



Lesson Five

Jesus Forgives and Restores

Heart Preparation

The story of the paralytic is a wonderful example of God's amazing grace. As you read the lesson Scriptures, may your heart be filled with praise and gratitude to God for his goodness to those he calls to faith in him.

Here, crowds once again surrounded Jesus: They came to see the wonderful signs. Some even came to hear about the kingdom of God, the life-giving word that was in marked contrast to the deadening teaching of the Pharisees—who, typically, came to criticize and condemn.

We read that some men made their way to see Jesus, carrying their paralyzed friend. Their loving actions and persistence revealed their deep trust in Jesus and sacrificial care for their friend. And when the hopeful group came before Jesus, he saw it all—the faith the Father had given the men, their fervor, and the sinful condition of the lame man's heart.

Jesus first forgave the paralytic his sins then healed him. What he said and did revealed that Jesus has the authority that belongs to God—the authority not just to heal but also to forgive sins. Jesus said that he did this “so that you may know the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.”

The healed man went away praising God. He believed the words of Jesus and trusted him for spiritual life; he knew he was free from the bondage of sin, he had peace with God, *and* he could also make his own way home. No wonder he rejoiced!

“That’s the way it always goes. If we turn to Jesus, we always receive much more than we expect. Now the man saw clearly that Jesus’ words about the Kingdom of grace were absolutely true: grace indeed reigned.” (S. G. De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Vol. III, p. 195)

Bible Background

The Pharisees, the Jewish religious leaders, loved the law more than they loved God. They were self-righteous about their obedience, their outward acts of piety and their rituals. As “keepers” of the law of Moses, they were convinced that what Jesus said was appallingly blasphemous. They did not believe in him and certainly did not think they needed any forgiveness or any teaching or any healing of *any* kind from him.

“They came with another doctrine and were not about to let themselves be pushed from their position. It is marvelous to be pushed away from our position by the Lord Jesus but the [Pharisees and] scribes did not see that.” (S. G. De Graaf, *Promise and Deliverance*, Vol. III, p. 196)



Bible Truth

Jesus clearly showed the power of God when he forgave the paralyzed man and healed him.

Scripture

Luke 5:17–26 (see also Matthew 9:2–8 and Mark 2:3–12)



Lesson Focus

Jesus can forgive sin and heal sickness because he is God himself.

Goals for the Children

- State that Jesus did miracles to show people he is God.
- State that Jesus did miracles so that people would trust him as God, their Savior.
- Ask Jesus to forgive them when they sin.



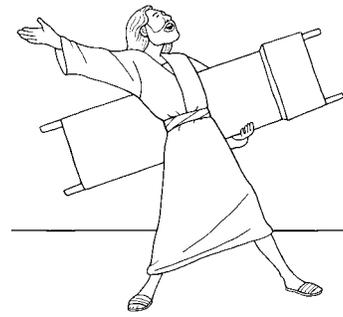
Memory Minute

[Jesus said,] “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14:9b



Jesus healed a paralyzed man.

Luke 5:17–26



☆ Let's Talk and Wonder

SAY Some men carried their friend on a mat to see Jesus. The man was paralyzed and his friends believed Jesus could heal him. When they got to the house where Jesus was, they couldn't get through the crowd to Jesus.

ASK *What do you think the men did?*

SAY The men carried their friend up the stairs to the roof. They made a hole in the roof and lowered the man through the hole until he was right in front of Jesus.

ASK *What did Jesus do?*

SAY Jesus saw that the men trusted him. Jesus showed his authority as God when he forgave the paralyzed man's sins and then healed him. The man went home praising God and the people praised God too.

SAY I wonder if many people who saw Jesus heal the paralyzed man trusted him as God their Savior that day . . .

☆ Let's Make

Give children a **half sheet of paper** each and let them draw pictures of times when they were sick or hurt. Let them **glue** their pictures on a large sheet of **poster board** with these words across the top: **Jesus my Savior takes care of me!** Talk about their pictures. Remind them that Jesus knows when we are sick, he hears our prayers, and he is the one who heals. We can trust him to take care of us.

☆ Let's Pray

Lead the children in this responsive prayer. You will speak first and they are to listen to your words. When you stop speaking, they will say, "Thank you, dear Jesus."

Leader: Lord Jesus, you came to earth to be our Savior.

Children: Thank you, dear Jesus.

Leader: You showed your love by living and dying for us.

Children: Thank you, dear Jesus.

Leader: You have the power and right to forgive sins and heal sickness.

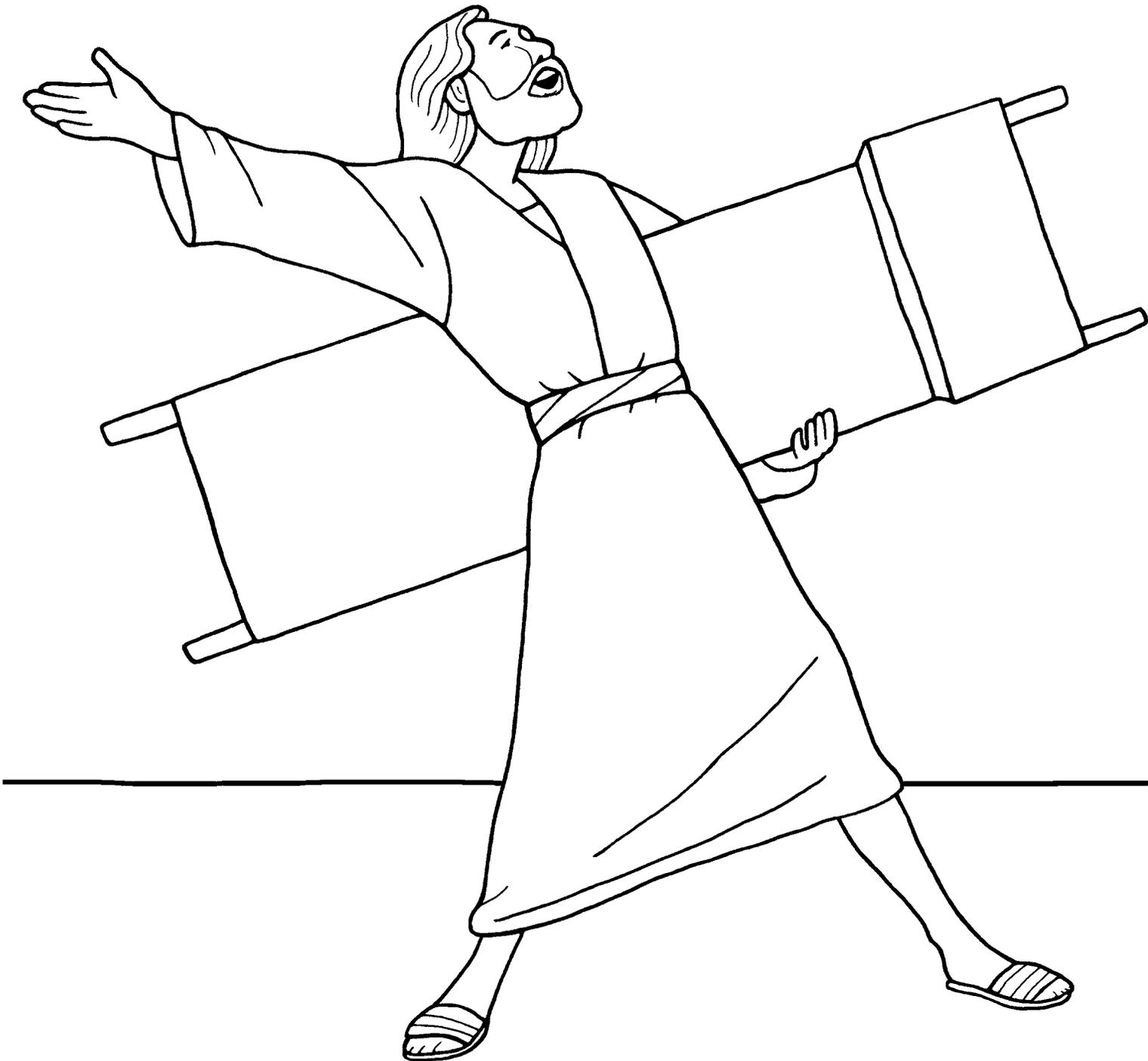
Children: Thank you, dear Jesus.

Leader: Please forgive us when we sin.

Children: Thank you, dear Jesus.

Leader: We pray in your name.

All: Amen.



Jesus healed a paralyzed man.

Luke 5:17-26