

November 5, 2017

Morning Overview

Lesson: *Through the Roof to Jesus*

Lesson Summary: This week our children hear about the story of paralyzed man being lowered through the roof to Jesus. A great story with a great visual! The story comes to a feisty interaction between Jesus and the Pharisees and teachers of the law. As Jesus announced earlier in Luke that He was the Messiah, here we see the full scope of His Messiahship. Not only to forgive sins, which He can and does, but to heal the lame. In this moment, Jesus antagonizes the religious elite, whereas they should have been quick to acknowledge He is the Messiah. Their lack of faith, despite their knowledge, shows us that they knew little of what the Scriptures said. The Messiah would have the authority to forgive sins and heal as the Scriptures said He would, but the Pharisees and the teachers of the law did not want to believe Jesus was the Messiah.

Scripture: Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26

Story: Vos, chapter 17 (282-283); The Gospel Story Bible, pages 180-181; The Beginner's Bible, pages 326-330.

9:30am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Headbanz

Cherub Church

- Kindergarten/5's – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom's: 162, 121, 123, 124)
- 3's/4's – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165, 164, 163)

Craft: The lame shall walk.

Supplies: Cardstock drawing of lame man with holes.

Instructions: 1. Color man figure

2. Put your fingers through the holes as legs to help him walk!



Relay of the Day: Bringing your friends to Jesus. Please see email from Jeanie; instructions are in the classroom, as well.

Snack

11am Sunday Schedule

Opening Activity: Headbanz

Craft: Lowering through the roof.

Supplies: Peach-colored card stock, two pieces of string, brown foam "bed", one round sticker, one verse sticker.

- Instructions:**
1. Thread one gray string through two holes at short end of brown foam rectangle, ensuring string ends are open at top. Repeat for two holes on opposing end of brown rectangle. Ensure ends are even.
 2. Then thread string through holes at top of peach-colored card stock
 3. On the back of peach card stock, tape thread ends.
 4. Place round sticker in middle, and verse sticker underneath bed.



Cherub Church for 3's (Classroom's: 168, 166, 165) – 11:40-11:55

Relay of the Day: Bringing your friends to Jesus. Please see email from Jeanie; instructions are in the classroom, as well.

Story:

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the transition question: Boys and girls, if you had a sick or hurt friend, would you help them to the doctor? Could you drive them there? [Allow time for answers] In our story today we learn some friends helped one of their friends in a most unusual way. These men knew that their friend needed to see Jesus! Let's find out what these men did to get their friend to Jesus...
3. **TELL** the Story. Use the Vos Children's Bible, the Jesus Storybook Bible, the Beginner's Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story. Feel free to edit and adapt to your own style. Include props and teaching aids as you see fit.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps his promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- For many, many years God's people expected to for the Promised One – a King – to come and make all things right.
- Jesus had been teaching throughout Galilee. As he was teaching in one town, people from all over Galilee as well as Pharisees and teachers of the law came to hear him speak.
- Several men were friends of a paralyzed man. They wanted to get their friend to Jesus because they believed Jesus could help him.
- The place Jesus was teaching was too crowded, so the men cut out a large hole in the roof and lowered the paralyzed man in front of Jesus.
- Jesus, seeing the faith of the men, healed – spiritually – the paralyzed man by forgiving the man of his sins. This act angered the Pharisees and teachers of the law. They connected physical disabilities or ailments with sins or transgressions the person, or a person's parents, had done.
- Jesus shows that He can not only forgive sins because He is God, but can also heal people because He is God.
- People were amazed by what Jesus said and did.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, if you had a sick or hurt friend, would you help them to the doctor? Could you drive them there? [Allow time for answers] In our story today we learn some friends helped one of their friends in a most unusual way. These men knew that their friend needed to see Jesus! Let's find out what these men did to get their friend to Jesus...

Through the Roof To Jesus

One day Jesus was teaching the people. The Pharisees and teachers of the law were there, too. The Pharisees and teachers knew a lot about the Scriptures. They told others what the Scriptures meant. People had come from all over to hear Jesus teach, the Bible tells us, "they had come from every town in Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem."

The Bible tells us that Jesus had the power to heal people; He could because He was God. In the town Jesus was teaching, there was a man who was paralyzed. This meant the man could not walk, his legs and feet did not work. The paralyzed man had some friends who wanted him to walk. Once they heard Jesus was teaching, the paralyzed man's friends knew that Jesus could help heal him. So, the men carried the paralyzed man on a mat to see Jesus. But there was a big problem. In the place, Jesus was teaching lots of people were there. Lots and lots of people were around Jesus listening to him teach. The friends of the paralyzed man tried to bring him in and put him down before Jesus. But they could not, there were just too many people and they could not find a way to Jesus.

The friends had an idea and a plan to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus. They grabbed tools and went to the roof of the place Jesus was teaching. The men drew out a large rectangle, roughly the size of the paralyzed man's mat. Then the men picked up their tools and started smashing and tearing apart the roof! "Thud, clank, bang" the men worked hard to make a large hole in the roof of where Jesus was teaching. Once they were finished, they brought the man up to the roof, tied ropes around his mat, and lowered him down in front of Jesus.

As the men worked, Jesus continued to teach, but can you imagine all the noise that was being made? And all the dust coming down on Jesus and the others as the men were working?

Jesus saw the paralyzed man being lowered in front of Him. And Jesus looked up and saw that these friends believed He could heal their paralyzed friend. Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

The Pharisees and the teachers of law thought to themselves, "Who is this man? He is saying things that are against God! Only God can forgive sins." The Pharisees and teachers of the law did not believe Jesus was God, they thought He was just a human. But we know that Jesus was the Messiah who,

*God chose to tell the Good News to the poor.
And who God sent to tell the prisoners of sin that they are free,
and to tell the blind that they can see again.
Who God sent to free those who have been treated unfairly,
and to announce the time when the Lord will show kindness to his
people. (Lk. 4:18-19)*

And Jesus knew what the Pharisees and teachers of the law were thinking. Jesus knew what they were thinking because He was God. Jesus said to them, "Why do you have thoughts like that in your hearts? Which is easier: to tell this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to tell him, 'Stand up and walk'?"

Jesus was going to prove to them that He alone had the right and the power to forgive sins! Jesus commanded the paralyzed man, "Stand up! Take your mat and go home." As Jesus said this, the man did just that and went home praising God! All the people were fully amazed and began to praise God. They were filled with much respect and said, "Today we have seen amazing things!"

The Pharisees and teachers of the law were wrong to be critical of Jesus. They were right that only God could forgive sins, but they did not recognize or believe that Jesus was God. Only God can forgive sins, no one else can. And Jesus had the authority to forgive the man's sins and to heal him because He was God. Jesus tried to teach them that He was God and had the authority to forgive sins and heal, but the Pharisees and teachers just did not believe Him.

Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- Who was listening to Jesus teach?
- What was wrong with the man in our story?
- Who decided to help the paralyzed man?
- What did they do to get their friend, the paralyzed man, to Jesus?
- What did Jesus say to the paralyzed man?
- When Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven." Who became angry?
- Who did Jesus come to heal and set free?

Questions for Older Children:

- What does the story tell us about God?
- What does this story tell us God's faithfulness?
- What does this story tell us about God's love for us?

Scripture Memory for November:

Jesus said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners." -Mark 2:17

Catechism Questions (1-20)

Hymn of the Month:

Doxology