

Jesus heals someone who couldn't walk - Luke 5:17-26



SuT2F

Aim: To see how trusting Jesus can make amazing things happen



We all appreciate having friends that we can rely on. The ones that stick by our sides through thick and thin. In the time of Jesus, when there was no NHS or Social Services, those friends made ALL the difference to folks with additional needs. In today's story a lame man relied completely on his good friends to help him. However, even his best friends couldn't make him better. Thankfully, they had heard of a man who could. Unfortunately, they weren't the only ones, that day who had made a bee-line for Jesus. The man's friends were resourceful and quickly found a solution. We might expect the story to go something like: 'When Jesus saw the man and his friends and their faith he said: You are healed.' However, the first thing that Jesus dealt with wasn't the man's physical health problem, but his spiritual health problem. He told the man that his sins were forgiven! That sent the cat amongst the pigeons amongst the Jewish teachers of the law! In offering to forgive sins, Jesus had made a clear declaration that he was the Son of God! Jesus then went on to heal the man's paralyzed legs and the man went home completely whole.



Hold up a teddy or doll with both legs bandages. Tell everyone that dolly/ teddy cannot walk and that you have tried everything to make them better but nothing has worked. This is making teddy/dolly very sad. See if anyone has got any suggestions on how teddy/dolly can be well again



In today's story we will read of a man who also has poorly legs. He had to spend all day in bed, until his friends helped him get to Jesus.

Read 'A man who could not walk', pg. 148. You could either use a print of the pictures below to show the different bits of the story, or pretend that teddy/ dolly is the poorly man and act out the story asking three people to help you carry the blanket



- *I wonder what it was like for the man to have poorly legs*
- *I wonder what people thought when they saw a man coming down through the roof*
- *I wonder what it felt like when Jesus made the man better*
- *I wonder what his friends said when they saw the man walking home*



Use the set of pictures from the story to help everyone explore the story and its ideas.

Can they chose a favourite picture?

Can they talk about what is happening on the picture?

Can they say what they like/don't like?

Can they make the story, using the pictures to sequence the events?

Talk about how we can help people who are not able to get out and about for a variety of reasons and how we can be good friends to them



- Small world play. Provide small figures, a shoe box with lid cut in half and a hole added to the remaining half. Make a stretcher out of cardboard and model playing with these or an adult can retell the story and stop to ask questions, i.e. What is the problem? How will the man get to Jesus? What happens next? What does Jesus say/do? How does the man feel now? Etc.
- Craft: Here's a great craft to help the children remember the story as they lower the lame man into the 'envelope' house: <https://lettheirlightshine.com/2018/01/08/man-through-the-roof-craft/>
- Team Work Obstacle course game. Create an obstacle course with soft play resources etc. Get children into relay teams. Put children in pairs, giving each pair a towel with a soft toy inside. The children have to carry the toy around the obstacle course. When they get to the other end of the course their team members take over and take the toy back to the start of the course.



Let's hold hands as we pray for each other today.

(You might decide it would work better for children to hold their grown ups hands or

to hold the hand of one other person, or to stand together in a circle and all hold hands.)

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for our friends

Help us to care for each other

Help us to be kind to each other

As we play together and

as we stay together

(Let go of hands)

Amen (Roll hands upwards for a slow loud 'amen').



- My God is so big
- Nothing's too big
- Jesus' love is very wonderful



Challenge:

I'm a good 'friend':

keep a diary page, with photos of ways the children help this week. (tidying, washing up, getting dressed, planting bulbs, etc.) to show next week or to post on a group web page, etc. (See printout)

I'm a good friend!

Challenge: Let's help at home! Add photo evidence and jot down things that your children do to help this week. Encourage them in their efforts and remind them of the story 'A man who could not walk'.





