

VBS

JULY
12-16



KNOW the GOSPEL!

BELIEVE the GOSPEL!

SPREAD the GOSPEL!

PRE K / KINDERGARTEN

**Day 2: Sharing with Friends
and Family**

Sharing with Friends and Family

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

Objective This lesson will teach the importance of sharing the Gospel with our friends and family.

Key Verses

Luke 5:17-26—Main Teaching Passage
Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:3-12 (Parallel Passages)

Memory Verse - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

"That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."

Hook

Imagine that you have just won an all inclusive, week-long trip to Disney World. You're going to fly first class, stay in a beautiful hotel, and meet all the Disney characters. You get a line pass which allows you to jump to the front of the line for every ride, and whenever you get hungry, you can have whatever food you want from whatever restaurant you want! All for FREE!

Now imagine that you're told you can invite whoever you want to join you! Who would be the first person you would tell? Who wouldn't you tell? In today's lesson, someone is given an even greater gift and was told to go tell his friends.

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

BOOK

One day, Jesus was teaching in someone's house. The crowd that had gathered, which included the scribes and Pharisees (the religious leaders), was so great that no one else could enter the house. Four men arrived at the place where Jesus was teaching, carrying their friend who was paralyzed (he couldn't walk!), but there was no way to get their friend to Jesus through the door because of all the people. They decided to climb onto the roof, and Mark tells us that they dug a hole through the roof so they could lower their friend down to Jesus.

Jesus saw the faith of these men who had brought their paralyzed friend to Him. He turned to the man now laying in front of Him and told the man, "Your sins are forgiven you." As Jesus said this, the religious leaders got upset, saying among themselves that only God can forgive sins. Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked them, "Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or, 'Rise up and walk?'" Then, to show them that He was indeed the Son of God, He did something else that only God could have done. Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "I say to you arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

Immediately, the man who couldn't walk stood up. He was healed! He picked up the bed his friends had carried him on and walked home praising God. The crowd was amazed and also glorified God, saying, "What strange things we have seen today!"

LOOK

Yesterday we learned that the Gospel is the good news of what Jesus has done for us and how He can be our Savior. Now this news is too wonderful and amazing for us to keep to ourselves. We need (and should want) to tell our friends, family, and everyone else we know about this good news, so that they can believe and be saved too. The four friends in our story today are a great example of the importance of leading our loved ones to Jesus, which is the focus of our lesson today.

When the paralyzed man's friends heard about a Man named Jesus who was healing people of all kinds of sicknesses, they were determined to get their friend to Him to be healed. Whether the paralyzed man wanted to go to Jesus or not, these men picked up his bed and started walking. They knew that he needed to get to Jesus, and they were going to do whatever it took to bring their friend to Him.

They carried him through the streets until they arrived at the house. When the house was full and there seemed to be no way to get to Jesus, they made a way. The rooftops were flat, and there were often stairs on the side of the houses that led up to the roof. These men carried their friend, bed and all, up to the roof. Then, they did something crazy, something desperate, to get their friend to Jesus. They started digging!

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

LOOK (Continued)

What a strange Bible study! Jesus' teaching was interrupted as the roof started coming apart. As the hole in the ceiling got bigger, Jesus looked up to see four faces looking down at him, and he saw their faith. These men believed that if they just got their friend to Jesus, he would be healed. But what Jesus said to this man as he was laid in front of Him is surprising. Jesus did not heal his legs. Instead, He forgave his sins.

You see, the biggest problem the paralyzed man had was not that he couldn't walk. The biggest problem he had is the biggest problem everyone has: sin in our hearts! So Jesus took care of the most important problem first. The Pharisees were right to think that only God could forgive sins. God had forgiven this man. Because Jesus is God! And because Jesus is God, He also had the power to heal this man's body. No doubt this man went home with the friends who had carried him skipping and leaping and jumping for joy as he praised God (and probably thanked them for bringing him to Jesus).

But what if these men had never brought their friend to Jesus? What if they turned back when they saw the crowd? Would this man have ever been healed? Jesus saw *their* faith, not the faith of the paralyzed man. These men trusted that if they could just get their friend to Jesus, Jesus would take care of him. These men are an example to us. We all need to bring our friends to Jesus. We can do this by inviting them to church, by praying for them, and certainly by sharing the Gospel with them, telling them that Jesus loves them, that He cares about them, and that He is able to wash away their sins. Do you have any friends or family you can bring to Jesus?

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life?

TOOK

As a class, review 1 Corinthians 15:3-4.

Review the lesson by asking the kids for names of family or friends that don't believe in Jesus. Pray together for those people to be saved.

Pray: Thank Jesus for saving you from the power of sin. Ask Him to give you courage to tell your friends and family about all that Jesus has done for them.

Parent Question: How can we bring our friends and family to Jesus?

FURTHER STUDY

Commentary on Luke 5:17-26 by David Guzik

C. Jesus' power to forgive and heal.

1. ([Luk 5:17-19](#)) Jesus' teaching is interrupted.

Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them. Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him. And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus.

a. **As He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by:** In Capernaum ([Mark 2:1](#)) Jesus continued His teaching work and in His audience were religious and spiritual leaders (**Pharisees** and **teachers of the law**). Some of them had come from considerable distances (**Judea, and Jerusalem**).

i. The **Pharisees** were devoted and zealous, but for many of them religion was focused on an exact outward obedience to the law, and they believed that God only loved those that did as they did.

ii. **Pharisees** means *separated ones*. They separated themselves from everything they thought was unholy, and they thought everyone was separated from the love of God, except themselves.

iii. These men were **sitting by** with critical eyes and hearts, ready to twist and pounce upon some word of Jesus. Yet at least they were *there*. "We are glad to have these people 'sitting by' rather than not coming at all. Being in the way, the Lord may meet with them. If you go where shots are flying you may be wounded one of these days. Better to come and hear the gospel from a low motive than not to come at all." (Spurgeon)

b. **And the power of the Lord was present to heal them:** One might say that whenever Jesus was present, the **power of the Lord was present to heal**. Yet even in the ministry of Jesus there seemed to be times of a greater demonstration and reception of God's healing work.

i. There were times when Jesus did not do many miraculous works because of the general unbelief of His audience ([Matthew 13:58](#)).

ii. We note that the **power of the Lord was present to heal them** after Jesus *withdrew into the wilderness and prayed* ([Luke 5:16](#)).

c. **They went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus:** Because of the crowded room, the friends of the paralyzed man had to lower him down through the roof – certainly, an unusual interruption to a sermon.

i. **Through the tiling:** The roof was usually accessible by means of an outside stairway, and was made of thatch, dirt or tile set over beams. It could be taken apart, and the friends of the paralyzed man could lower their friend down to Jesus.

ii. This proved the determination and faith of friends of the paralytic. They counted on Jesus healing their friend, because it sure would be a lot harder to bring him back up through the roof than lowering him down.

iii. Spurgeon spoke of the quality of men who would bring a friend to Jesus in such a way: “They need be strong, for the burden is heavy; they need be resolute, for the work will try their faith; they need be prayerful, for otherwise they labor in vain; they must be believing, or they will be utterly useless.”

2. ([Luk 5:20-22](#)) Jesus declares the paralyzed man’s sins forgiven.

When He saw their faith, He said to him, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, “Why are you reasoning in your hearts?”

a. **When He saw their faith:** Jesus looked up at the four men struggling with crude ropes tied to each corner of the stretcher with a paralytic on it. He looked at them and **saw their faith**.

i. Their faith could be *seen*. Their bold, determined action to bring their friend to Jesus proved they had real faith. There is something lacking in faith if it can never be *seen*.

ii. In this account, the emphasis is on the faith of the *friends of the paralyzed man*. We need to have faith for more than our own needs, but also have faith that Jesus can and will meet the needs of others whom we bring to Him.

b. **Man, your sins are forgiven you:** We can imagine how the friends on the roof felt. They went to a lot of trouble to see their friend healed of his paralysis, and now the teacher seemed to only be concerned with his spiritual problems.

i. Jesus knew what the man’s *real* need was, and what his *greatest* need was. What good was it if the man had two whole legs, and walked right into hell with them?

ii. Jesus did not mean that the paralyzed man was especially sinful, or that his paralysis was directly caused by sin. Instead, He addressed the man’s greatest need, and the common root of all pain and suffering – man’s sinful condition.

c. **Who can forgive sins but God alone?** The religious leaders used the right kind of logic. They correctly believed that only God could forgive sins, and they were even correct for examining this new teacher. Their error was in refusing to see who Jesus actually was: God the Son, who has the authority to forgive sins.

i. “Again and again during the life of Christ the same dilemma was to re-appear. If he were not divine, then he was indeed a blasphemer; there could be no third way out.” (Cole)

ii. This reminds us that only God can solve our sin problem. We can’t even forgive ourselves, because we don’t have the power and authority to forgive ourselves. We must be persuaded that God has truly and rightly forgiven us in light of what Jesus did at the cross.

iii. “Our rest in the sense of forgiveness is always created by the certainty that it is the gift of the grace of God.” (Morgan)

3. ([Luk 5:23-26](#)) Jesus demonstrates the power and authority of God alone.

“Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise up and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”; He said to the man who was paralyzed,

“I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. And they were all amazed, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things today!”

a. **Which is easier, to say:** For men, both real forgiveness and the power to heal are impossible; but for God, both are easy. It is a logical assumption that if Jesus had the power to heal the man’s disease, He also had the authority to forgive his sins.

i. In a way, it was “harder” to heal the man than to forgive his sins, because forgiveness is invisible – no one could verify at that moment the man was forgiven before God. Yet it could be instantly verified whether or not the man could walk. Jesus was willing to put Himself to the test in a way where the results would be immediate.

b. **But that you may know that the Son of Man:** Jesus often referred to Himself as **the Son of Man**. The idea was not of the “perfect man” or the “ideal man” or even the “common man.” Instead, it was a reference to [Daniel 7:13-14](#), where the coming King of Glory, coming to judge the world, has the title *Son of Man*.

i. Jesus used this title often because in His day, it was a Messianic title free from political and nationalistic sentiment. Jesus could have more commonly referred to Himself as “King” or “Christ” but those titles, in the ears of His audience, sounded like “the One Who Will Defeat the Romans.”

ii. Robertson on **Son of Man**: “Christ’s favourite designation of himself, a claim to be the Messiah in terms that could not easily be attacked.”

c. **Immediately he arose:** Imagine the tension in this scene. The scribes were tense, because Jesus challenged them, and said He would demonstrate He was the Son of God. The paralyzed man was tense because he wondered if Jesus really would heal him. The crowd was tense because they sensed the tension of everyone else. The owner of the house was tense, because he wonders how much it would cost to repair his roof. And the four friends were tense, because they were tired by now. The only one *not* tense was Jesus, because He had perfect peace when He said, **“arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”** At those words, **immediately he arose**. Jesus’ *power* to heal and *authority* to forgive sins was **immediately** vindicated.

i. Imagine if Jesus *had failed*. His ministry would be shattered. The crowd would slowly makes their way out of the house. The scribes would smile and say, “He can’t heal *or* forgive.” The four men would struggle to pull up the paralyzed man who looked more dejected and embarrassed than ever. The homeowner would look at his roof and think it was all for nothing.

ii. But Jesus did not fail and could not fail, because all He needed to heal this man was *His word*. There is wonderful healing power in the word of Jesus, in the promises of Jesus, for those who *come to Him in faith*. This man came to Jesus in faith, even if it was on the borrowed faith of his friends.

d. **They were all amazed, and they glorified God and were filled with fear:** Jesus carried the day, and the people were **amazed** to see the power of God in action.