

Lessons for the Leader

Do you have preschoolers with special needs in your group? Do the children help these children or shy away from them? Look at what four friends did.

- Read Mark 2:1-2. Jesus returned to Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm) and taught the people. Capernaum was a seaside community filled with people of many nationalities, with many beliefs. Jesus performed miracles and taught truths that led people to believe or not believe in Him.
- Read Mark 2:3-4. What did four friends do for one of their friends? Imagine the faith and belief all of these men had that Jesus would heal the man. Do you have that kind of faith? Would you go to extremes to help people experience a personal relationship with Jesus?
- Read Mark 2:5. Jesus saw the men's faith. Can people see your faith in Jesus? Or, is it all talk and no actions? Jesus forgave the man's sins. We do not emphasize this aspect of the story with preschoolers. However, it is important for adults to realize that the man believed Jesus could forgive him of his sins and heal him. Jesus can do that for you and anyone else today.
- Read Mark 2:6-12. What did the scribes or teachers struggle with about Jesus? The men had to choose whether to believe Jesus was divine and could forgive or to accuse Him of blasphemy. How did Jesus respond?
- Note that, at the time of this story, the element of conflict in response to Jesus' ministry arose. Those with crippled bodies or disturbed minds accepted Jesus because they needed help. Jesus healed them. Those least aware of their own needs in relationship to God attacked Jesus for what He did, said, and believed. Your actions can help people in need and lead them to know Jesus.

What do these symbols mean?

- ➔ **Application Activities Format:** Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.
- 1 Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.



Friends Helped a Paralyzed Man

Bible Passage: Mark 2:1-12

Key Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 15:11

Life Application

My actions can help other people.

Levels of Biblical Learning

(Community and World)

I can be a part of God's work. I can tell people in my community that Jesus loves them.

Session at a Glance

Introduction to Worship (6 to 8 minutes)

Greet Children

Play "Doctor, Please!"

Worship (30 minutes/45 minutes)

Sing "I Am Remarkably and Wonderfully Made"

Sing "I Know Jesus Loves You and Me"

Welcome Children and Pray

Sing "I Want to Be Like Jesus"

Jump to the Bible Verse

Find It

Tell the Bible Story

Review the Bible Story

Present Offering and Pray

Use Worship Guides

Take a Walk

Sing a Song

Transition

Application Activities (20 minutes)

Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

Introduction to Worship

1 → Greet Children

Pull It Together

Offering container

- Show children where to place offerings.

2 → Play "Doctor, Please!"

Pull It Together

Cardboard tubes (1 per child)

Teacher Tip

Roll heavyweight paper into tubes and tape closed to use in place of cardboard tubes.

- Distribute a tube to each child.
- Explain: "Everyone, find and stand beside a partner. I will call out exercises for you to do together. When you hear me say 'Doctor, please,' stop, and listen to your partner's heartbeat. Put the tube to your partner's chest and listen."
- Begin the activity.
- Lead children in motions such as hopping, running in place, jumping jacks, or arm twirls.
- Conclude: "We'll learn about a man who was paralyzed—he could not walk. The paralyzed man could not jump, run, or do exercises. That all changed when he met Jesus."
- Collect tubes.

Worship

3 Sing "I Am Remarkably and Wonderfully Made" (DVD, 2 minutes)

4 → Sing "I Know Jesus Loves You and Me" (DVD, 2 minutes)

5 → Welcome Children and Pray (3 minutes)

- Say: "I'm glad to see all our friends. Let's pray."
- Pray.
- Continue: "You walked, hopped, and ran in place like athletes! Did you like hearing your friends' heartbeats? *[Pause for responses.]* We'll hear how four friends helped a man who could not walk. Friends should help each other. Find four friends to hug right now."
- Encourage kids to hug one another.

6 Sing "I Want to Be Like Jesus" (DVD, 2 minutes)

7 → Jump to the Bible Verse (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

- Long piece of rope or jump rope, paper, marker
- Print Deuteronomy 15:11 from your preferred translation.
 - Recruit 2 adults to stretch out the rope about 1 foot off the floor.

Teacher Tip

Print "Deuteronomy 15:11 Paraphrase" (CD).

- Guide children to form a line on one side of the rope.
- Display and read aloud the verse.
- Instruct: "We'll take turns jumping over the rope. As you jump, say the next word of our Bible verse. I'll point to the words and help you."
- Encourage the first child to hop across the rope and say the first word of the Bible verse.
- Point to each word as each child jumps.
- Encourage kids to see how fast they can jump the rope and complete the Bible verse.

8 Find It (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print "Mark" (CD).

- Say: "Let's all sit down. Our Bible story is found in the Book of Mark. Stand up if you think the Book of Mark is in the Old Testament. Sit down. Stand up if you think the Book of Mark is in the New Testament. That's right! The Book of Mark is in the New Testament! You may sit down."
- Display the title.
- Continue: "Open your Bibles to the Book of Mark. It is the second book in the New Testament, right after the first book, Matthew. Our Bible story is from Mark 2. Who can find chapter 2?"
- Enlist adults to assist children.

9 → Tell the Bible Story (7 minutes)

- Say: "Everyone, show me a happy face *[pause for faces]*. Now, show me sad faces *[pause for faces]*. During our story, you will show happy and sad faces. I'll point to my face when you should show me a face. Listen to the story to know whether to show a happy or sad face."

- Open your Bible to Mark 12 and tell the story.
- Encourage preschoolers to make the appropriate face each time before continuing the story.

Friends Helped a Paralyzed Man

Based on Mark 2:1-12

Jesus was in Capernaum (kuh PUHR nay uhm) and people were excited to see Him. **[Happy]** Jesus was teaching in a house. So many people came to the house to hear Him teach, there was no room even in the doorways. **[Sad]**

A man was not able to walk. **[Sad]** Four of his friends carried him on a mat to the house where Jesus was teaching. **[Happy]** Since the men could not get into the house, they carried the friend to the roof. The men tore a hole into the roof above where Jesus was and lowered the mat with the man on it through the hole in the roof. **[Happy]**

When Jesus saw what the four friends were doing and how much they believed Him, He made the man well. **[Happy]** Jesus told the man to get up, take his mat, and go home.

Immediately the man got up, took his mat, and walked out. **[Happy]** Everyone was amazed because they had not seen anything like that happen before. The people praised God. **[Happy]**

10 → Review the Bible Story (4 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print "Teaching Picture 9 Friends" (CD).

- State: "God planned for friends to help each other. We can be part of God's work by helping people."
- Point to the men on the roof in the picture.
- Read aloud the following questions, pausing for responses: "How did the men help their friend? Who is the man in the middle? What happened to the man on the mat after he met Jesus?"
- Conclude: "We can help people in need, too. We can tell people Jesus loves them."

11 → Present Offering and Pray (2 minutes)

12 → Use Worship Guides (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

Worship Guides, pencils

- Distribute materials.
- Lead children to complete the activities on the Worship Guides.

13 Take a Walk (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

Index cards (1 per child), paper, scissors, marker, container, CD player, *Worship KidStyle Preschool Music CD***

- Number the cards (same number as children participating).
- Place the numbered cards on the floor in a large circle.
- Print the same numbers on small pieces of paper, cut apart, and place in the container.
- Place CD player where you can easily pause the music.

Teacher Tip

Enlist an adult to prepare items during the session.

- Guide each child to stand on a card.
- Instruct: "When the music plays, walk around the circle, stepping on the numbered cards. When the music stops, stand on a card."
- Play the music.
- Pause the music at random intervals, draw a number from the container, and call it out.
- Invite the child standing on that number to tell a way she can help others.
- Play several rounds.
- Conclude: "Our actions can help other people. Let's remember to help our families, friends, and other people."

14 Sing a Song (3 minutes)

Lyrics

Sing to the tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

Jesus helped the four men's friend

Jesus helped the man to walk

There are Bible words that tell

Jesus helped make people well

Jesus helped the four men's friend

Jesus helped the man to walk

- Say: "After the paralyzed man was healed, everyone praised God. Let's learn a song to help us remember the Bible story and praise Jesus."
- Teach and sing the song.

15 → Go to Application Activities or Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up

(Large Group Only Format)

16 Sing "What You Say" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 Review (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

"Teaching Picture 9 Friends" from step 10

- Display the picture.
- Invite several children to tell facts about the picture, such as who is teaching, why so many people were there, who is on the roof, and what happened to the man on the mat.
- Conclude: "The four friends' actions helped their friend. Our actions can help people."

18 Play a Game (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

Towel, inflated beach ball

Teacher Tip

Form several groups, providing extra towels and beach balls.

- Place children into two groups facing each other, about three feet apart.
- Say: "Stand shoulder to shoulder. Now, every other person will get on his knees." [*Designate first child to kneel.*]
- Help children to stand or kneel.
- Instruct: "Facing partners will hold the towel between them as I put the ball on it. Pass the towel to the next set of partners, trying not to drop the ball. We'll pass the ball down to the pair kneeling and up to the pair standing."
- Give first pair the towel and place the ball on it.
- Encourage the pair to pass the towel and ball.
- Continue passing the towel/ball to the end of the line, replacing the ball if it falls off the towel.
- Invite children to switch positions (standing/kneeling) and return the ball/towel down the line.
- State: "We helped each other pass the towel and ball. We had to pass the towel down to someone or up to someone. We had to think of how to help the next people get the towel and keep the ball on it. We can help our families and friends anytime. Our actions can help people."

19 Dismiss Children to Parents

Week of July 29, 2012

Wrap-Up

(Application Activities Format)

16 → Sing "What You Say" (DVD, 2 minutes)

17 → Highlight Application Activities (2 minutes)

- Ask: "Did you enjoy the activities today?"
- Call on several children to tell what they did in their Application Activities.
 - ➔ Arts and Crafts—Paint and Draw
 - ➔ Dramatic Play—Explore Special Needs Equipment
 - ➔ Games—Enjoy Carry Races
 - ➔ Exploration and Discovery—Discover Ways to Help Others

18 → Review (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

"Teaching Picture 9 Friends" from step 10

- Display the picture.
- Invite several children to tell about the picture, answering who is teaching, why there are so many people, who is on the roof, and what happened to the man on the mat.
- Conclude: "The four friends' actions helped their friend. Our actions can help people."

19 → Make Application (3 minutes)

Pull It Together

Scissors

- Print "Special Needs Equipment" (CD).
- Say: "We learned about special needs equipment in some of our activities. If you know someone who uses one of these items, raise your hands when I say it."
- Display and call out each item pictured.
- Comment: "We can learn our actions can help people. We can help open doors, carry things, push people in wheelchairs, and even step out of the way for people to go by to help. The four friends helped. We can help, too."

20 → Dismiss Children to Parents

***Worship KidStyle Music CD* (005075283.2012-SUM) may be ordered through LifeWay Christian Resources Customer Service Center at 1-800-458-2772 or online at www.lifeway.com.

**Giant Game Floor Mat* (001114564) may be ordered through LifeWay Christian Resources Customer Service Center at 1.800.458.2772 or online at www.lifeway.com.

Application Activities

Select from the following choices. Each choice is designed for 20 minutes of small group time.

Pull It Together

Paper (construction, copy), tempera paints, paint containers, paintbrushes, painting smocks (1 per child), 3 boxes, box cutter (teacher use only), markers and crayons, hat, tape, scissors

- Cut 2 holes in one side of each box. Make holes large enough for kids to put their hands through them to draw.
- Cut paper strips to fit inside the box.
- Tape a paintbrush to the top of the hat for each kid to paint from his head.
- Set up the 3 areas with the supplies (drawing area, 2 painting areas).

Teacher Tips

- Place dropcloth under painting areas.
- Suggest each kid hold the hat on his head with his hands or let adults assist.
- Use a kid's hard construction hat.
- Be sensitive to children or families who have disabilities or special needs.

Pull It Together

Scissors, blanket, wheelchair, crutches, canes

- Print and cut apart 2 sets of "Special Needs Equipment" (CD).

Teacher Tip

Monitor kids closely as they use the equipment.

Worship Through Arts and Crafts

Paint and Draw

- Say: "Four friends helped their paralyzed friend. Today, many people are paralyzed, or have other disabilities or special needs. *Paralyzed* means 'not able to move.' Any part of a person's body can be paralyzed. A *disability* limits a person's movements or senses. *Special needs* can include being paralyzed, having disabilities, or needing a job, food, or a place to live. We're going to draw and paint today as if we have a disability."
- Tell about each area as you help kids put on smocks.
- ➔ Draw Without Looking
- Place paper in box and close the lid. Guide kids to choose markers, put hands inside holes, and draw on the paper.
- ➔ Paint With 'Other' Hand
- Direct kids to tell which hand they write or eat with. Lead each child to put the paintbrush in the opposite hand to paint.
- Suggest kids paint people helping or a scene from the Bible story.
- ➔ Paint With Brush on Hat
- Help each child put a hat on his head, bend over to dip the brush in paint, and paint on the paper without using his hands.
- Direct kids as they rotate through the activities.
- Lead children to clean hands and remove smocks.
- Say: "Our actions can help other people. The friends' actions helped their friend. Jesus healed the man. Let's help people in need."
- Pray.

Worship Through Dramatic Play

Explore Specials Needs Equipment

- Say: "Four friends helped their paralyzed friend see Jesus. What does *paralyzed* mean?" Invite responses.
- Continue: "*Paralyzed* means 'not able to move.' A person's arm, leg, or other parts of his body can be paralyzed. The man in the story could not walk. Jesus healed the man and he could walk. Paralyzed people use special equipment to help them get around. Let's explore special needs equipment."
- Encourage kids to use the equipment, modeling how to use each item.
- Invite kids to play matching games with the pictures.
- Allow kids to gently pull one another on the blanket across the floor.
- Talk about the Bible story.
- State the Bible verse (Deuteronomy 15:11).
- Comment: "The men's actions helped their friend. Our actions can help people. We can help people with special needs who might use this equipment. We can also help people who have other needs. We can give money, time, and other items such as food and clothing to help people."
- Pray.

Pull It Together

Beach towels (1 per team), beach balls (1 per team), large container, tape

- Tape a starting line at one end of room.
- Put container at opposite end of room from starting line.

Pull It Together

Large container, filler (rice, beans, unpopped popcorn kernels), coins, bandages, doctor kit play set contents, food labels, small clothing items, sympathy or other card

- Place small items in the container and cover.
- Print "Allergy Alert," list filler, and post.

Teacher Tip

Hide items around the classroom instead of using the filled container.

Suggestions

Bandages: help when someone gets hurt; visit someone in hospital or nursing home

Coins: give money for missions, food, gas, bills

Doctor Kit Items: go on mission trips; pray for people on mission trips; pray for doctors and health professionals who treat people

Food Labels: give food to food pantry or mission; make a meal for someone

Clothing: give or buy clothes for clothes closet or mission trip

Cards: write and send cards or letters

Worship Through Games

Enjoy Carry Races

- Lead children to form groups of up to four players each.
- Give each team a beach towel.
- Instruct: "Teams will try to keep the balls on the towels as they carry the balls to the container and drop them in. If your team's ball falls off, pick it up, put it back on your towel, and continue the race. Once you drop your ball in the container, return to the starting line, still carrying your towel. Each team member, hold onto an end of your towel. I'll put the balls on the towels and say 'go.' Wait until I say 'go' to move."
- Help children hold towels correctly as you place balls on the towels.
- Run the race.
- Return the balls to the teams to race again.
- Suggest different ways for the children to carry the balls on the towels (up high, down low, different numbers of children working together).
- Encourage children to switch groups and race again.
- Say: "The man's friends carried him on a mat and lowered him in front of Jesus. Their actions helped their friend. Jesus healed the man. Our actions can help other people. What are some actions we can do to help people?"
- Invite responses.
- Pray.

Worship Through Exploration and Discovery

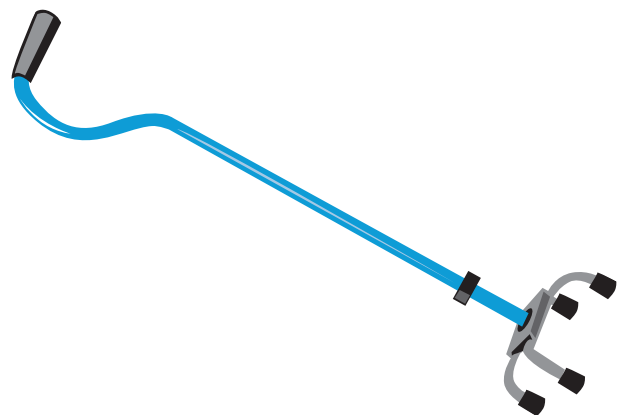
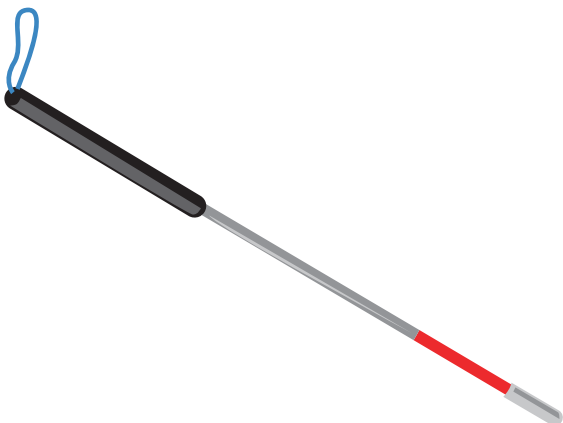
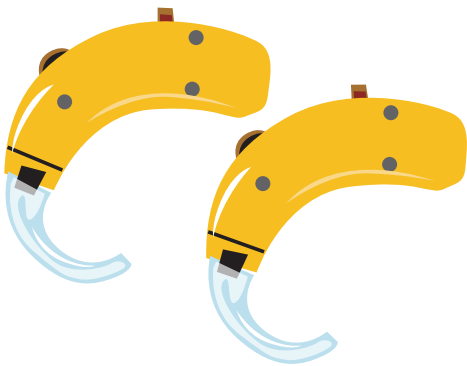
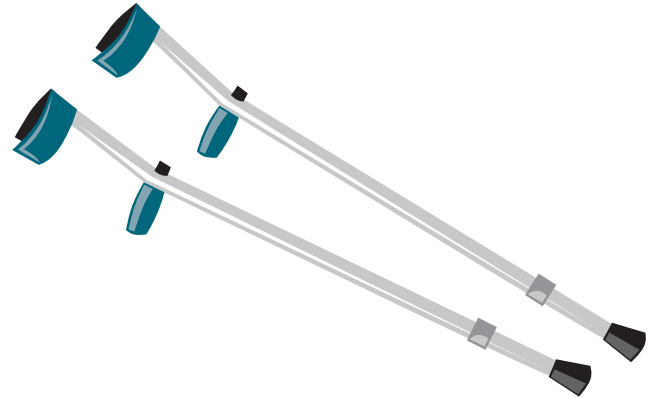
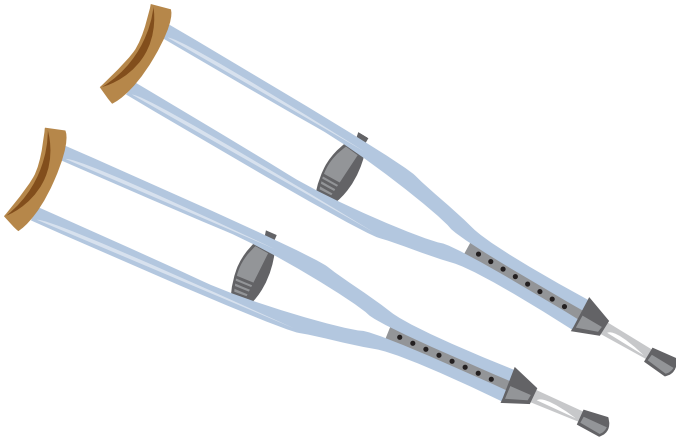
Discover Ways to Help Others

- Say: "We can do many things to help other people. Let's discover some of these actions."
- Invite each child to remove one item from the container.
- Lead kids to tell what their items are and how they can be used to help people.
- Encourage kids to tell other ways the items can be used to help people.
- Say: "When we help others, the people may ask why we help. We can tell the people we help because Jesus wants us to help."
- Talk about the Bible story.
- Hide the items again.
- Describe a way to help. [See sidebar for suggestions.]
- Invite a child to find the item that could be used to help in that way.
- Continue until each child finds an item.
- Say: "The man's friends carried him on a mat and lowered him in front of Jesus. Their actions helped their friend. Jesus healed the man. Our actions can help other people."
- Pray.



Mark





Help people in need.

Deuteronomy 15:11

Allergy Alert

Please notify a teacher if your child has any known allergy.
We will be using the following items today.

