3's and PreK

(RE)SET

DATE(S)

March 28-29, 2009

LESSON TITLE

Week 6

OBJECTIVE

Kids will discover that God wants us to work together.

BIBLE STORY

4 friends take their friend to Jesus
Luke 5:17-26
Some men came carrying a man who could not walk. He was lying on a mat. They tried to take him into the house to place him in front of Jesus. They could not find a way to do this because of the crowd. So they went up on the roof. Then they lowered the man on his mat through the opening in the roof tiles. They lowered him into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw that they had faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

TIPS/SCHEDULE

3's – PreK: Oakley
Saturday
5:30 – Free time
5:40 – Large group in Pod
6:00 – Small Group

Sunday
8:30; 10:00; 11:45 – Free time
8:40; 10:15; 12:00 – Large Group in Pod
9:00; 11:35; 12:20 – Small Group

3's – PreK: Mason
Mason Sunday
9:00; 10:30 – Free time
9:10; 10:40 – Large Group
9:30; 11:00 – Small Group

LEADER PREP

The story of the 4 friends is amazing because the emphasis is on the friends and not necessarily the person who receives the miracle. Jesus healed the man because he saw the faith of the friends who brought him. Jesus shows his mercy by forgiving the man's sins (the greater need) and also giving him the ability to walk again.
That's a great picture of how God works in our lives. God uses us to help our friends meet Jesus and receive forgiveness for their sins--and Jesus also heals their brokenness, allowing them to walk again. Pray and then do something active this week to bring your friends closer to Jesus--maybe bring them with you to serve in Kids' Club!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Did you know...
A flea can jump 30,000 times without stopping

DAILY BREAKOUT

CHECKIN / CHECKOUT

When parents pick up their child, tell them we discovered that God wants us to work together. Make sure they get a parent page, too.

LARGE GROUP HEADS UP

We're going to be discovering how 4 friends brought their friend to Jesus and how we can work together to bring our friends to meet Jesus. Be sure to spread out among the kids during large group so you can help redirect them if need be.

SMALL GROUP

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

QUESTIONS

Ask the following questions:

1) What do you think Mat was thinking as his friends were carrying him to the house where Jesus was?

2) What do you think Jesus was thinking as Mat was being lowered down through the hole in the roof?

3) What do you think Mat did after he realized that Jesus had healed his legs and made them work? (praised God, jumped up and down, told everyone what had happened, ran really fast, jumped around like a crazy kangaroo, etc.)

4) What are some other ways God would want us to work together, like Mat's friends worked together?
(We can tell them what we know about Jesus, invite them to come with us to church, treat them the way Jesus would treat them, pray for them, etc.)

STUFF TO DO, SO THINGS AREN'T BORING

ACTIVITIES

We're going to practice working together to carry our friends to Jesus. As kids do the following activity, emphasize that God would like us to work together. Talk about different ways we can work together.

Use the towels and dolls in your room to give kids a chance to work together to carry "Mat". Allow 4 kids to work together by holding one of the four corners of the towel and then place the doll in the middle of the towel. Allow the kids to carry "Mat" around the room once or twice. Repeat the activity so that everyone has a chance.

NOTE: This should go without saying, but that's exactly why we gotta say it: Don't allow the kids (or adult volunteers) to carry a real kid inside the towel--just the doll! Accidents happen and we want to maintain a safe environment.

DAILY BREAKOUT CONT'D

SMALL GROUP

Play the 'Name Game'
(OPTIONAL IF TIME PERMITS)
It is best to play the 'Name Game' in smaller groups at your tables so that kids don't feel embarrassed to speak in front of a larger group. You may want to play it prior to going into Large Group as a way to prepare the kids for the rest of the hour.

Here's how to play:

Gather kids together in a group.

Explain the game to the kids and tell them there are two reasons we play it:
1. We want them to know that God knows each of us by name (we are special to God)
2. To help us learn each others' names

A volunteer leads the game and begins by pointing to a child. The child says his/her name. Then the entire group says "Jesus loves _____!" Then, the volunteer points to the next child.

Continue around the circle or table until every kid has a chance to say his or her name and hear that Jesus loves him! When the kids are finished, make sure you include the volunteers.

QUESTIONS

ACTIVITY

LARGE GROUP SCRIPT

SPECIAL NOTES

There are several props used in today's lesson so you'll want to make sure you know how and when to use them. Just as important, you'll need to develop a plan for putting the props somewhere out of the way when you're done with them--maybe back in the box when you're retrieving the next prop.

PRESENTER TIPS

When recreating a story, you've gotta bring all the energy and enthusiasm you've got (and then some). Don't be afraid to act a little silly or get super excited--the kids love it and respond to it. The more you let go, the better it feels--it's even therapeutic. They still think you're cool at this age for acting goofy, so go for it!

SCRIPT

Presenter: Hi everyone! Welcome to Kids' Club! Hmmmm…what's this??? (act surprised) It's a big box and it's in our way. We're going to need to move it before we can sing a song. I should move it up here (pointing to prop box on stage—or to another area out of the way) This box……(attempt to pick it up)…..is……REALLY……HEAVY! Whew! I can't lift it on my own, so I'm going to need a helper. (Choose one helper to help you lift the box. The box will be big, but the contents of the box won't weigh very much—you'll be able to lift it on your own. Your helper will think it is heavy due to the size.) Thanks so much for helping me because I can't do it alone. That took some extra muscles. Now that the box is out of our way, let's sing a song together. This song will require you to use your muscles, so let me see 'em! (flex for the kids to see)

Sing: Be Strong and Courageous

I sure am glad God helps us to be strong and courageous. Speaking of being strong and courageous…(pretending to notice the box again)...I forgot about this box and I wonder if we were supposed to look inside? I wonder what's inside...? (Open box and act excited) There are clues in here that will help me tell you about a time when 4 friends needed to be strong and courageous. (Take out Bible and hold it up for kids to see) The Bible tells us the true story of what happened when 4 friends took their friend to meet Jesus. Let me tell you about Mat.

Mat couldn't walk. And because Mat couldn't walk, he couldn't skip or jump or hop like a crazy kangaroo (show what hopping like a crazy kangaroo looks like—go ahead, the kids will love it!). (pull soccer ball out of the box) He couldn't play soccer or run fast like a cheetah or ride a bike. Mat's legs didn't work the way they were supposed to work, so he had to be carried from place to place in order to get around. He couldn't get anywhere on his own—he needed help.

SCRIPT CONT'D

(Pull first aid kit out of the box and hold it up for kids to see) When you and I get hurt we might use something in this box to make our boo boo better. Do you know anyone in the Bible that could have helped Ma--to make him better? (pause for responses) Yes—Jesus! Now Jesus happened to be near where Mat lived and he was teaching people about God and helping them to know what God is like. Wouldn't it be great if Mat could get to Jesus and then maybe Jesus could make Mat better? But remember, Mat couldn't walk, so how could he get to Jesus on his own?

Mat had four friends who loved him very much and guess what Mat's 4 friends did!? They decided to take Mat to see Jesus! I bet it was hard work to get Mat to the place where Jesus was, but Mat's friends knew he couldn't do it alone. (pull sheet/mat out of the box and unfold it for kids to see) So they placed Mat on a mat and carried him all the way to the house where Jesus was teaching.

So Mat's four friends arrived at the house where Jesus was but they had a problem. They couldn't get in to see Jesus because the house was so crowded. But they didn't let the crowded house stop them. The four friends decided to go up to the roof of the house and then they made a hole in the roof. (Pull rope out of the box) Then they lowered Mat through the hole down into the house, right in front of Jesus. Jesus saw that Mat's friends had worked together. He knew how much they loved their friend. Jesus told Mat to stand up. Remember, Mat couldn't walk, so how was he going to stand up? This is the amazing part! Jesus had made Mat's legs better—they now worked like legs were supposed to work. Mat could dance and leap and jump for joy—and that's what he did. (pull noise maker out of box) He praised God for making him better!!

Jesus had made Mat's legs better, but it happened because Mat's 4 friends worked together. If they hadn't worked together, he would have never met Jesus and he wouldn't have been able to walk. We can work together, too. We can work together so our friends can know about Jesus. We can tell them what we know about Jesus and we can invite them to come with us to church. We can work together.

Let's sing a song together. This song is probably the kind of song Mat sang the day when Jesus made his legs better.

Sing: Great Day

Pray: Let's talk to God right now.
Lead kids in the following prayer, breaking it into smaller phrases:

God you are amazing and you do amazing things! Thanks for making Mat better and thanks for his four friends that loved him. AAAAAAAAAAMEN!

Dismiss kids to small groups

SCRIPT CONT'D

NAME

PREP NEEDS

SMALL GROUP SUPPLIES

1 Set per room: towel and kid doll (not a baby doll--should be something like an old school My Buddy doll)

LARGE GROUP SUPPLIES

Large unmarked Box (around 3' x 3' x 3') with the following items inside: Beginner's Bible, first aid kit, soccer ball, mat or heavy-duty sheet (preferably something like a yoga/exercise mat that rolls up), heavy rope about 3 feet long and a noise maker

A/V NEEDS

Songs: Strong and Courageous
Great Day

NORP Slides

SPECIAL ROOM SET-UP

Box used for props should be placed in the middle of the stage, obviously in the way

CONNECT QUESTIONS

Tell me about Mat and his 4 friends
Did you get a parent page?

PARENT PAGE

We discovered that we can work together. There is a great story in the Bible (Luke 5:17-26) about 4 friends that worked together, even making a hole in a roof to get their friend to Jesus. Read it with your child and talk about ways we can work together. Get a towel or an exercise mat and place a doll on the mat. Get help from everyone in the family to carry the "friend" around the house.