

# 16. Healing a Paralytic

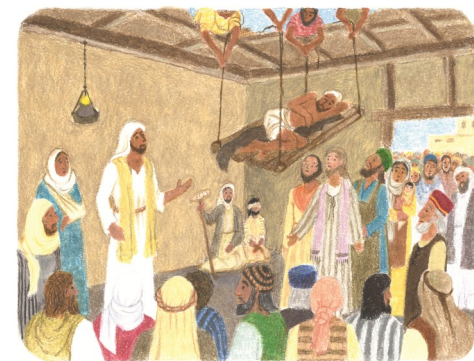
## *The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children*

### Notes for Parents & Teachers

#### 16. Healing a Paralytic

- a) This is a lovely story. First of all, emphasize how much the men who brought the paralyzed man cared for him. They knew how horrible it was that the man couldn't walk at all, and how unhappy he was, as were his loved ones. Imagine how it must feel to have to lie on your bed all the time.
- b) Note how the Lord's fame had grown, with people coming from every village, hoping to be healed, or to see other people healed. Get children to picture the huge crowd around the house—so large that those who brought the paralyzed man couldn't get near.
- c) But the man's friends were willing to work hard to get the paralyzed man close to the Lord. They climbed up on the roof, took some of the tiles off, and made a hole big enough to let the bed down. Maybe ask children to imagine what the people in the room thought as all these tiles were being taken off. It is quite important that the friends who let the man down into the house didn't go down with him. They just left him to the Lord.
- d) The Lord knew how much the man's friends trusted Him to heal the sick man. Now, apparently, the man had done some bad things in his life and was really sorry for what he had done, because the Lord didn't say right away that he could walk, He first told him that his bad things were forgiven. There is only one way that things are forgiven—that is, if you are sorry and stop doing them. The Lord knew the man had done this.

- e) The leaders of the church wanted to find fault with the Lord, and they said quietly to themselves that only God could forgive sins. (Of course, the Lord was God!) And, of course, the Lord knew what they were thinking, and He said that He would show that He could forgive sins. He told the man to stand up and take his bed and go away.
- f) Try to get children to imagine what everyone thought when the man suddenly stood up! He had been lying helpless for a long time, and many of them knew him. Now he was carrying his bed, happy and praising God.
- g) It's interesting that the people were then afraid—but maybe it was a good kind of afraid, because such a wonderful thing had just happened.



Text simplified by Carol Bongers Buss  
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## The Lord Makes a Paralyzed Man Walk

And it happened on a certain day, as Jesus was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting near Him. And the people came out of every village, and the power of the Lord was there to heal them. And some men brought in a bed with a man on it who was paralyzed. They tried to bring the sick man in front of Jesus. But they could not find a way because of the crowds.

So they went up onto the roof and removed the tiles. Then they let the sick man down on his bed into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw that they believed, He said to the sick man, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”

And the scribes and Pharisees began to think, “Who is this who says He can forgive sins? No one can forgive sins but God alone.” But Jesus knew what they were thinking, and He answered them and said, “Is it easier to say your sins have been forgiven, or to say get up and walk? So you may know that I have power on earth to forgive sins, I say to the sick man, ‘Get up and walk.’”

Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, “Get up, take your bed, and go to your house.” And immediately the sick man stood up in front of them all, and took up his bedding, and left for his own house, praising God.

And the people were all amazed, and they praised God. And they were also filled with fear saying, “We have seen wonderful things today.”

Luke 5

