



Resource Pack

Children's ministry resources & activities for groups & families exploring this week's theme.

stbartskids.org



WEEK 4

Healing Paralysed Man

The Gospel of John / John 5:1-15

OVERVIEW

GATHER

READ

CHAT

DO

PRAY



SO THAT YOU MIGHT **BELIEVE**

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



Healing Paralysed Man

John 5:1-18



HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This resource has been written and produced by St Bart's Kids and we're delighted to be able to share this curriculum with you. We pray that it would be an amazing tool to aid teaching and learning occurring either at home or within your children's ministry setting.

This package is part of a series based on **the Gospel of John**. The items within this package all pertain to **one session**.

The tabs on this document will help guide the main sections that should be incorporated within a session. Within each section you will find modifications for different age/learning levels - look for the tags Early Childhood, Lower Primary, Middle Primary, and Upper Primary.

All of the items within
If you have any questions or would like to know more about St Bart's Kids resources, please contact hello@stbartskids.org

TIMING

Welcome and play	15mins
Teaching Time (includes morning tea for Early Childhood)	15mins
Game (Kindy - Year 6 only)	10mins
Small Groups/Activities	20mins
Worship	10mins
Check-out	

MATERIALS

- Play Medical Sets
- Plastic Tweezers
- Band-aids
- Bandages
- Tuff tray (or table)
- Medium flat container (to hold a small amount of water) - use as the pool
- Wooden or figurine people dolls
- Building structures, trees, or other surrounding features
- Small ribbons to use as bandages or sticks as crutches
- Prayer dice
- Printout of Worksheet #1 onto red card
- Scissors
- Band-aids
- Large Cardstock (or matt board)
- Ribbons or long paper strips
- Tea towels (or pillowcase)
- Small teddy bears
- Outdoor space
- Printout of Worksheet #1 onto red card
- Scissors
- Band-aids
- A3 Printout Worksheet #2 Sick people
- 2 Boxes of Band-aids
- Blu-tac
- Printout of Worksheet #3
- Scissors
- Blutac
- Printout of Colour by Number
- Colouring Pencils (need: light grey, dark grey, light blue, beige, red, brown, black, light olive)
- A4 coloured card
- A5 coloured card strips
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Pens
- Cones/markers

ADDITIONAL INFO

This resource is the fourth in a twelve week series based on the Gospel of John.

SESSION OUTLINE

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

WEEK

4

OVERVIEW

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

SERIES OVERVIEW

The Gospel of John is unique in the New Testament. Where the Gospel of Mark begins with Jesus' launch into ministry, Luke opens with the foretelling of John the Baptist's birth, and Matthew commences with a summary of Jesus' genealogy, John transports us much further back: to the very beginning! In the beginning was the Word!

Right from the opening words of John, he not only shows us the supremacy and glory of Jesus, but he calls us to recognise and respond to Jesus. John's intent is not only to provide a faithful account of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, but so that this news would cause a change in us. That we would believe that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God. The purpose of John's Gospel—as Don Carson put it—is to make us believers.

MULTIMEDIA

1. [SBK Kids Talk](#)
2. [Jesus heals at the pool \(John 5\)](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Here are some resources we recommend for helping teach the Gospel to kids.

1. [The Book of John in Song for Kids](#)
2. [God's Story: John](#)

SONGS

EARLY CHILDHOOD

1. [My God is so big and Mighty](#)
2. [God is Good](#)
3. [Jesus Loves Me](#)

SONGS

PRIMARY

1. [You Forgive Me](#)
2. [I'm Trusting You](#)
3. [My hope is in the Lord](#)

GATHER

READ

CHAT

DO

PRAY



SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

TEACHING TIME

Healing a Paralysed Man

People often came to Jesus because they needed help: like the royal official whose son was very sick. Jesus spoke - and the boy was healed.

Some time later, Jesus was visiting Jerusalem, when he met a man who spent his time lying by a pool that had a reputation for healing when its waters bubbled up. The man had been unable to walk for nearly 40 years - but every time the waters started to bubble, he was never fast enough to get to the water. He needed someone to help him but there was no one. Someone always beat him. *How would you feel if that were you?*

Jesus already knew about the man - and he asked him what seems to be a strange question: *Do you want to be well?*

The man had no idea who Jesus was, so he told him his problem: *I have no one to help me get to the pool.*

The man thought this problem could only be solved if someone helped him to the pool. But when Jesus said: *Stand up, pick up your mat and walk....* the man did was instantly healed. After 38 years!

And Jesus slips away from the attention.

You'd think everyone would be excited and happy. But some people complained because Jesus had healed a man on the Sabbath when people were not supposed to work. They didn't want to believe that Jesus could possibly be God.

But the man believed! Jesus later found him in the temple, and he told him: *Make sure you stop sinning.* Physical healing was not the only thing that the man needed. He needed to keep his whole life right before God. .

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Early Childhood

What is so good about knowing Jesus?

2. Lower Primary

Jesus can heal our bodies and forgive our sin. How can we thank him?

3. Middle Primary

When your body feels hurt, or perhaps you've been hurt by someone, what could you say to Jesus?

4. Upper Primary

Are there 'broken' things in our lives or our communities that we could ask Jesus to heal?

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

WARM-UPS

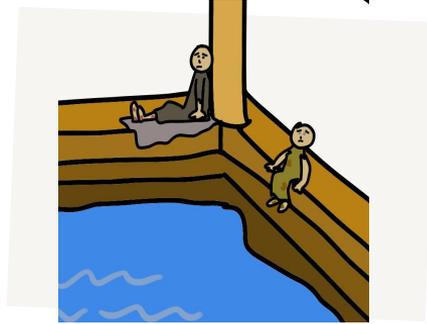
- *Who are the people you turn to when you need help?*
- *Can you imagine needing help and not having **anyone** to help you?*

Early Childhood

Healing Paralysed Man



In Jerusalem there was a special pool where sick people went to be healed.



Sometimes an angel would visit and stir up the water. The first person into the pool would be healed.



One man who sat by the pool hadn't been able to walk for 38 years.

Early Childhood



Jesus asked the man if he wanted to get well.

“Yes!” the disabled man replied.

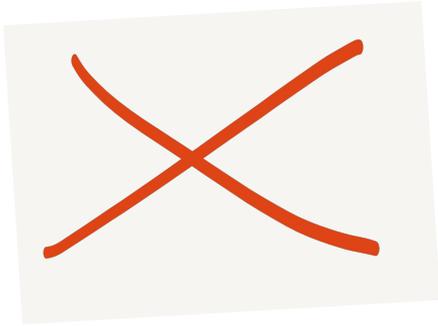


Jesus told the man to get up and to pick up his mat and walk.



The man was healed right away. He picked up his mat and walked.

Early Childhood



This happened on a day when the law said you were not to work or carry your mat (the Sabbath).



This made the Jewish leaders angry. They asked the man why he was carrying his mat.



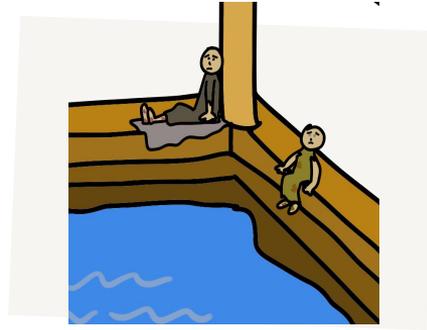
The man told them all that had happened and that it was Jesus who healed him.

Lower Primary

Healing Paralysed Man



1-2 In Jerusalem there was a pool where lots of disabled people gathered, hoping to be healed.



3-4 An angel used to visit the pool sometimes and stir up the waters. When that happened, the first person into the pool would be healed.

Lower Primary



5 A man was there who hadn't been able to walk for 38 years, but he could never get into the pool first.



6-7 Jesus knew that, and asked the man if he wanted to get well.

"Of course," the disabled man replied.

Lower Primary



8-9 Then Jesus said to him, “Get up!
Pick up your mat and walk.”

The man was healed right away. He
picked up his mat and walked.



9-10 This happened on a Sabbath day
- a day when the law said you were
not to work or carry your mat.

So the Jewish leaders went to the
man and asked why he was carrying
his mat.

Lower Primary



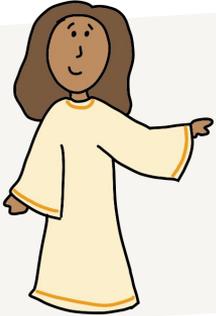
11-12 But the man replied, “the man who healed me told me to pick up my mat and walk.” And they all wondered who the healer was.

Believe

13-14 Later, Jesus found the man who had been healed.

“It’s great to see that you’re well again,” Jesus said. “But make sure you stop sinning, or something worse may happen to you.”

Lower Primary



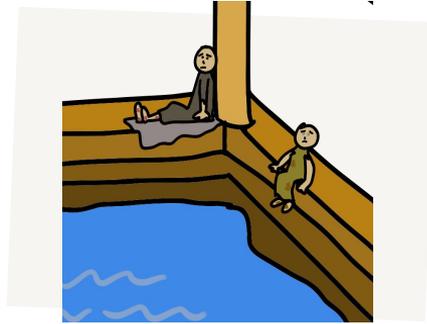
15 The man then went and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had healed him.

Middle Primary

Healing Paralysed Man



1-2 Jesus was in Jerusalem. Nearby there was a pool called Bethesda. Lots of disabled people used to lie down near the pool.



3-4 Among them were those who were blind, those who could not walk, and those who could hardly move.



5-6 One of them hadn't been able to walk for 38 years. Jesus saw him lying there. He knew that the man had suffered from this condition for so long. So he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

Middle Primary



7 “Sir,” the disabled man replied, “I have no one to help me get into the pool when an angel stirs up the water. I try to get in, but someone else always beats me to it.”



8-9 Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” The man was healed right away. He picked up his mat and walked.



10 This happened on a Sabbath day. So the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, “The law doesn’t allow you to carry your mat on the Sabbath day.”

Middle Primary



11 But the man replied, “The one who made me well told me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”

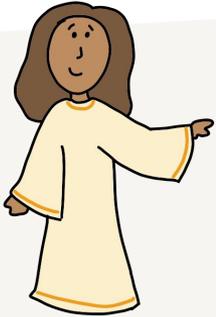


12 They asked him, “Who is this man who told you to pick it up and walk?”

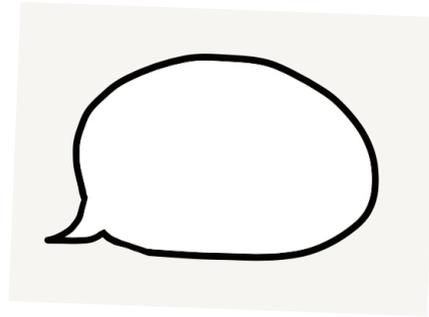


13 The one who was healed had no idea who he was. Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

Middle Primary



14 Later Jesus found him at the temple. Jesus said to him, “It’s great that you’re well again. But make sure you stop sinning, or something worse may happen to you.” stbartskids.org



15 The man discovered it was Jesus who’d made him well. So he went and told the Jewish leaders.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

View SBK ebook John 5: 1-15

1. **When do you need people to help you?**

2. **What sort of help did the people lying around the pool need?**

They had different disabilities and they wanted to be healed. *Talk about the kinds of healing they might have wanted (hearing and sight restored; being able to walk again.....)*

3. **Why do they go to the pool?**

They believed that if you could get to the water when it suddenly started to bubble up, they could be healed. But you'd have to be quick!

4. **Jesus talks to one man. How long had he been unable to walk?**

38 years. That's a very long time.

5. **What did Jesus ask the man to do?**

- (a) Go home
- (b) Find friends to help him get to the water
- (c) Get up; pick up your mat. And walk,

6. **How do you think the man felt when he could walk again?** Excited. Happy. Grateful.

7. **How was Jesus able to do this?**

He is God.

Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk". At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. John 5:8-9

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

Early Childhood

PRAYER

Dear God,
 THANK YOU that Jesus has power over all things, even sickness.
 THANK YOU that Jesus brings life.
 HELP US to listen and obey Jesus.
 Amen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read SBK Scripture - Lower Primary (John 5: 1-15)

1. **When do you need people to help you?**2. **What sort of help did the people lying around the pool need?**

They had different disabilities and they wanted to be healed. *Talk about the kinds of healing they might have wanted (hearing and sight restored; being able to walk again.....)*

3. **Why do they go to the pool?**

They believed that if you could get to the water when it suddenly started to bubble up, they could be healed. But you'd have to be quick!

4. **Jesus stopped to talk to one man. The man knew nothing about Jesus. But what did Jesus know about the man?**

He had not been able to walk for 38 years. That's a very long time!

5. **What did Jesus ask him?**

Do you want to get better?

6. **I wonder what the man thought Jesus would do? Remember that he hasn't heard of Jesus!**

Perhaps Jesus might help him get to the water. Or give him food or money.....

7. **Instead what does Jesus tell him to do?**

Get up! Pick up your mat. Walk.

8. **What happened next?**

He was instantly healed. He got up, picked up his mat and walked.

9. **How would you have felt if you'd been there?**

Surprised. Excited. Happy.

10. **Why were some people unhappy?**

Jesus had healed on the Sabbath. They were angry because it was supposed to be a day of rest. They didn't want to believe that Jesus could do these things because he was God.

11. **Jesus finds the man again to tell him: *Stop sinning.* Why did he say that?**

Because all of us needs to be put right - not just our bodies.

Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk". At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.
John 5:8-9

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

Lower Primary

PRAYER

Gracious Father,

Thank you that Jesus brings life and healing.

Help us to see the authority he has, and respond willingly to all he says and commands.

Amen.

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

Middle Primary

PRAYER

Gracious Father,

Thank you that Jesus brings life and healing.

Help us to see the authority he has, and respond willingly to all he says and commands.

Amen.

Read SBK Middle Primary Scripture (John 5: 1-15)

Have you ever been in a situation when you needed a lot of help?

- How do you think all those people who lay by the pool, were feeling as they waited for the waters to bubble up?** Talk together about their excitement, the fear of missing out - perhaps even jealousy.
- Why do you think Jesus asked the man who hadn't been able to walk for so long, if he wanted to be well v6?** Jesus seems to be asking an obvious question. But the man did not know that he was speaking to Jesus and that Jesus had power to heal him.
- What help is the man looking for v7?** Someone to help him get to the water. That seems to be the solution he wanted.
- How is Jesus' response very different from what he expected v8?** He was healed instantly.
- How can Jesus do that?**
Can you think of other miracles of healing Jesus has performed? Jesus has authority over everything because he is God. Encourage children to talk about other miracles that show Jesus' power to heal.
- Why weren't the Jewish leaders happy v10?**
They were concerned because Jesus had done 'work' on the Sabbath which was meant to be a day of rest for everyone. ,
They was so cross about this that they couldn't be happy for the man Jesus had healed!
- Jesus finds the man in the temple. How do we know that Jesus is interested in more than physical healing v14-16?**
He deliberately went to find the man, and told him to stop sinning. .
- Because Jesus is God, we can ask him to heal our hurts.** Talk together about needs for physical healing. Or for the healing of broken friendships,, anxiety - or hurtful things that have been said.
Remind children that God can heal.

*Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk". At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.
John 5:8-9*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read John 5: 1-17 in Nlrv Bible

- 1. Have you ever been in a situation when you felt helpless? Invite children to share.**
 - 2. How do you think all those people who lay by the pool, were feeling as they waited for the waters to bubble up?** Talk together about the anticipation, the fear of missing out - perhaps even jealousy.
 - 3. What seems strange about the question that Jesus asks the man who had been unable to walk for 38 years v6?**
Jesus seems to be asking an obvious question. But the man did not know that he was speaking to Jesus and that Jesus had power to heal him.
 - 4. What help is the man looking for? (verse 7)**
Someone to help him get to the water. That seems to be the solution he wanted.
 - 5. How is Jesus' response very different from what he expected? (verse 8)**
He was healed instantly.
 - 6. How was this possible? When have we seen this happen before?**
Jesus has authority over everything because he is God. Encourage children to talk about other miracles that show Jesus' power to heal.
 - 7. How did Jesus point out that healing is more than just physical healing of our bodies v14-16?**
He deliberately went to find the man in the temple, and told him to stop sinning.
 - 8. Why weren't the Jewish leaders happy?**
Jesus had done 'work' on the Sabbath which was meant to be a day of rest for everyone. They were so cross about this that they couldn't be happy for the man or excited about Jesus' power to heal.
 - 9. How did Jesus' answer in v16 make them angry?**
He was claiming to be doing the same healing work as his Father: that he was equal with God.
 - 10. Because Jesus is God, we can ask him to heal our hurts.**
Talk together about needs for physical healing. Or for the healing of broken friendships, anxiety - or hurtful things that have been said. Remind children that God can heal, however he may not heal all people. But just because we don't understand his timing, doesn't mean that he doesn't care. We can trust that God has a bigger and better plan than we can imagine.
- Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk". At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.*
John 5:8-9

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

Upper Primary

PRAYER

Gracious Father,

Thank you that Jesus brings life and healing.

Help us to see the authority he has, and respond willingly to all he says and commands.

Amen.

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Dear God,

THANK YOU that Jesus has power over all things, even sickness.

THANK YOU that Jesus brings life.

HELP US to listen and obey Jesus.

Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Gracious Father,

Thank you that Jesus brings life and healing.

Help us to see the authority he has, and respond willingly to all he says and commands.

Amen.

TIPS

Pray for all those who are unwell or in need of healing.

Early Childhood

Dear God,

THANK YOU that Jesus has power over all things, even sickness.

THANK YOU that Jesus brings life.

HELP US to listen and obey Jesus.

Amen.

Sunday School

Gracious Father,

Thank you that Jesus brings life and healing.

Help us to see the authority he has, and respond willingly to all he says and commands.

Amen.

FOCUS

Jesus has authority to heal and Jesus tells us that he is equal to God.

In this section, you'll find activities for Early Childhood and Primary School aged kids. There's a range of crafts, activities and games suitable for both individuals and groups.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

- Medical Play
- Godly Play: man at the pool
- Prayer Dice
- Heal our Hurts (hearts)
- Group Mat Weaving (Kindy)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Heal our Hurts (P)
- Bandaid Relay (P)
- Treasure Hunt - find the story (1-2)
- Pixel Perfect - Colour by Number (3-4)
- Mat Weaving (5-6)

GAMES

- Carry a Friend (teddy edition) (Kindy)
- Carry a Friend (person edition) (P-6)

Medical Play

YOU'LL NEED...

- Play Medical Sets
- Plastic Tweezers
- Band-aids
- Bandages

STEPS

1. Have some play doctor's sets available for the children to play with.
2. Encourage them to pretend they are a medical worker and examining someone else - checking their pulse, heart beat, temperature, giving medicine, getting the patient to lie down, etc.
3. Talk about what doctors and nurses and medical staff do and their role in helping keep other people healthy.
4. Explain that while they can help use medicine to heal us, that in the story today Jesus healed the paralysed man, just by saying the words.



Link

Jesus healed the paralysed son just by using words.

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

STEPS

1. Set up the table into a scene that may resemble the pools of Bethesda.
2. Allow the children to play with the figurine dolls and even assist to retell today's story about the healing of the paralysed man.

YOU'LL NEED...

- Tuff tray (or table)
- Medium flat container (to hold a small amount of water) - use as the pool
- Wooden or figurine people dolls
- Building structures, trees, or other surrounding features
- Small ribbons to use as bandages or sticks as crutches



Link

Jesus healed the paralysed son just by using words.

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

STEPS

1. Gather the children and show them the prayer dice and all of the different prayer picture prompts on the sides. Draw attention to the 'Pray for the hurting' side and reflect on how we can pray for those who are sick, sad, suffering, dying - for healing and that God might comfort them.
2. Demonstrate how to roll the dice and then say a short prayer based on what it displayed facing upwards.
3. Take turns to roll the dice and pray together.



Link

We can pray for those who are hurting, along for our world, our friends, our family, the church.

Prayer Dice

YOU'LL NEED...

- Prayer Dice



For my family



For my friends



For the hurting



For the world



**Thank you
Jesus for**



For the church

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

STEPS

1. Cut out the red hearts.
2. Assist the children in unwrapping a bandaid and peeling off the back cover in order to stick it onto the heart.



Link

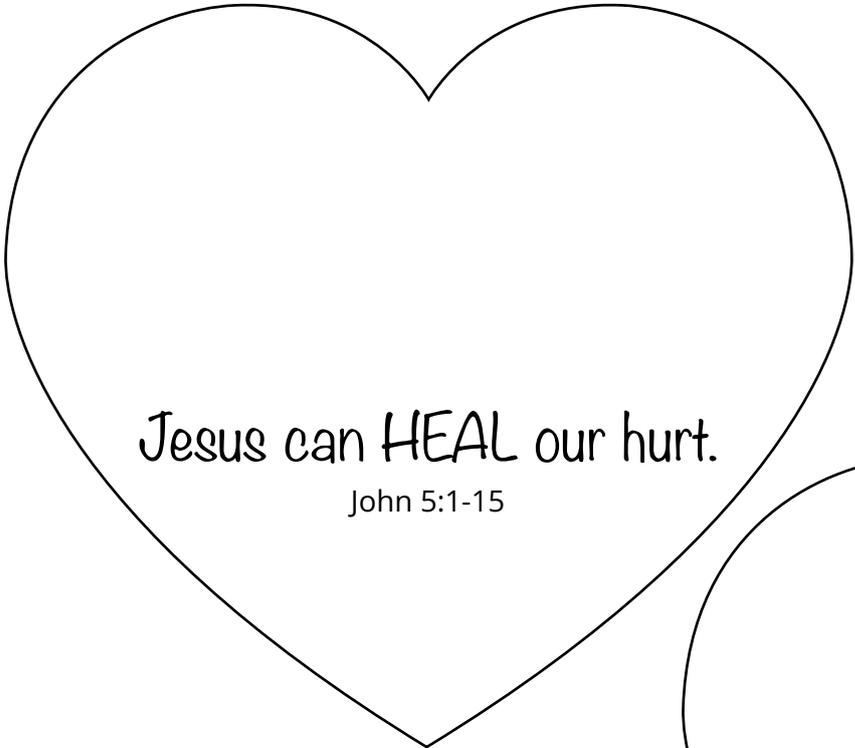
Jesus healed the disabled man, not the fizzy water.

Heal our Hurts (Hearts)

YOU'LL NEED...

- Printout of Worksheet #1 onto red card
- Scissors
- Band-aids

The printout of the HEALING HEARTS can be found on the following page.



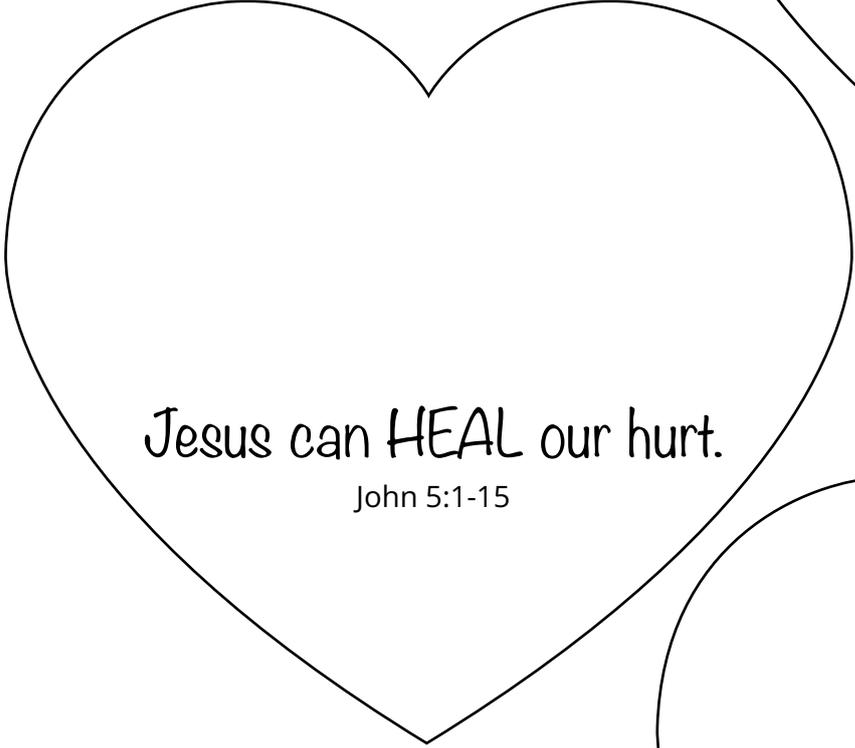
Jesus can HEAL our hurt.

John 5:1-15



Jesus can HEAL our hurt.

John 5:1-15



Jesus can HEAL our hurt.

John 5:1-15



Jesus can HEAL our hurt.

John 5:1-15

Group Mat Weaving

YOU'LL NEED...

- Large Cardstock (or matt board)
- Ribbons or long paper strips

STEPS

1. Pre-cut vertical lines in the matt board, ensuring you stop and start at least 1 inch from each end.
2. Using the ribbons (or coloured card strips), have the children come forward and weave in and out from one side to the other (up down up down). Push the strip up towards the top end.
3. Then repeat with the next strip of paper, but this time weaving in opposite format to previous (down up down up). Continue until the strips cover the whole area, forming a colourful mat!



Link

Jesus said, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." Mats in Jesus' times were often simple woven items made from reeds. Today, we will make a paper version, to remind us of this story.

Bandaid Relay

YOU'LL NEED...

- A3 Printout Worksheet #2 Sick people
- 2 Boxes of Bandaids
- Blu-tac

STEPS

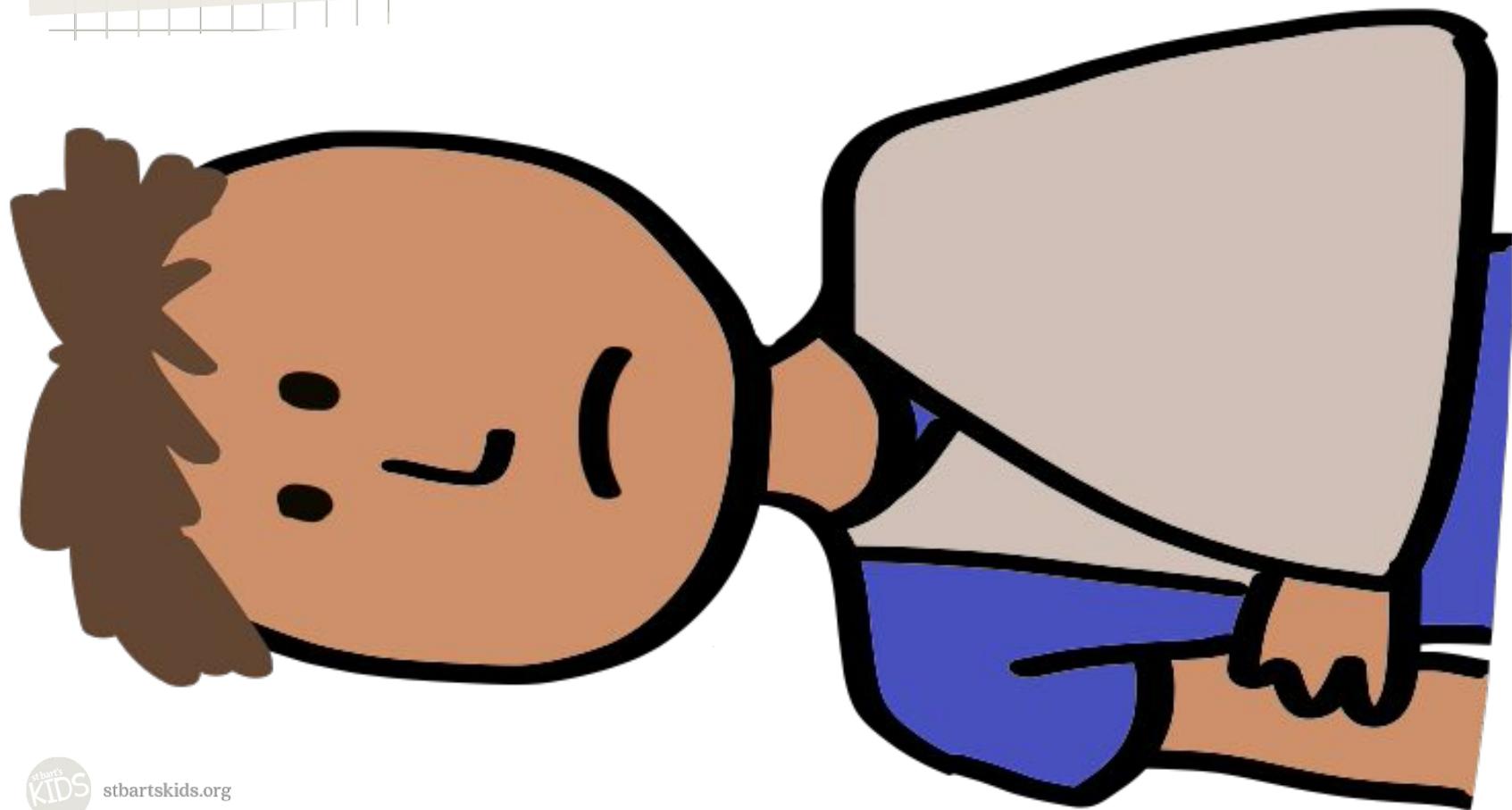
1. Blu-tac the "Sick people" posters at the end of the room.
2. Split the children into 2 teams.
3. Have a timer and set for 5 minutes (or a time of your choosing). Explain that the game is a relay, where each team sends one runner up to the poster at a time.
4. Once at the poster, they need to peel a bandaid wrapper off and stick the bandaid on the sick person (children may need help opening the bandaid).
5. When the timer is done, count how many bandaids each group got on their person to see who the winner is.



Link

Jesus healed the official's son just by saying the words.





SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

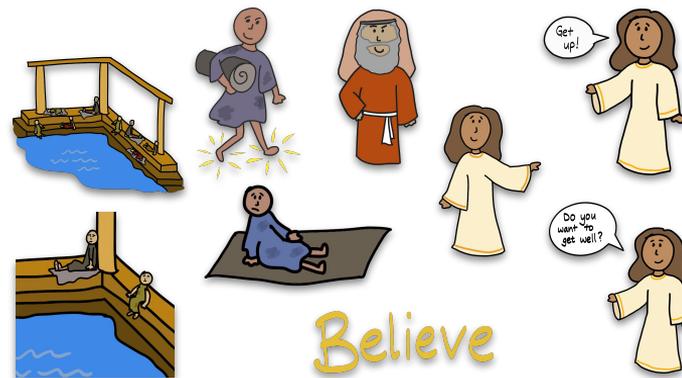
John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralyse Man

STEPS

1. Fill bottles/containers with water.
2. Ask the children what colour the water is. Then add a couple of drops of food colouring to the water and mix. Allow the children to describe what happened. *(Let the children know that what happened here just changed the colour, not the taste or texture of the water. However when Jesus changed water into wine, it was a miracle!)*
3. Let the children play with the water with the containers, funnels and other objects, practising pouring from one container into another.



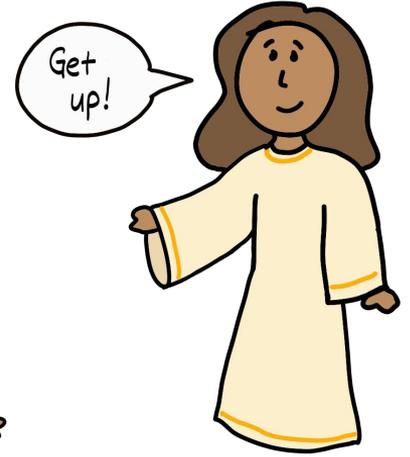
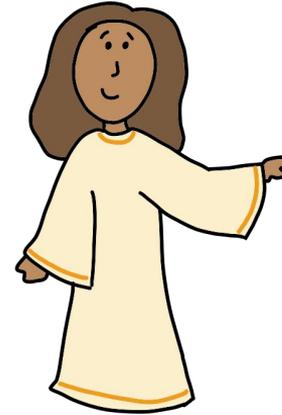
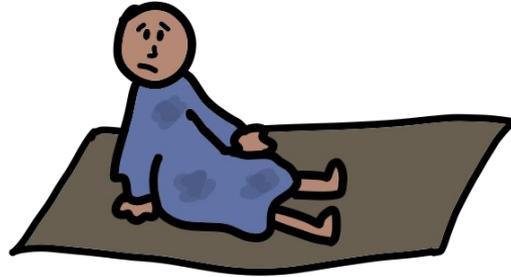
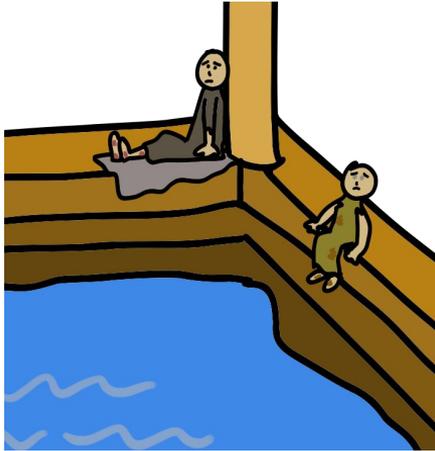
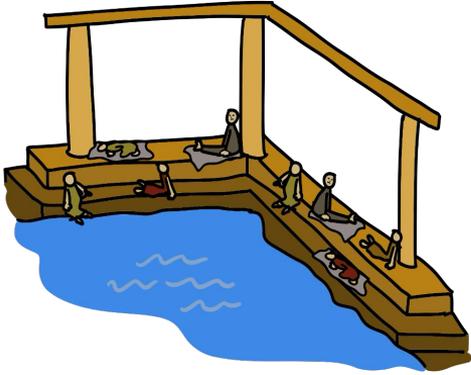
Link

Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the top. Jesus changes the water into wine.

Treasure Hunt - find the story!

YOU'LL NEED...

- Printout of Worksheet #3
- Scissors
- Blutac



Believe

Pixel Perfect: Colour by Number

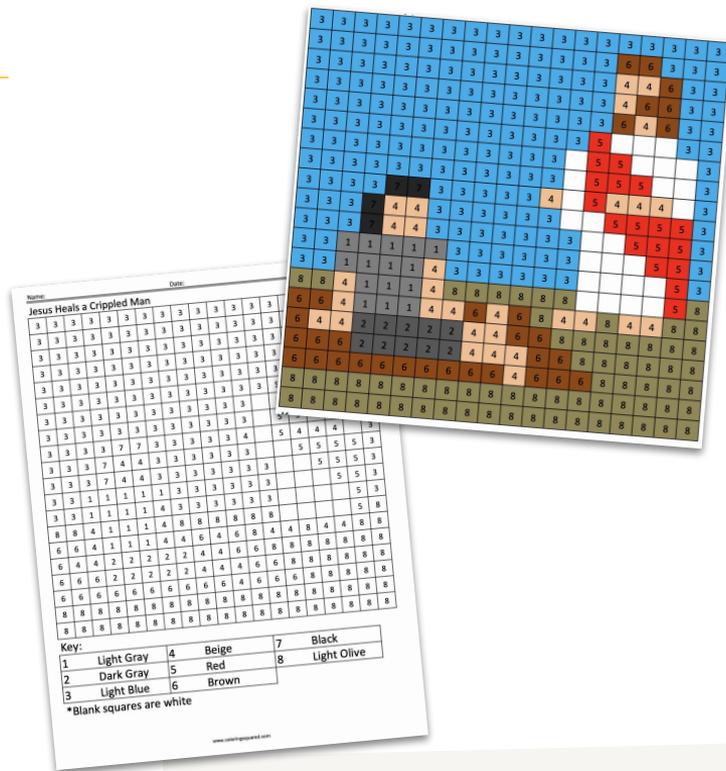
YOU'LL NEED...

- Printout of Colour by Number
- Colouring Pencils (need: light grey, dark grey, light blue, beige, red, brown, black, light olive)

STEPS

1. Show the children the colour by number activity sheet and explain that hidden beneath all of the numbers is a picture from today's story.
2. Children are to choose any of the number (1-8) and colour that number according to its corresponding number (see key at the bottom of the page).
3. Once they complete one number, they move onto another number and repeat until all 8 numbers have been completed and the picture is revealed. Note: the squares that have no numbers have been left blank intentionally (to reveal a white colour).

Source: we found this amazing colour by number via [Colouring Squared](#).



Link

The hidden picture at the end will reveal Jesus talking to the disabled man who is sitting on his mat.

Mat Weaving

YOU'LL NEED...

- A4 coloured card
- A5 coloured card strips
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Pens

OPTIONAL EXTENSION:

- Prior to weaving all the strips, ask the children to consider specific people to pray for (a) those who might come to 'pick up their mat' and trust in Jesus or (b) people who are sick and suffering at this point in time.
- Write each name on a separate strip before weaving them onto the mat.

STEPS

1. Fold the A4 paper in half, width wise.
2. Starting at the folded end, cut upwards, being sure to stop approximately 1 inch from the end. You can either cut in straight lines or slightly wavy lines (for an added special effect).
3. Continue to cut lines, approximately 2 cm wide. Once finished, unfold the page.
4. Place the paper lengthway on the table/lap. Using the coloured card strips, weave the paper in and out from one side to the other up down up down). Push the strip up towards the top end. Then repeat with the next strip of paper, but this time weaving in opposite format to previous (down up down up). Continue until the strips cover the whole area, forming a colourful mat!
5. Secure the strips by gluing down the end pieces.



Link

Jesus said, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." Mats in Jesus' times were often simple woven items made from reeds. Today, we will make a paper version, to remind us of this story.

GAME: Carry a Friend (teddy)

YOU'LL NEED...

- Tea towels (or pillowcase)
- Small teddy bears
- Outdoor space

STEPS

1. **CONTEXT:** Remind children that in Jesus' times, a disabled person would often rely on friends to carry them to or from places and then they would sit in a spot, on a mat, begging.
2. Have children work in pairs. Standing opposite each other, they hold the corners of the tea towel and place a soft teddy in the middle, on the 'mat'.
3. Work with a friend, each taking 2 of the corners of the pillowcase and lifting the teddy and carrying it carefully around the room.
4. To make it more challenge add a route that the children must follow.
5. If in a group, you could also turn it into a race, or a relay.



Link

In Jesus' time, those who were disabled relied on friends to help them move from one place to another.

SERIES

The Gospel of John

BIBLE FOCUS

John 15:1-15

TOPIC

Healing Paralysed Man

STEPS

1. CONTEXT: Remind children that in Jesus' times, a disabled person would often rely on friends to carry them to or from places and then they would sit in a spot, on a mat, begging.
2. Place children into teams. Set up the space ready for a relay - with all teams down one end of the hall and a cone at the other end to run around.
3. Have children work in triplets. Two of the children stand opposite each other and grip one hand (lower via wrists) and the other placing hands on each other's shoulders. The third person (suggested to be the smallest member) then carefully sits on the hands of the pairs. (It should look like a 'chair'. For support, the child sitting can place their arms around the children being the 'chair'.
4. Working as a group, the members carefully carry their friend up and around the cones at the other end of the room before returning to their team. The next triplet in the team then continues the relay. Continue until all members have had a turn.

Image example sourced from [Community Emergency Response Team \(LA\)](#).



Link

In Jesus' time, those who were disabled relied on friends to help them move from one place to another.

GAME: Carry a Friend (People)

YOU'LL NEED...

- Cones/markers