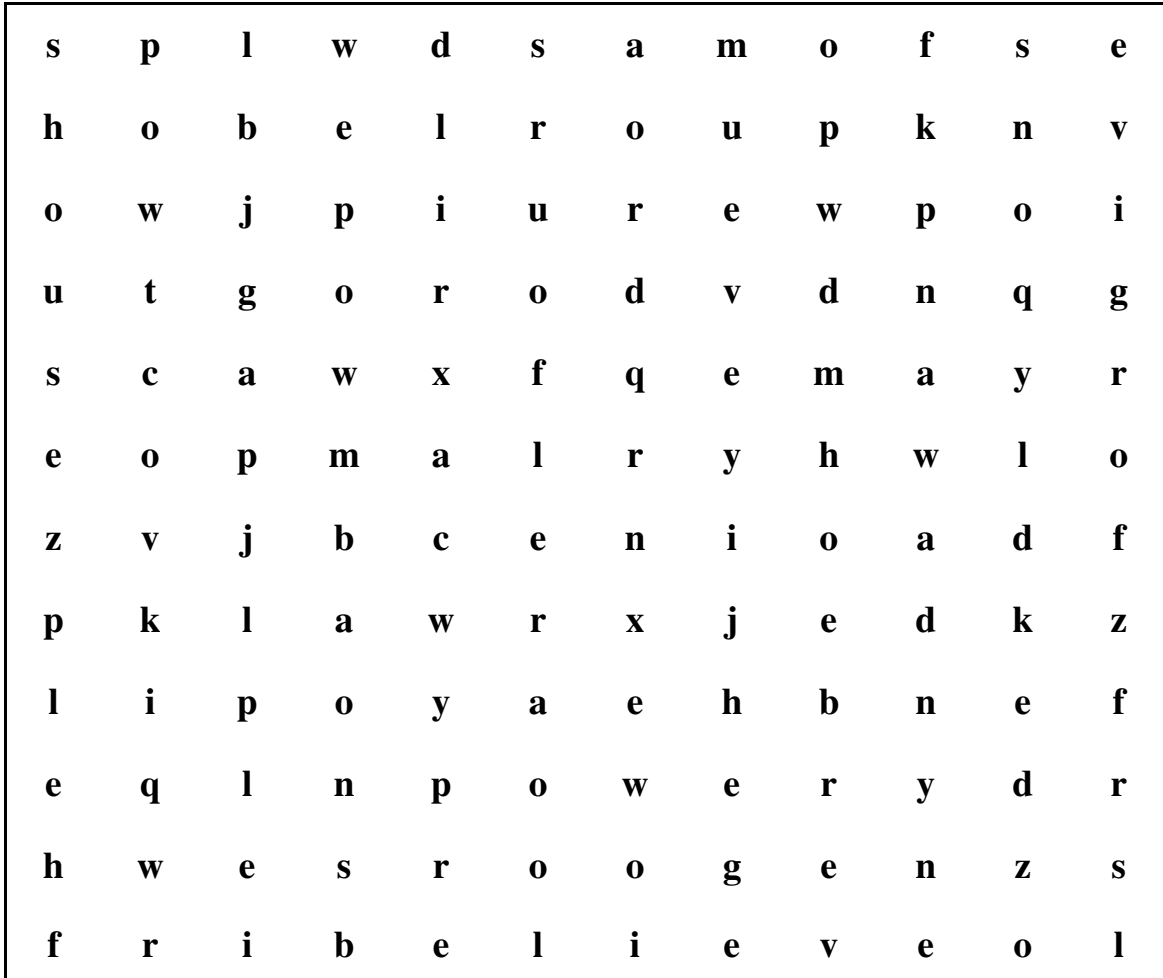


**Be kind and
loving to each
other.
Ephesians 4:32**



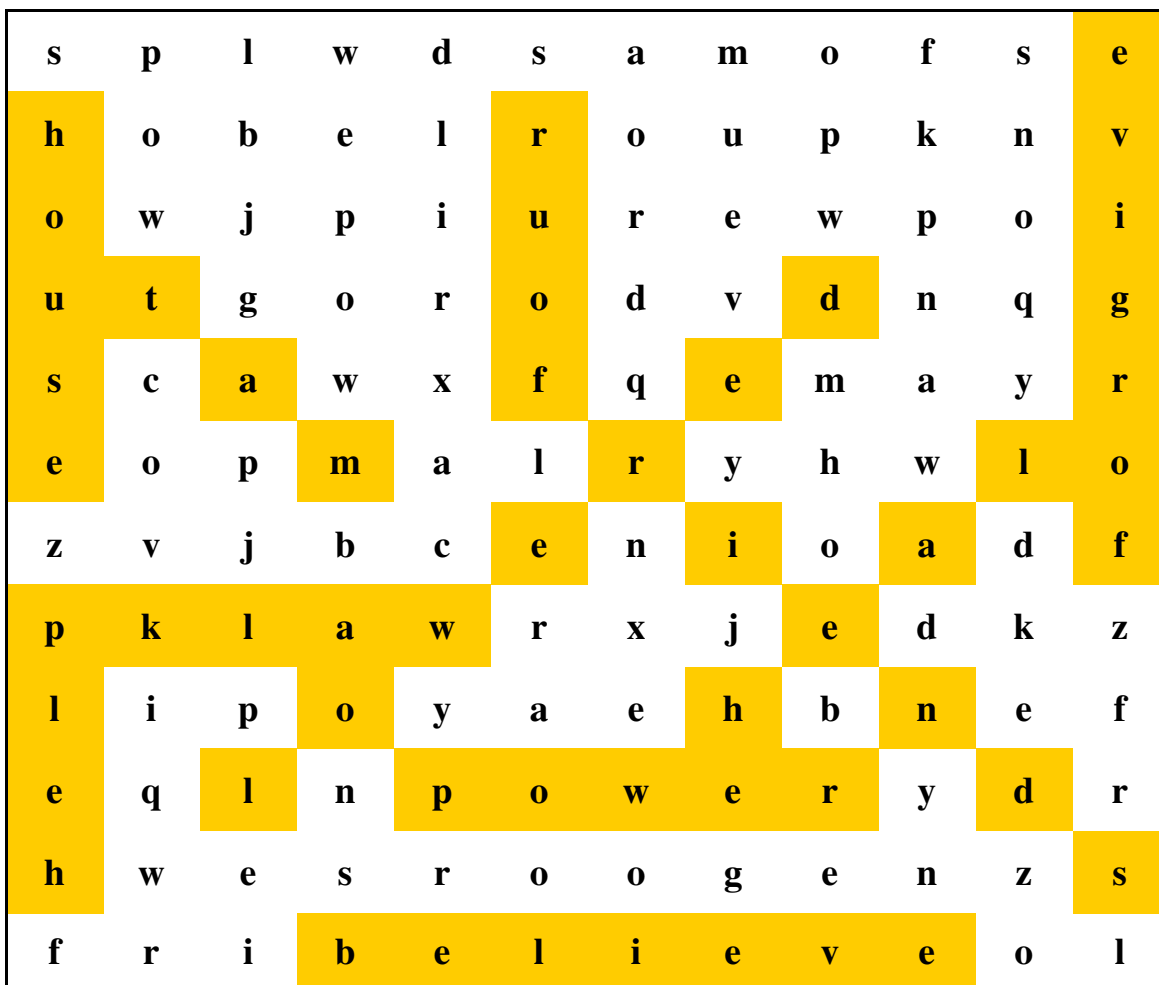
Word Search

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man



friends	four	lowered
roof	mat	forgive
walk	power	heal
house	believe	help

Word Search



friends	four	lowered
roof	mat	forgive
walk	power	heal
house	believe	help

What two things did Jesus do for the
paralyzed man?

Fo _ _ **ga** _ _ **e**

his sin and

H _ _ **a** _ _ **ed**

his body