



Miracles of Jesus - Jesus heals a man who couldn't walk (Luke 5:17-26)

What can you do with your body? Can you stretch up tall? Curl into a ball? Can you hop, skip, jump, dance? Now lie on the floor and imagine that you can't do any of those things. How does that feel?

In today's story we're going to hear about a man who couldn't do any of the things that you can do - here is Mary to tell you the story:

https://youtu.be/BklG_Hzr6S8

You might like to read the story from a children's storybook Bible too or you might like to act out the story using small world figures such as Playmobil or Duplo or if you have a bigger box available, with dolls or teddies! There is a story 'script' at the end of this document that you could use.

Chat together:

I wonder what surprised you most about this story?

What does this story tell us about Jesus?

Jesus loves us very much and he wants to help us. He forgives us when we get things wrong and wants us to be friends with him.

What does this story tell us about the friends?

The friends were amazing. Do you have a friend who needs your help today?

What can you do with God's help to show kindness that is beyond expectation?

Pray together:

If you have some bubbles you could use them for your prayers! Think about something you want to say sorry for and say sorry to Jesus. Blow some bubbles. As they float away imagine giving your prayer to Jesus. When they pop remember that Jesus forgives you.

You could also pray for friends who are sad or poorly. Name them and ask Jesus to be close to them as you blow some more bubbles!

Activities to try:

Make a model to retell the story:



Build a house from Duplo or Lego or a cardboard box and act out the story. Don't forget to ask a grown up to help you if you need to cut a hole in the box!



Paper chain people:

Can you remember how to cut out paper chain people? You might like to cut some out and then decorate them, maybe write on the names of some of your friends as a reminder to pray for them.

Create a mat:

In the story the man lay on a mat. You might like to make a mat to remind you of the story:

- by glueing strips of small pieces of fabric onto an A4 sheet of card to build up a set of stripes.
- or you can do this with coloured paper or even magazine pages cut into strips if you prefer.
- or you could weave a mat like Mary showed you on the video, out of old postcards.

You might like to write a verse from the Bible on your mat to remind you of the story:

'Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God' Luke 5:26

Colouring picture

You could colour in the picture below or draw your own picture of the story. Maybe you could draw a picture of the man praising God?

Praising God

Spend some time praising God, you could play some worship songs, dance, sing! Be creative!

The story:

Jesus was talking to lots of people inside a house. It was very full - people were there because they loved to listen to Jesus' stories, Jesus' friends were there because they wanted to learn about God and some people (the Pharisees) were there because they wanted to see Jesus make a mistake! Outside the house people crowded round, listening through the open door and the windows.

In the town lived a man who couldn't walk or move his legs at all. His four friends wanted to help him and decided to take him to see Jesus because they knew Jesus could make him better. Carefully they laid him on a blanket and carried him all the way to the house where Jesus was. And then they had a problem! What do you think it was? There were so many people they could not get in to see Jesus!

The four friends had carried the man all this way - they were not going to give up. If they couldn't get in through the door, they would get in through the roof. So carefully they carried their friend up the stairs and on to the flat roof. Then they started banging and digging until they had made a hole in the roof big enough to lower their friend through. They put ropes under the blanket and carefully, carefully lowered the man down to the ground at Jesus' feet. Jesus looked down at the man and smiled. He knelt down beside him and then he said, "You are forgiven for all the bad things you've ever done." That wasn't what the man was expecting - and it certainly wasn't what his friends were hoping to hear! But even so, the man suddenly felt very, very peaceful - as if he knew that everything was going to be alright.

Then Jesus stood up and said, "Get up, roll up your mat and walk!" And even though the man didn't think he could, he suddenly found that he was doing exactly what Jesus had told him to. He got up and walked! He walked through the crowd and out of the door - completely well and praising God for what he had done!

