

**LIFE POINT**  
*Jesus could do miracles because He is God's Son.*

# JESUS HEALED A PARALYZED MAN



## LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus performed miracles through the power of God.

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Mark 2:1-12

## SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

June 6

## UNIT VERSE

For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

*John 3:16 (CSB)*

## WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.

*Matthew 9:35 (CSB)*



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Paralysis occurs when one or more limbs or extremities will not work. The brain sends the signal, but the arm, leg, or finger does not receive it or cannot act on it. Often paralysis is permanent, but researchers eagerly work on treatments that may return movement to previously paralyzed body parts.

Jesus gave movement to a man who was paralyzed. Jesus could heal the man because, as God the Son, Jesus possessed God's power. While Jesus lived on earth, He performed many miracles, including raising people from death and healing someone when He was physically far away from the person.

In today's event Jesus was not too far from a man who wanted healing. The man's friends devised a clever plan of action when they found a crowd that hindered their efforts of reaching Jesus. They removed the roof above Jesus by digging through it, and then they lowered the man to Jesus.

After Jesus saw their faith, He forgave the man of his sins. Then Jesus made it possible for the man to walk. Because Jesus is God, He has the power and authority to do both.

God can do anything. He can heal people from diseases, disabilities, or sicknesses—He can perform miracles. Many times medical science cannot explain miracles. Although God may heal through medical science, He is not limited to science and human capabilities. Our Creator is Jehovah Rophe, the Lord Heals! (Exodus 15:26)

As you wait on God to work and bring about miracles in your life and the lives of people you love, what passages of Scripture do you find comforting and encouraging?

How can you help kids know that God hears their prayers and acts in His perfect time?



## PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- › Form four groups and give each group a pad of sticky notes.
- › Assign each group one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John).
- › Challenge groups to use their Bibles to write on sticky notes as much as they can about their book. For example, kids might write the name of the author, the number of chapters, and some of the stories in the book.
- › Give each group time to place its notes on the poster under the correct column. Then lead the kids to review the findings.
- › Share that each of the Gospel books in the Bible tell about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- › 4 sticky note pads
- › markers
- › poster board—Draw 4 columns on the poster board. At the top of each column, write a Gospel book: *Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.*



## INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- › State that you will need players to help discover which activity is easier.
- › Explain that you will give two different tasks. Before the players try the tasks, invite the kids to shout out which one they think will be easier.
- › Choose two kids at a time to play and give each player one of these tasks:
  - Jump across the room on one foot or jump across the room backward.
  - Touch your elbows behind your back or touch your toes.
  - Balance a book on your head or on one foot raised in the air.
  - With your eyes closed, draw a person or a dog on the board.
  - Do jumping jacks for 30 seconds or don't blink for 30 seconds.
- › Say: "In today's Bible story, Jesus proved that nothing is too hard for Him to do. In fact, Jesus can do miracles—something only God can do."
- › Show the "Unit 1 Banner" and state that Jesus is fully man and fully God. He can do miracles because He is God's Son.

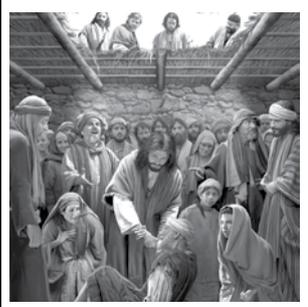
- › Pack Item 1: "Unit 1 Banner"
- › marker board or poster board
- › dry erase marker
- › timer or smartphone
- › **Option:** "Jesus Healed a Paralyzed Man" coloring page (Printables)



## MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- › Direct kids' attention to the "Map of Uganda" and say: "Let's meet a missionary family who is bringing hope to refugees living in the country of Uganda, Africa. *Refugees* are people who have had to leave their countries because of war, violence, or natural disasters. The Singermans help to provide things like food and clean water, medical supplies, tents, and Bibles."
- › Show the video "Meet the Singermans" or tell the missions story.
- › Invite kids to describe the missions work they saw in the video.
- › Pray for the Singerman family and for other missionaries who are helping the refugees of Uganda.

- › Videos
- › Printables: "Unit 1 Missions: Uganda"—Print the missions story and the "Map of Uganda."



## STUDY THE BIBLE

### 1. BIBLE STORY

- » Invite kids to join you in the taped square.
- » Encourage everyone to find a seat on the floor even if it is tight.
- » Show the Teaching Picture and explain that a crowded house is where today's Bible story begins.
- » Open the Bible to Mark 2 and tell the story.

#### **BIBLE STORY: JESUS HEALED A PARALYZED MAN**

People came from everywhere to see Jesus. When the news spread that He was in Capernaum, they hurried to the house where He was speaking. So many people crowded into the house to hear Jesus teach, there was no more room—not even in the doorway!

The large crowd did not keep four men from Jesus. Their friend could not walk, so the men carried him on a mat. Since there was no way to go through the doorway, they gently carried their friend to the roof of the house. They dug through the roof until they made an opening. Then carefully, they lowered the mat with their friend to Jesus.

Jesus saw that the men had great faith in Him. He looked at the man on the mat and said, “Your sins are forgiven.”

Some of the scribes (teachers of the law) were upset by what Jesus had said. They thought, *Why did Jesus say that? Only God can forgive sins!*

Right away, Jesus knew what the scribes were thinking. He said, “Why are you thinking those things? Is it easier for Me to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’ or to say, ‘Get up, pick up your mat, and walk?’”

Jesus showed His power on earth to forgive sins. He turned back to the man on the mat and said, “Get up, pick up your mat, and go home.”

Immediately, the man stood up! He picked up his mat and walked out of the house in front of everyone. The people were amazed! They praised God and said, “We have never seen anything like this!”

— BASED ON MARK 2:1-12

### 2. REVIEW

- » Sing “No Ordinary Man.”
- » Form two teams.
- » Explain that you have buried five table tennis balls in a bucket. Each ball is worth either five, ten, or fifteen points.

- » Pack Items 1, 2: “Unit 1 Banner,” “Unit 1 Verse”
- » Teaching Picture 1
- » Music
- » Videos
- » masking tape—Tape a square in the middle of the room. Ensure that the square is big enough to fit your group snugly. **Note:** If possible, leave the square on the floor for the next session.
- » permanent marker
- » 5 table tennis balls—Write 5 on 2 of the balls, 10 on 2 balls, and 15 on the last ball.
- » foam packing peanuts
- » large bucket or cardboard box—Fill the bucket or box with packing peanuts and then bury the table tennis balls.
- » dry erase marker
- » marker board or poster board
- » 9-by-12-inch sheets of assorted colors of construction paper (1 per person)
- » colored or patterned paper cut horizontally into 2-by-9-inch strips (approximately 5 per person)
- » clear tape
- » scissors

- › Instruct teams that before they answer a Review Question, one member from his team will dig into the bucket to find a ball. If the team answers the question correctly, it will get the number of points on the ball. If that team does not answer correctly, the other team will have an opportunity to answer and get the points.
- › If time allows, make up additional questions or repeat questions.
- › Record each team's points on the board. Declare the team with the most points as the winner.
- › **Option:** Show the "Notebook Bible Story" video.

### 3. LIFE ACTION

- › State that four men brought a paralyzed man to Jesus because they knew their friend needed to be healed, and they knew Jesus could do it.
- › Remind the group that Jesus didn't just heal the man. First, Jesus forgave the man's sins.
- › Discuss: "Do you think the men were surprised when Jesus forgave their friend's sins? Why do you think Jesus forgave him before healing him?"
- › Help the kids answer the discussion questions by choosing a volunteer to read Mark 2:17.
- › Show the "Unit 1 Banner" and mention that Jesus is God's Son. He came to save sinners. He forgives anyone who trusts in Him.
- › Encourage kids to be like the four men by bringing their friends to Jesus—inviting their friends to church and sharing the gospel with them.
- › Pray and thank God for sending a Savior to forgive and save people from their sins. Ask God to give the kids courage to share this good news with their friends.
- › **Option:** Show the "Mooseberry Life Application" video.

### 4. UNIT VERSE

- › Show the "Unit 1 Verse" and invite kids to say it together.
- › Give everyone a sheet of construction paper and strips of paper.
- › Lead kids to weave a paper mat by following these instructions:
  - Fold construction paper in half.
  - Cut six evenly-spaced slits by starting at the fold and stopping about an inch from the edge of the paper.
  - Unfold the paper and begin weaving about five strips over and under.
  - Use clear tape to secure the edges.
- › Instruct kids to write the Unit Verse on the fronts of their mats and challenge kids to memorize the verse during the week.

### REVIEW QUESTIONS

- › How did the men get their friend into the house? (*They dug through the roof and lowered him on a mat.*)
- › What did Jesus notice about the four men? (*They had great faith in Him.*)
- › What was the first thing Jesus said to the man on the mat? (*"Your sins are forgiven."*)
- › Why were the scribes upset by Jesus? (*They thought no one could forgive sins except God.*)
- › How did Jesus show He had the power to forgive sin? (*He healed the man who could not walk.*)
- › What did the people who saw the miracle say about Jesus? (*"We have never seen anything like this!"*)

#### Timesaving Tip:

Precut the slits in each person's sheet of construction paper.

#### Option for Unit Verse:

Teach the Weekly Bible Verse, Matthew 9:35.



## LIVE IT OUT

### CHOICE 1

- › Pack Item 3: “Paralyzed Puzzles”—Cut apart the puzzles and place each puzzle in a separate ziplock bag.
- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › 8 ziplock bags

#### Teaching Tips:

- If your group is larger than 16 kids, photocopy the “Paralyzed Puzzles” prior to cutting out the puzzles.
- If you need to maintain space between pairs, instruct one partner to give instructions to put the puzzle together while the partner (with eyes closed) puts it together.

### CHOICE 2

- › Pack Item 4: “Miracle Cards”
- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils

**Teaching Tip:** Save the “Miracle Cards” for use in the next session.

### CHOICE 1

#### PARALYZED PUZZLES

- › Guide girls to find girl partners and boys to find boy partners. Give each pair a puzzle bag.
- › Invite everyone to choose a role.
  - One person will cross his legs and sit on the floor with his arms to his side. This person will call out instructions.
  - One person will sit on his knees behind the first person, place his arms through the first person’s arms, and close his eyes. This person will put the puzzle together.
- › Lead partners to get into their positions and explain that they can begin when you say: “Go.” Tell kids that when a pair completes the puzzle, stand up. The first team to stand wins.
- › After kids work their puzzles, remind kids that the paralyzed man in the story had friends who were willing to help him get to Jesus in order to be healed. Jesus recognized the men’s faith. He not only healed their friend—He forgave the man’s sins.
- › Share that Jesus still forgives anyone who trusts in Him.
- › Encourage kids to find partners and complete “Miracle Moves” on their Kids Activity Pages.

### CHOICE 2

#### MIRACLES ON DISPLAY

- › Encourage kids to complete “Among the Crowd” on their Kids Activity Pages.
- › Lead kids to discover some of the miracles Jesus performed.
- › Direct six volunteers to choose a “Miracle Card” and read the verses in their Bibles.
- › Collect the cards.
- › Form six groups and give each group one of the cards. **Note:** If your group is small, form partners and select some of the “Miracle Cards.”
- › Task each group to reread the verses written on its card and then come up with a skit to act out the miracle without using words.
- › Invite each group to perform its skit and allow others to guess which miracle the group is acting out.
- › Remind kids that Jesus can do miracles, like heal and forgive sins, because He is God’s Son.

**CHOICE 3****MAT RELAY**

- » Place kids into teams of “four friends” and instruct them to line up on one side of the room.
- » Give each team a sheet of paper (mat) and a table tennis ball.
- » Instruct each person to hold one corner of the mat and place the ball in the center.
- » Explain that, on your mark, teams will race to the other side of the room and back. If a player lets go of the mat or the ball rolls off the mat, that team must start over from the beginning. The first team to make it back with the ball still on the mat wins.
- » Play again, but this time, see how many times teams can make it back and forth without dropping the ball. If a team loses the ball, they are out of the game. The remaining team wins the round.
- » Remind kids that Jesus recognized the four men's faith, so He forgave their friend's sins and healed him! Jesus can perform these miracles because He is God's Son.
- » Challenge kids, once again, to look for ways to help their friends know God's Son, Jesus.

**WRAP UP**

- » Close in prayer. Ask for prayer requests and lift up friends and family who are sick and need healing. Pray for friends and family who need to know Jesus.
- » Give kids One Conversation™ pages.

**CHOICE 3**

- » paper
- » table tennis balls (1 per small group of kids)