

Bible Discovery

Hold up a Bible. **Today our Bible story shows us that Jesus is God's Son.** (Hallelujah!) **I'll need your help to tell what happened. Watch and do what I do!**

- Have Crews sit in knee-to-knee circles.
- **One day Jesus was teaching.** Make talking hands.
- **And there were a lot of people listening and learning.** Cup a hand behind your ear.
- **What kinds of things have you learned from a teacher?** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Teachers are wonderful! And on this day when Jesus was teaching, a lot of people were there—they came from all around! The people came to Jesus because Jesus could make sick people better.

- Have kids lie on the floor.
- Direct Crew Guides to touch kids' heads and say, "All better!"
- When tapped, have kids sit up quickly and say "Hallelujah!"

You were just pretending to be sick, but Jesus healed people who really were sick with just the touch of a hand or a couple of words from his mouth.

- Have everyone make a "Wow!" face.
- **Who helps you when you're sick?** Invite responses from the whole group.

Jesus is God's Son. (Hallelujah!) **So Jesus could do anything—including healing sick people. There is no one like Jesus.**

A lot of people wanted to see our amazing friend Jesus, so they all squished into a house where he was teaching. Let's squish together in a pretend house.

- Have everyone gather in one close huddle.

It's pretty squished in this house! Let's all take two steps away from others.

- Have kids count two steps as they spread out again.

One day, some men decided to bring their friend to Jesus. Their friend was paralyzed—which means he couldn't move his legs and walk—so his friends carried him on his sleeping mat.

- Have everyone hold out their arms as if they're holding a mat.
- Have everyone walk in place, still pretending to hold a mat.

Let's read what the friends did.

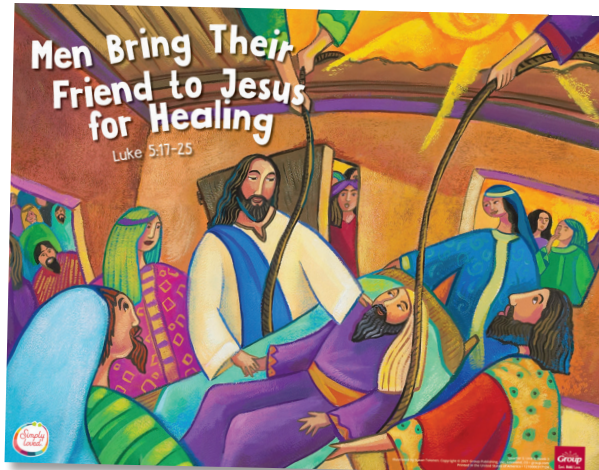
 Read aloud Luke 5:18-19.

Supplies

- Bible
- "Men Bring Their Friend to Jesus for Healing" Bible Story poster

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

Welcome a few responses. Be sure to summarize what kids say so everyone can hear.



Since everyone was so squished inside, they couldn't get in through the door. So the friends climbed onto the roof and made a hole in the roof. Oh my! Let's use our imaginations and climb up, too. Do what I do!

- Pretend to climb while still holding out arms as if holding a mat.
- Pretend to take off roof tiles and make a hole.
- Pretend to peek down through the hole and see Jesus.
- Lead kids to pretend to lower a mat down to Jesus.



Read the verses from the Bible. You're showing kids that God's Word is special. And don't worry; we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

Listen to what Jesus said when he saw the friend lowered through the roof right in front of him.



Read aloud Luke 5:20.

Show the Bible Story poster. That probably wasn't what the friends expected. The man couldn't walk, so they hoped Jesus would heal their friend's legs. Instead, Jesus forgave their friend and healed his heart. Only God's Son can do that, and **Jesus is God's Son.** (Hallelujah!)

Some other teachers heard what Jesus said, and they were mad that Jesus said he could forgive sins. Have everyone make a mad face. After all, no one except God can forgive the wrong things people do.

But **Jesus is God's Son.** (Hallelujah!) Jesus knew what these other teachers were thinking, and he told them, "I can forgive sins *and* make people better." Then Jesus told the man to get up, take his mat, and go home—and he did!

- Have everyone stand up and march in place.
- Lead a cheer for Jesus.

Jesus is God's Son. (Hallelujah!) The friends went to Jesus for help, and we can go to Jesus when we need help or when *our* friends need help. Let's do that right now! Let's talk with Jesus and ask him for some help.

- Get cozy in Connect Crew circles.
- **?** **What do you need Jesus to help you with?** Share a prayer request from your own life to begin, then invite Crews to talk.
- After kids have shared, ask Crew Guides to pray with their Crews.
- Close in prayer for the whole group.

Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today's Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.