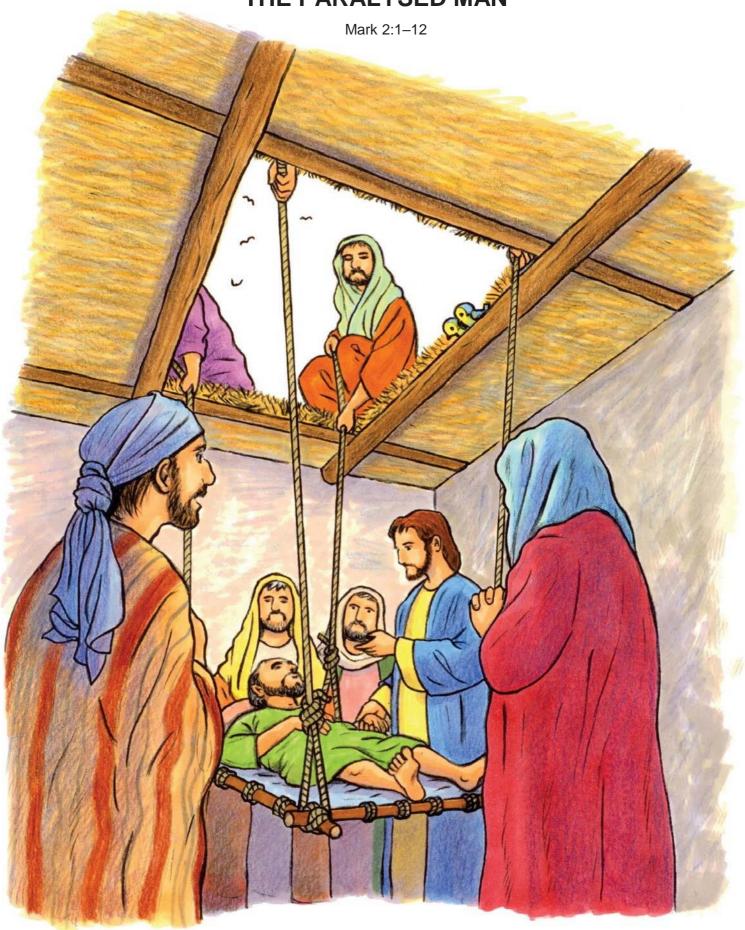
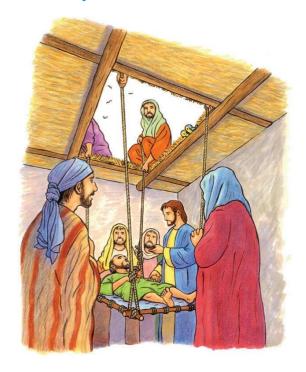
THE PARALYSED MAN



Contents

Message	God helps and cares for us when we seek His grace.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn:
	■ Jesus, the Son of God, healed the paralysed man in order to show His power to forgive sins.
	■ God helps and cares for us when we seek Him.
Bible Text	Mark 2:1–12

The Paralysed Man



Jesus was in Capernaum, preaching to the people about God. The word soon spread. Many people came to hear Him. So many people had gathered that there was not enough room for everyone.

They were even standing outside the door.

Four men carried a paralysed man on a stretcher. There was no way of getting close to Jesus because of the large crowd, so they climbed onto the roof of the house. They uncovered the roof where Jesus was and lowered the stretcher down.

When Jesus saw what faith these men had, He said to the man who was paralysed, "My son, your sins are forgiven."

There were some scribes in the crowd near Jesus who had the thought, "Why does this man speak like this? No one can forgive sins but God."

Jesus knew what these scribes were thinking. He turned to them and said, "What thoughts do you have in your heart? Which is easier to say to a man who cannot walk, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? I will show you that the Son of Man has the power to forgive sins on earth."

Jesus said to the man, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed and walk home!" The paralysed man stood up, picked up his bed and walked out.

Everyone saw him walking. The people were amazed and praised God. They had never seen anything like it before.

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel.... Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before. Provide disguise / fancy dress, ropes, if there is a gallery or a table, you can lower a child down...

Lesson Instructions Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- Why do so many people want to see Jesus? (They want to hear his preaching.)
- Why do the four friends bring the paralysed man to Jesus? (Jesus should heal him.)
- What is a paralysed man? (He cannot walk.)
- What does Jesus tell the paralysed man at first? ("My son, your sins are forgiven.")
- What is Jesus trying to show the people? (He is the Son of God and He can forgive sins, as well as heal the sick.)

Have the children repeat...

- Jesus, the Son of God, healed the paralysed man in order to show His power to forgive sins.
- God helps and cares for us when we seek Him.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- How do our parents or grandparents care for us? (Food, clothes, protection, education, ...)
- How does God care for us? (Help, spiritual education, good thoughts, forgiveness of sins)

Repeat the Message God helps and cares for us when we seek His grace.