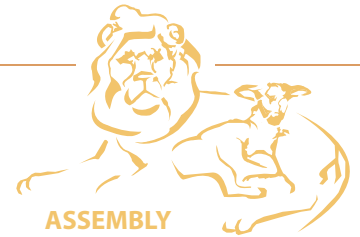


JESUS HEALS THE PARALYTIC

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: LUKE 5:17-26



The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.

LESSON IDEAS

DRAWING NEAR TO JESUS

Supplies:

felt board

Retell the story of the paralytic and use the phrase, "He wanted to draw near to Jesus."

After the story is complete, ask the children to think of ways we can draw near to Jesus today. Some possible answers: pray to Him, worship Him, read the Bible, listen to the preaching of the Bible on Sunday, praise Him, etc. See how many of these answers you can draw out of the children.

ACTING OUT THE MIRACLE

Supplies:

stretcher (made out of two stout branches or broomsticks and a piece of heavy canvas)

Bring the stretcher to class and let children lay in the stretcher while two teachers carry them around. Then put four children as carriers with the teachers spotting for safety and allow them to act out the stretcher scene. Finally have one of the children play the role of Jesus and command the person to, "Rise, pick up your bed, and go home." As soon as the paralytic man gets up, have everyone cheer. Take time to draw them out about what it would have been like to be there in person.

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WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

The teachers of the law, the scribes, and Pharisees knew full well that only God had the power to forgive sins. In response to their objections (remember Jesus knew what was in their hearts), Jesus challenged them by healing the crippled man. By this He was saying they were correct. Only God could forgive sins; Jesus is God.

The teachers, scribes, and Pharisees were amazed along with everyone else. Jesus was more than a good man or teacher. He was God Himself, sent to suffer and die for our sins. Jesus could forgive the man based only on the cross. The paralyzed man placed his faith in Jesus, the Savior, and God forgave him.

