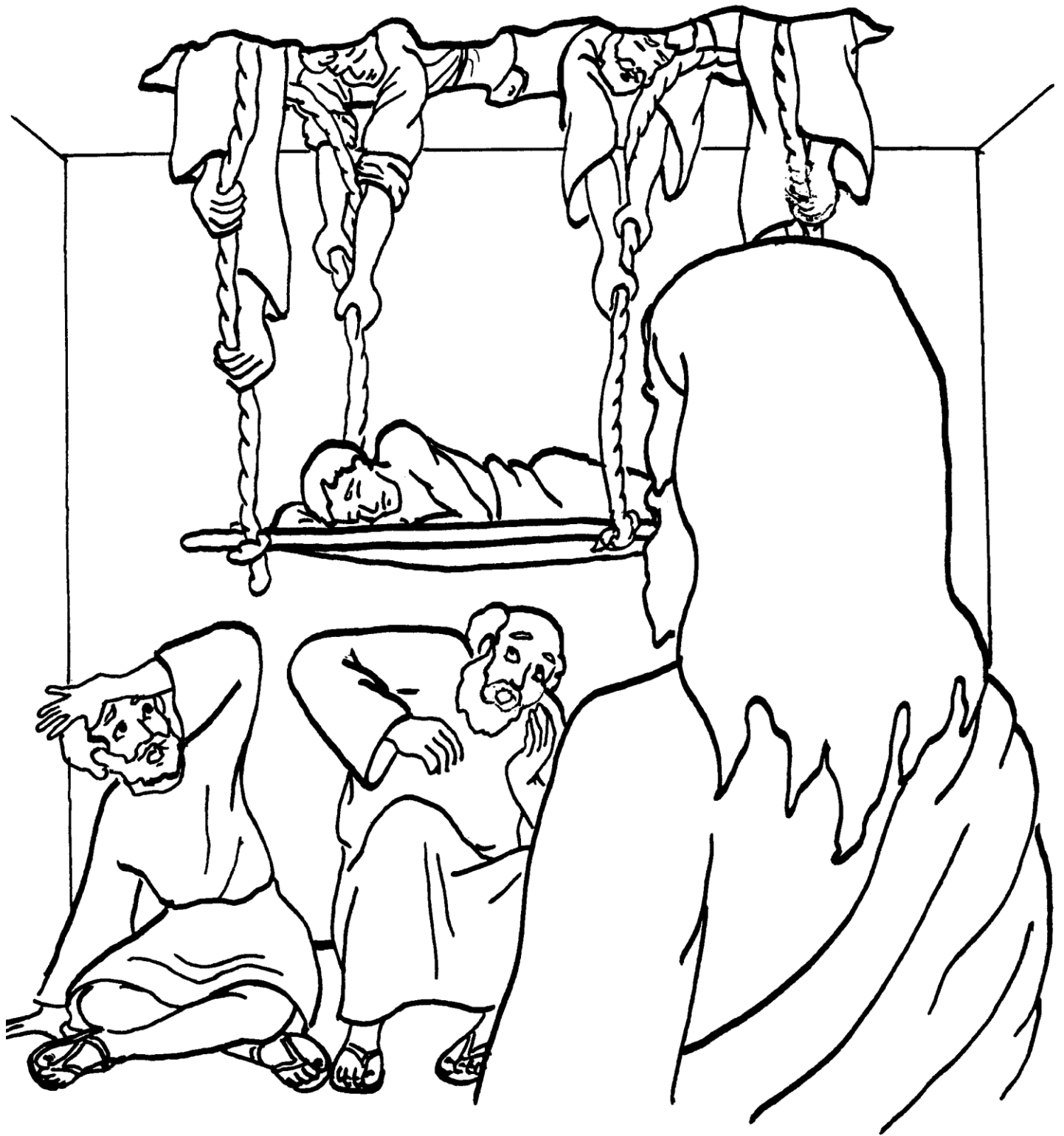


Story Time - Read the story to the children

Lesson 180: THROUGH THE ROOF

MARK 2:1-12

A few days later, Jesus came back to Capernaum. The news spread that he was in the house. A large crowd gathered to hear him speak. The house was so full that there was no place to stand, not even outside the door! While Jesus was preaching God's Word to them, some people brought a paralyzed man to see him. He was being carried by four of them. But they could not get the man inside to Jesus because the house was so full of people. So they went to the roof above Jesus and made a hole in it. Then they lowered the mat with the paralyzed man on it. When Jesus saw how much faith they had, he said to the paralyzed man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven." Some of the teachers of the law were sitting there. They saw what Jesus did, and they said to themselves, "Why does this man say things like that? What an insult to God! No one but God can forgive sins." Jesus knew immediately what these teachers of the law were thinking. So he said to them, "Why do you have these questions in your minds? The Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins. But how can I prove this to you? Maybe you are thinking it was easy for me to say to the crippled man, 'Your sins are forgiven.' There's no proof it really happened. But what if I say to the man, 'Stand up. Take your mat and walk'? Then you will be able to see if I really have this power or not." So Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, stand up. Take your mat and go home." Immediately the paralyzed man stood up. He picked up his mat and walked out of the room. Everyone could see him. They were amazed and praised God. They said, "This is the most amazing thing we have ever seen!"



"Friends of a paralytic man lower him through the roof to Jesus."
Mark 2:1-12

180. THROUGH THE ROOF

MARK 2:1-12

MEMORY VERSE:

“Immediately the paralyzed man stood up. He picked up his mat and walked out of the room.” **MARK 2:12**

Review Questions

True or False

1. Jesus returned to Capernaum, and news spread that He was in the house.
2. Immediately there were so many people, that they all went home.
3. Jesus preached God's Word to the people.
4. Twenty seven men brought a paralytic to see Jesus.
5. The four men opened a hole in the roof because the house was so full of people.

Questions

1. What did the four men do to get the paralytic man inside to see Jesus?
2. Why did they have to tear a hole in the roof?
3. What did Jesus tell the paralytic man first?
4. What did the teachers of the Law say when Jesus told the man, 'Your sins are forgiven'?
5. What did Jesus do to prove that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins?
6. What did the paralytic man do after Jesus told him to get up, take his mat & go home?

Lesson 180 Activity & Discussion

"He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother"

Bring a stretcher (a blanket or a large beach blanket) to class. (CCOKC - Upstairs behind the stage is a closet with lots of material that will work as a 'blanket' if you don't have one).

Ask for a volunteer to lie down on the stretcher, and allow a number of the children in the class to have a turn carrying the volunteer around.

Keep the rides brief, and give many children an opportunity to ride as possible. Make certain you have enough carriers to hold the child being carried without dropping him or her.

DISCUSSION

MARK 2:5 - When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

What an interesting verse. Jesus is so remarkable. Jesus saw the man lowered down slowly in front of His eyes. What did He see? He saw much more than anyone else did or you or I could have. He looked right through the man's crippled body and into his heart. He also looked up and saw the man's four friends and their hearts.

The first thing that Jesus said to the man may not have been what he or his friends wanted to hear, but Jesus knew the man had a greater need than just being able to move his body. It is the great need of all of our lives; we need to have our sins forgiven. Our sins make us utterly helpless and spiritually paralyzed. Jesus saw the

man's faith in Him and forgave him his sin. Jesus took care of the greatest need first--sin.

Worse than being paralyzed, sin is death. Jesus chose to heal the man's soul before healing his body. Sure, his body was paralyzed but that was not as awful as his soul being dead in sin. Jesus always knows where to start. We may want Him to fix something we are desperate about, but first He fixes our sin situation so we can be made alive in Him. Then He begins to fix other areas. Only God can forgive sin. Jesus was able to forgive this man's sin because Jesus is God. He knows the best place to start His work in our lives. He is pleased when we put our faith in Him and honors that faith with His forgiveness.

Share a Personal Experience

Tell the children about a time in your life, or the life of someone you know, that the Lord answered your prayer in an unexpected way. Perhaps you were seeking him for something, and He led you in a direction completely different than you expected. Explain to the children how God was faithful in that situation. Allow one or two of the children to express similar experiences.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to walk by faith, not by sight. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.