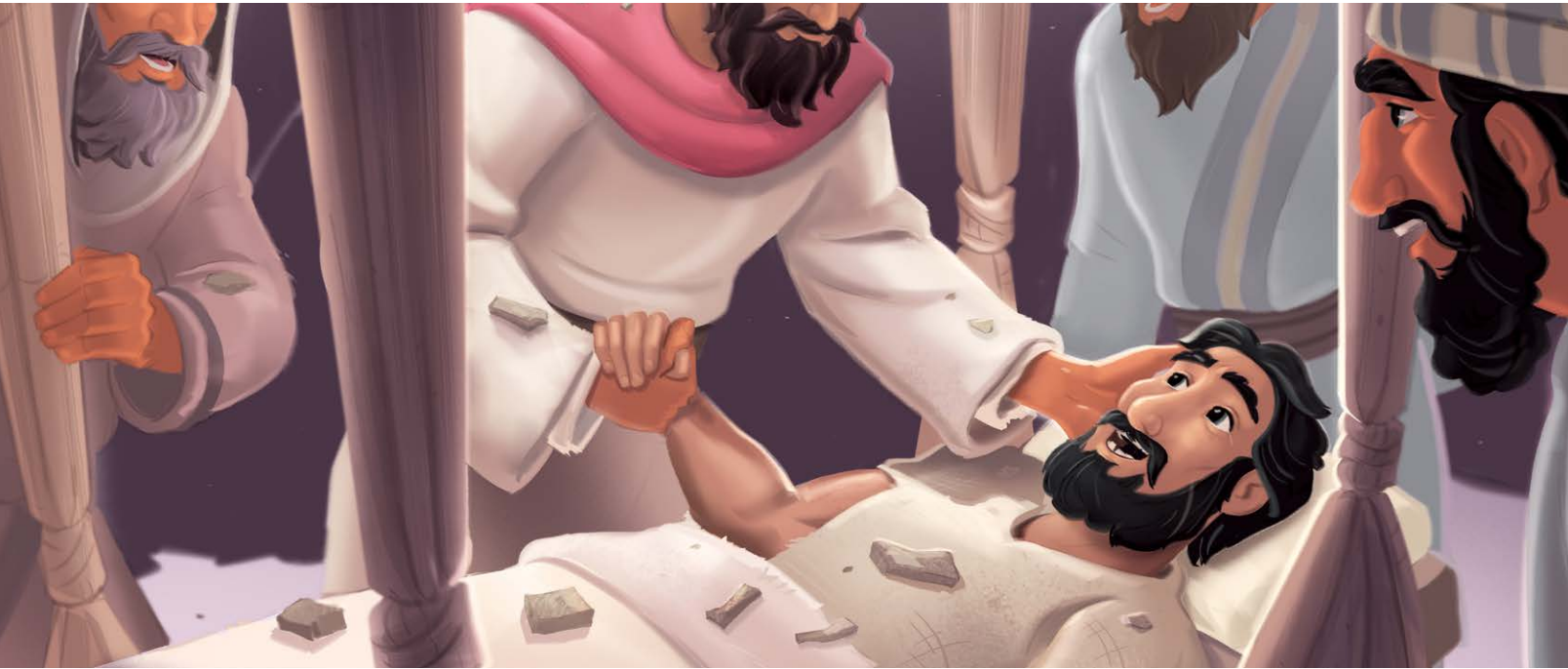


JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS

Matthew 9; Mark 2; Luke 5



Jesus returned to Capernaum, and news spread that He was back in town. So many people gathered to hear Jesus teach God's Word, that there was no more room in the house.

While Jesus was teaching, four men came to the house carrying a paralyzed man on a stretcher. But the men could not bring their friend to Jesus because of the crowd.

So, they carried the paralyzed man up to the roof and dug a hole through the roof. They lowered the mat on which the man was lying through the roof. Jesus saw their faith, and said to the paralytic man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the religious leaders heard this, and they thought to themselves, "Why would Jesus say this? Doesn't He know that no one can forgive sins but God?"

Jesus knew what these leaders were thinking. He said, "Why are you thinking these things to yourself? Which is easier to say to this paralyzed man? 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat, and walk?'"

Then, to show that He had the power to heal and to forgive sins, Jesus turned to the man and said, "I tell you, get up, take your mat, and go home."

Immediately the man got up, picked up his mat, and left in front of everyone. The people were amazed and gave glory to God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Christ Connection: By forgiving the man's sins, Jesus revealed that He is God. Jesus has power to heal and forgive. Only through faith in Jesus can people be saved from their sins.



LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Fill in the blanks using the words below to learn how Jesus helped the paralyzed man.

sins faith lowered paralyzed forgiven stretcher four roof

1. _____ men came to the house.
2. They carried a _____ man on a _____.
3. The men _____ their friend through a hole in the _____.
4. Jesus saw their _____.
5. Jesus said, "Your _____ are _____."

» What does this story teach us about God?

» How did the four men show faith?

GOSPEL DISCUSSION

Jesus is the only one who can forgive our sin. Jesus died on the cross, paying the penalty for our sin so that those who believe in Him can be saved. The Bible tells us that if we call on His name, we will be saved.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

- » What two things did Jesus do for the paralyzed man?

- » Why were the religious leaders angry at Jesus?

- » What are some creative ways you can help someone in your life?

CHRIST CONNECTION

By forgiving the man's sins, Jesus revealed that He is God. Jesus has power to heal and forgive. Only through faith in Jesus can people be saved from their sins.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find Matthew 5:16 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking God for this story and for the forgiveness He offers to all people who believe.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

☐ Proverbs 27:17

☐ Proverbs 27:9

☐ Proverbs 18:24

☐ 1 Thessalonians 5:11

☐ Proverbs 17:17

☐ Hebrews 10:24-25