

The Paralytic

Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe how the paralytic's friends helped him.
- The children will tell at least three ways that they can help others.
- The children will list three people who help them.

Lesson Text

Mark 2:1-12

Scripture Memory Verse

This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activities: The Paralytic

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: I Can Walk

Life Application: People Who Need Help

Craft: The Mat

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



The Paralytic

The Paralytic

The children will create a picture to introduce them to the story of Jesus healing the paralytic.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons or markers
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- magazines
- scissors
- butcher paper or poster board

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the fronts and backs of the paralytic from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Cut out pictures from magazines of people who need help or need a friend. (For example, someone playing by themselves, someone who is sick, someone with a sad look on their face, someone who has a dirty shirt, etc.)



Instructions

1. Give each child a front and back picture of the paralytic.
2. Have the children color the paralytic.
3. As the children work tell them: *We are learning about a man that Jesus helped. This man was paralyzed. He could not walk. Be sure to color the man with bright colors because this story has a very happy ending.*
4. After the children have colored both sides of the paralytic, have them glue the two sides together with the colored sides facing out.
5. Have the children choose a few magazine pictures and glue them to the butcher paper creating a mural.

Conclusion

Talk about how the people on the mural look and how they might be feeling. Ask the children, *Do you think they need help? How can we help them?*

NOTE: Give the finished mural to the Life Application teacher.

Teacher Tips

Parenting or children's magazines should have a good selection of pictures from which to choose.

The Paralytic

I Can Walk

The children will learn the story of the paralytic who was healed by Jesus.

Scripture Memory Verse

This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

Lesson Text

Mark 2:1-12

Materials

For the teacher:

- Bible
- 1 large, strong towel
- 2 rolls of toilet paper
- robe
- scarf

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the story.

Instructions

Put the robe and the scarf on. Open your Bible and place it in your lap.

Today we're going to hear a story from the book of Mark. It is a story about a man who was paralyzed, that means he couldn't walk and he probably couldn't move his body at all. His friends helped him to get help from Jesus.

I'm going to need your help to tell the story. Who would like to pretend to be the man in the story who can not walk? Pick a child and have him lie down on the large towel. Ask the other children to wrap toilet paper around the child's knees, calves and feet. Take some time to explain to the children what it means to be paralyzed.

Open your Bible and begin to tell the story. One day in Capernaum, Jesus was inside a house teaching people about God. The house got so crowded with people that no one else could fit inside. There was no room even near the door.

There were five men who were good friends. One of the men was very sick. He was paralyzed. Tell the child on the mat to pretend that he cannot move. Ask him, How does it feel? Sometimes when we are sick we need help from other people. This man was very sick and needed a lot of help.

The four men carried their sick friend on a mat to meet Jesus because he could not walk. They knew that Jesus would help him but they couldn't get in the house because there were so many people. Listen to what they did. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. (Mark 2:4)

How did they get their sick friend to see Jesus? That's right, they carried him to the roof. Then they dug a hole and lowered him into the house to see Jesus. How do you think his friends carried him? (gently, lovingly, carefully) Let's each take a corner and carry John around in a circle just like those men carried their friend. Now, let's make sure we do it the same way that they did, very carefully. Help them grab the corners and sides of the towel and lift the child off the ground. Walk in a small circle and then set the child down gently. This is how the paralytic's friends helped him to get to Jesus.

Next, they made a hole in the roof so that he could get to Jesus. Let's pretend that we are digging a big hole in the roof! Have the children pretend to dig with their hands. Say to the children. Let's pick up John and pretend to lower him down through the hole in front of Jesus! Help the children to lift the child on the mat and gently rest him down again as if lowering him in front of Jesus.

We did it, he made it to Jesus! Who helped him get to Jesus? That's right. His friends helped him. Would you like to hear how the story ends? When Jesus saw the paralytic and his friends, he knew that they believed and had faith that Jesus could help them. He said to the paralytic: "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." (Mark 2:11)

That is just what the paralytic did! He got up. (Help the child stand up and unwrap his legs.) He picked up his mat. (Hand the child the towel.) And he walked! (Have the child smile and walk away, waving.)



The Paralytic

Everyone in the crowded house saw what happened. The story ends with our scripture memory verse, Mark 2:12. Let's say it together: "This amazed everyone and they praised God saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'" (Repeat the scripture a few times with the children.)

Isn't it amazing? Jesus helped the man to walk! But without his friends, he never would have been able to get close to Jesus. His friends helped him so much, didn't they?

Conclusion

Ask the children the following questions as a review:

How many friends helped the paralytic? (four)

How did they help him? (Carried him, cut a hole in the roof, lowered him to Jesus.)

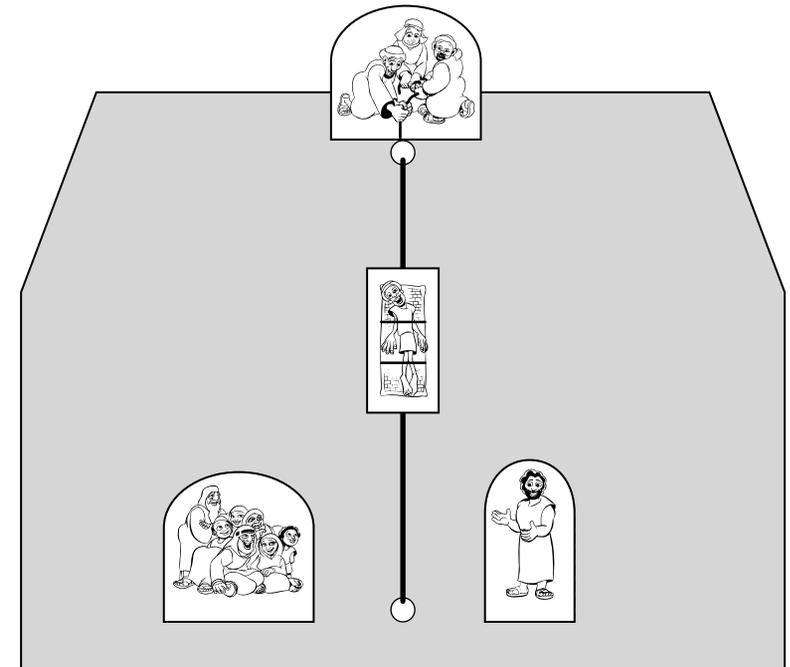
Why was the house so crowded? (Jesus was teaching there, a lot of people were there to learn.)

How did they get the paralytic in the house? (They made a hole in the roof and lowered him in.)

We can be great friends to others just like the paralytic's friends. We can bring people to Jesus too, by bringing them to church. We can also show them Jesus by being kind, by helping them and by loving them.

Teacher Tips

- Choose a small child to be the paralytic so he will be easier to carry.
- Be sure to show the children how to gently carry and set down the child on the towel.
- If you would prefer, use a doll for the carrying demonstration.



The Paralytic

People Who Need Help

The children will discuss different ways that they can help people.

Scripture Memory Verse

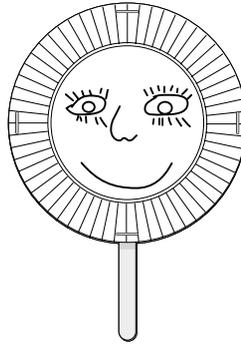
This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

Materials

For the teacher:

- 2 paper plates
- 1 craft stick
- markers or crayons
- any other decorative items
- mural from the Preclass Activity
- stapler



Preparation

1. Draw a happy face on the back of one plate and a sad face on the back of the other.
2. Staple the two plates together, back to back, with the craft stick in between like a lollipop. See Figure A.

Instructions

1. Point to the mural and say to the children: *Look at these pictures. All of the people in these pictures need something. Let's figure out what they need.*
2. Give the plate faces to a child in the group.
3. Point to a person on the mural and ask the child with the plates what she thinks the person needs. *What do you think is wrong with this person? Is she happy or sad? Have the child hold up the sad face. How can we help her? How will she feel after we help her?* Have the child hold up the happy face.
4. Go through the pictures on the mural one at a time, discussing each picture and giving the plate faces to a different child each time.

Scripture Memory Activity

Say the memory scripture to the children. Practice saying it all together in three different ways:

- Very excited.
- All holding hands.
- In groups of 4 (like the paralytic's friends) saying it one group at a time.

What happened that amazed everyone? (Jesus healed the man who couldn't walk.)

The scripture says that the people praised God. Do you know what 'praised' means? If I praise a person I tell them how great they are. When we praise God it means that we tell him that we think he is great!

Conclusion

When we help people it makes them happy and it makes us happy. It also makes God happy because it helps people to learn that he loves them. We want everyone to know that God loves them.

Say a short prayer with the children praising God and asking him to make you and the children good helpers for other people.

Teacher Tips

- Be ready to give the children ideas about what people in the pictures may need.
- Don't try to go over all of the faces on the mural if there are a lot of them.

The Paralytic

Life

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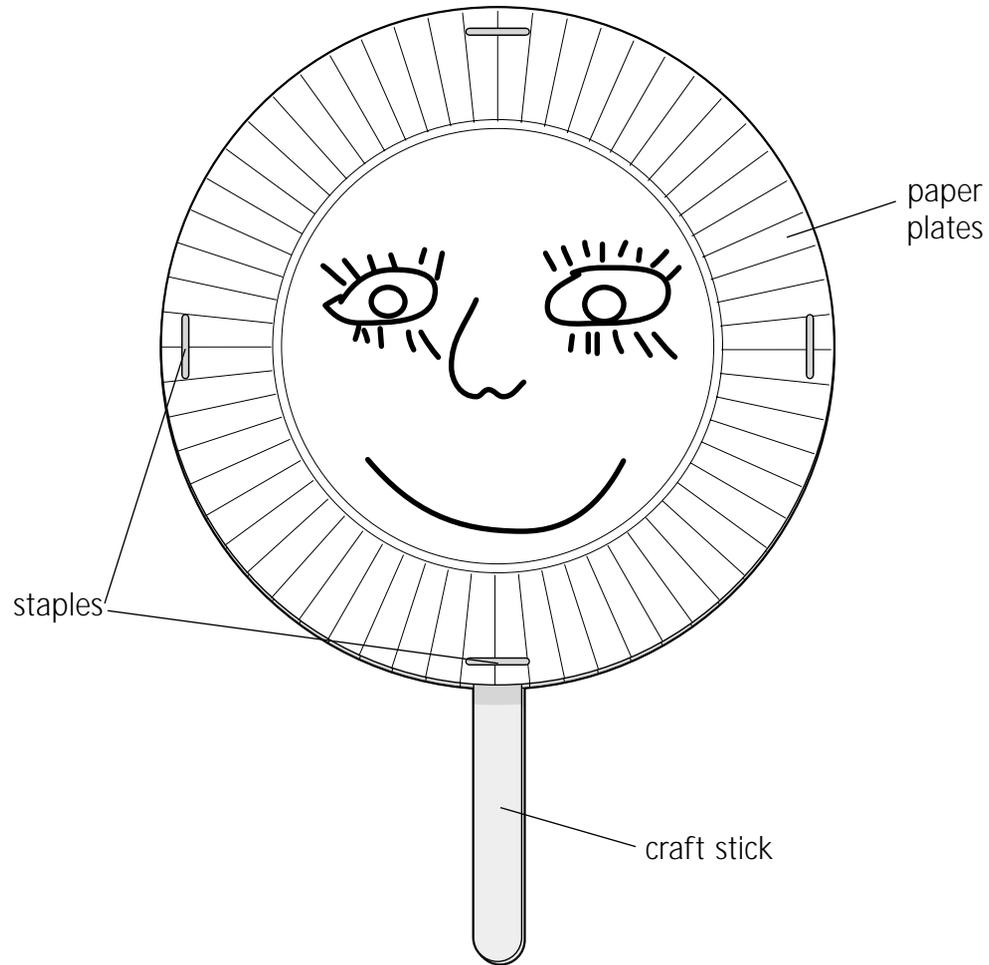


Figure A



The Paralytic

The Mat

The children will make a mat to remind them of the paralytic whom Jesus helped. The children will also be reminded of who helps them.

Materials

For each child:

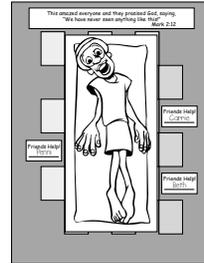
- 1 piece of blue construction paper
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- ruler
- scissors
- fine tip marker
- colored construction paper (not blue)
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child
- Page C, 1 copy for each child



Preparation

1. Cut out the friendship boxes and scripture text boxes from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Cut out the paralytic from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
3. Prepare a "mat" for each child as follows:
 - A. Measure and draw a 1½" border around the edge of the construction paper, as shown in Figure A. NOTE: This will be the back of the mat.
 - B. Fold the page vertically so that the border is visible.
 - C. Measure and cut five 4" x 1" slits as shown in Figure B.
4. Cut five 1½" x 6" strips of colored construction paper for each child.
5. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a piece of blue construction paper and six colored construction paper strips.
2. Help the children to weave the strips in and out of the blue paper within the border. NOTE: Alternate weaving the strips, one strip starting on top of the paper and the next strip starting underneath the paper. See Figure C.
3. Place tape on the top and bottom of the strips to hold them in place. See Figure D.
4. Have the children glue the boxes to their papers as follows. See Figure E.
 - A. Have the children turn their papers over and align the paper vertically.
 - B. Have them glue three friendship boxes to the sides of the mat.
 - C. Have them glue the scripture text boxes across the top of the paper.
5. Give each child a paralytic and have the child glue him to the middle of the mat.
6. Give the children crayons to color the paralytic.
7. As the children color, talk with each of them to identify three friends who help them learn about God. Write their responses in each friendship box (for example: Mom, teacher, classmate).

Conclusion

Have the children share with the group about the people who help them learn about God.

Teacher Tips

- Some children will need more help with the weaving of the mat than others. Let those that can do the weaving well, help other children.
- Be encouraging to the children as they are making their best efforts.
- Use pinking shears to cut out the friendship and scripture text boxes.

CRAFT

The Paralytic

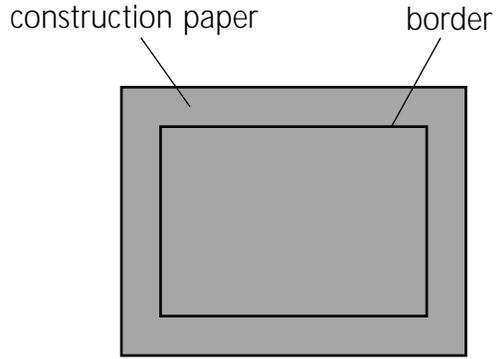


Figure A

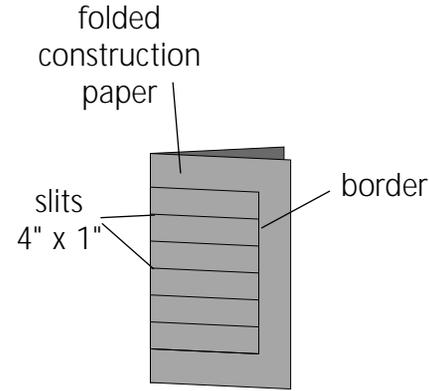


Figure B

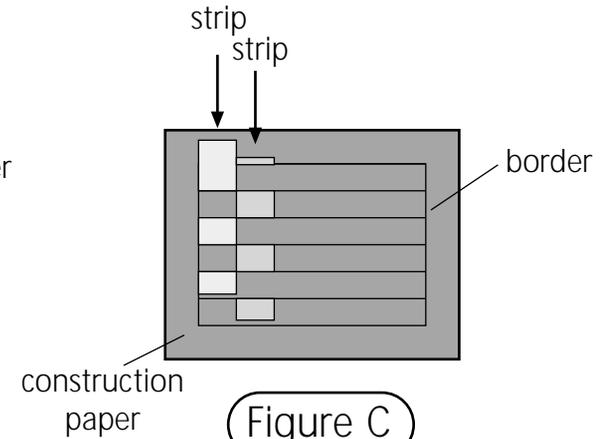


Figure C

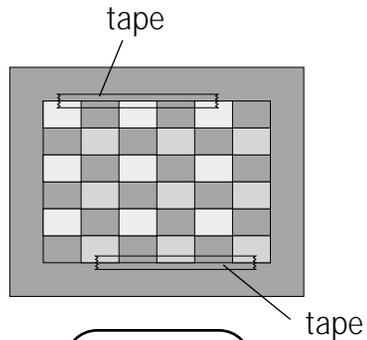


Figure D

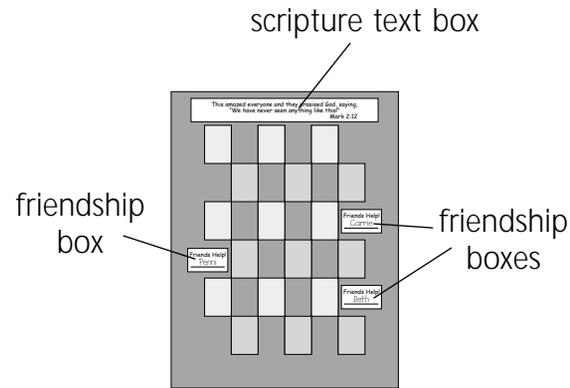
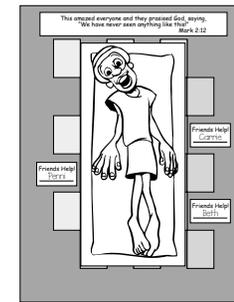


Figure E



Finished Craft





The Paralytic

Lesson Objectives

- The children will describe how the paralytic's friends helped him.
- The children will tell at least three ways that they can help others.
- The children will list three people who help them.

Lesson Text

Mark 2:1-12

Scripture Memory Verse

This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

Helping People

The children will create a picture reminding them of the story of Jesus healing the paralytic.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons or markers
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- magazines
- scissors
- butcher paper or poster board

Preparation

Cut out pictures from magazines of people who need help or need a friend. (For example, someone playing by themselves, someone who is sick, someone with a sad look on their face, someone who has a dirty shirt, etc.)

Instructions

Have the children choose a few magazine pictures and glue them to the butcher paper creating a mural.

Conclusion

Talk about how the people on the mural look and how they might be feeling. Ask the children: *Do you think they need help? How can we help them?*

NOTE: Give the finished mural to the Life Application teacher.

Teacher Tips

- Parenting or children's magazines should have a good selection of pictures from which to choose.
- The children may want to draw pictures on the mural of people needing help.

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activities: Helping People

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Helpful Friends Relay

Craft: Lower Him Down!

Life Application: People Who need Help

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Helpful Friends Relay

The children will act out how the paralytic's friends helped him get to Jesus.

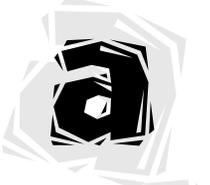
Materials

For the teacher:

- two dolls
- two hand towels
- masking tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 2 copies for the teacher



Preparation

1. Cut out the Jesus figures from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
2. To set up the game:
 - A. Place a long line of masking tape on the floor as a start/finish line for the children.
 - B. With masking tape make two simple houses on the floor about ten feet from the start/finish line. See Figure A.
 - C. Place one picture of Jesus on each house.
3. Familiarize yourself with the game.



Instructions

1. Divide the children into two teams and have them make pairs within the teams.
2. Have each team line up at the starting line with their partner.
3. Give each team a doll and a towel.
4. At the signal the first pairs in each team must:
 - A. Place the doll on the towel.
 - B. Lift the towel, together, and walk to the house.
 - C. Pretend to climb a ladder to the top of the roof.
 - D. Put the doll down and pretend to dig a hole in the roof.
 - E. Pick the doll up and place it next to Jesus.
 - F. Pick up the doll and the towel and pretending that the doll is walking, walk back to the starting line.
 - G. Hand the towel and the doll to the next two team members who will repeat all of these steps.



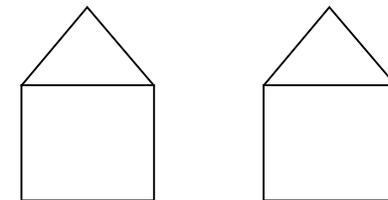
5. Be sure that the children walk, not run.
6. The doll must remain safely on the towel.
7. If a pair drops the doll or runs, they must start over.

Conclusion

Encourage the children for being great friends and helping the paralytic to find Jesus.

Teacher Tips

- You may play the game again at the end of class if you need a time filler.
- You may choose to add background music during the game.
- If your children are confident with the memory verse you might have them say it on their way back to the starting line.



start / finish

Figure A



CRAFT



Lower Him Down!

The children will create a picture that will remind them of the paralytic that Jesus healed.

Materials

For each child:

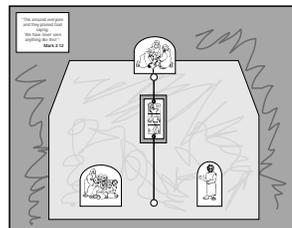
- 1 piece of construction paper
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- colored construction paper
- scissors
- hole punch
- dental floss or heavy thread
- hole reinforcements (optional)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each child
- Page F, 1 copy for each child



Preparation

1. Cut out the house pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page E.
2. Cut out the pictures and scripture text boxes from the copies of Reproducible Page F.
3. Prepare a "mat" for the paralytic picture as follows:
 - A. Cut a 1½" x 2½" piece of construction paper for each child.
 - B. Punch a hole at the bottom and top of the piece of paper within ½" of the edges. See Figure A.
4. Cut an 18" piece of dental floss for each child.
5. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft. Point out the different people in the picture, the paralytic, his friends, Jesus and the crowd. *What are the paralytic's friends doing on the roof of this house? Yes, they are helping him to get near Jesus so that he can be healed and walk again.*

The Paralytic

2. Give each child a house and a piece of construction paper. Have the child glue the house onto the center of the construction paper. See Figure B.
3. Have the children prepare the pictures as follows:
 - A. Give the children the Jesus, crowd and the four friends pictures.
 - B. Have them glue the Jesus, crowd and the four friends pictures where indicated on the house picture.
 - C. Have the children color their pictures with crayons.
4. Have each child glue a scripture text box above the house. See Figure C.
5. Have the children prepare the paralytic picture as follows:
 - A. Give each child a piece of construction paper with the punched holes.
 - B. Have the children glue the paralytic picture to the construction paper. See Figure D.
 - C. Have the children color the paralytic picture and the mat.
6. Help the children add the paralytic to the picture as follows:
 - A. Punch two holes at the "X"s on the top and bottom of the house.
 - B. Help each child thread a piece of dental floss through the holes in the paralytic's mat and then through the holes in the house. See Figure E.
 - C. Tie the dental floss into a knot on the back of the paper.

Conclusion

Have the children carefully move the paralytic up and down. Choose a child to retell the story using the craft.

Teacher Tips

- Have the children draw extra people to fill the house with the crowd.
- Some of the older fives might want to try tying the dental floss by themselves.
- Use hole reinforcements on the mat to help the craft last longer.

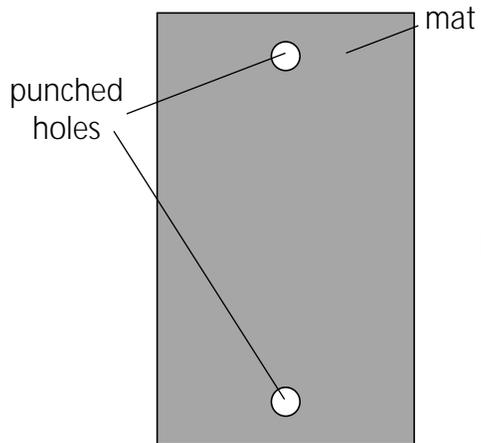


Figure A

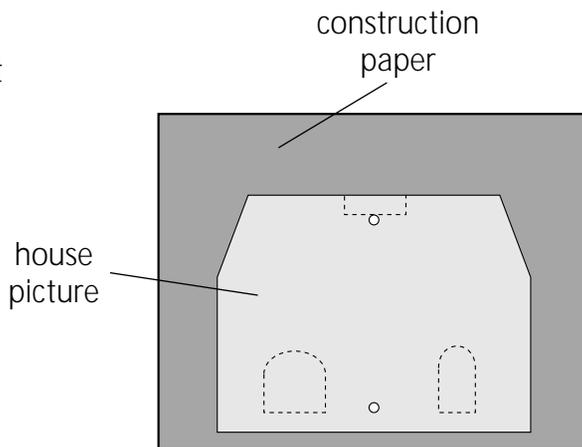


Figure B

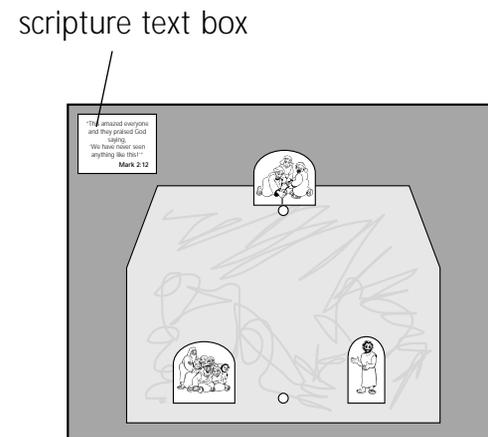


Figure C

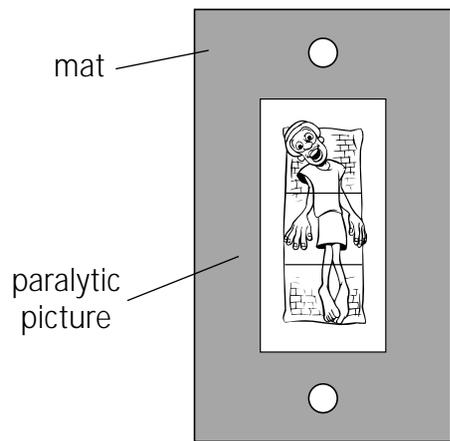


Figure D

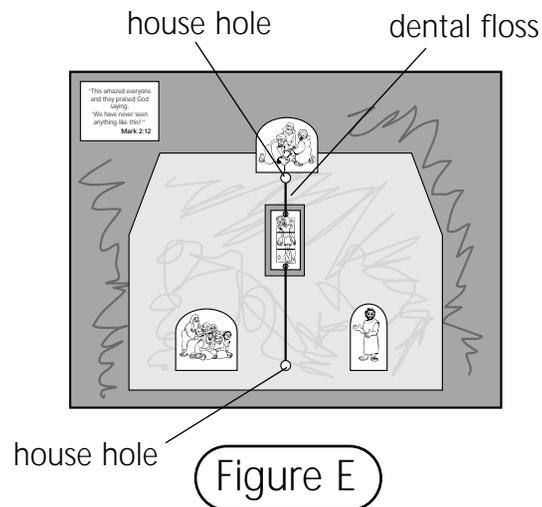


Figure E



People Who Need Help

The children will discuss different ways that they can help people.

Scripture Memory Verse

This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

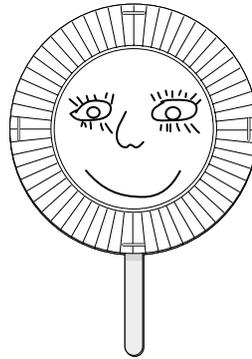
Materials

For the teacher:

- 2 paper plates
- 1 craft stick
- markers or crayons
- any other decorative items
- mural from the Preclass Activity
- stapler

Preparation

1. Draw a happy face on the back of one plate and a sad face on the back of the other.
2. Staple the two plates together, back to back, with the craft stick in between like a lollipop. See Figure A.



Instructions

1. Point to the mural and say to the children: *Look at these pictures. All of the people in these pictures need something. Let's figure out what they need.*
2. Give the plate faces to a child in the group.
3. Point to a person on the mural and ask the child with the plates what she thinks the person needs. *What do you think is wrong with this person? Is she happy or sad? Have the child hold up the sad face. How can we help her? How will she feel after we help her?* Have the child hold up the happy face.
4. Go through the pictures on the mural one at a time, discussing each picture and giving the plate faces to a different child each time.

The Paralytic

Scripture Memory Activity

Say the memory scripture to the children. Practice saying it all together in three different ways:

- Very excited.
- All holding hands.
- In groups of 4 (like the paralytic's friends) saying it one group at a time.

What happened that amazed everyone? (Jesus healed the man who couldn't walk.)

The scripture says that the people praised God. Do you know what 'praised' means? If I praise a person I tell them how great they are. When we praise God it means that we tell him that we think he is great!

Conclusion

When we help people it makes them happy and it makes us happy. It also makes God happy because it helps people to learn that he loves them. We want everyone to know that God loves them.

Say a short prayer with the children praising God and asking him to make you and the children good helpers for other people.

Teacher Tips

- Be ready to give the children ideas about what people in the pictures may need.
- Don't try to go over all of the faces on the mural if there are a lot of them.

The Paralytic

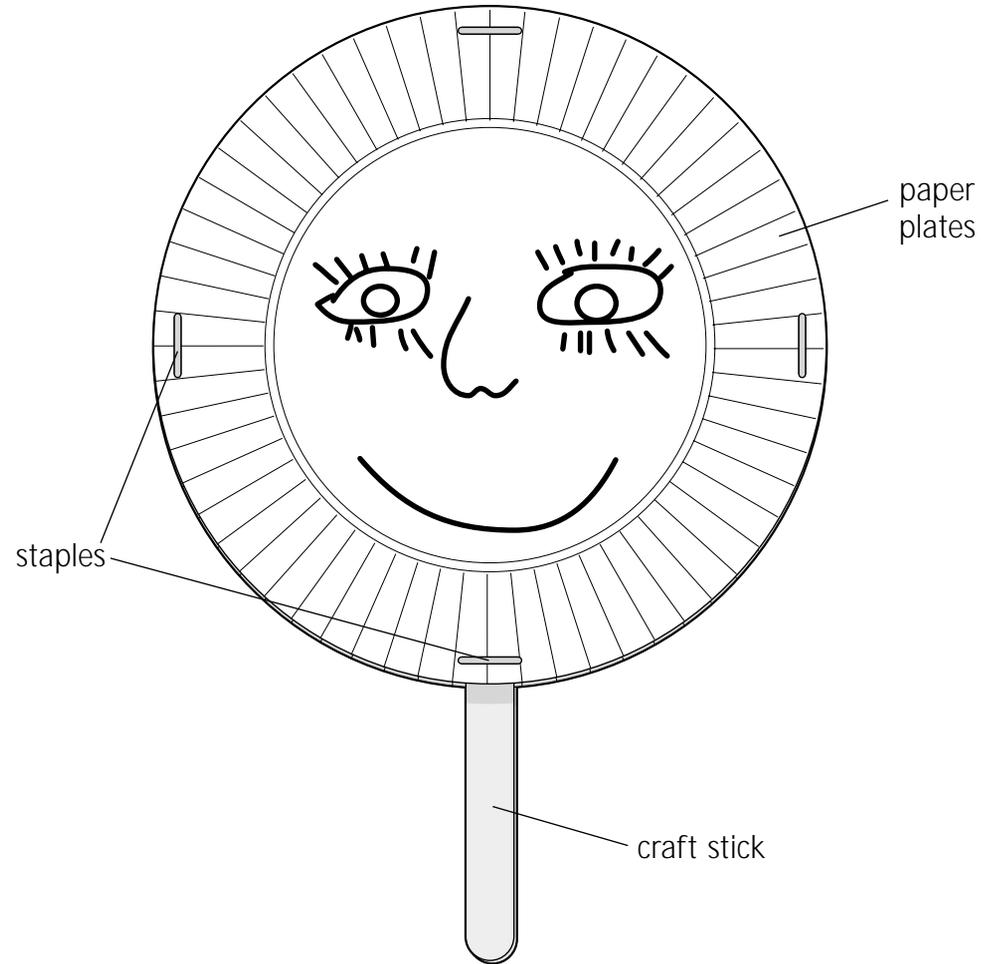


Figure A

Core/Preclass
1 copy for each child

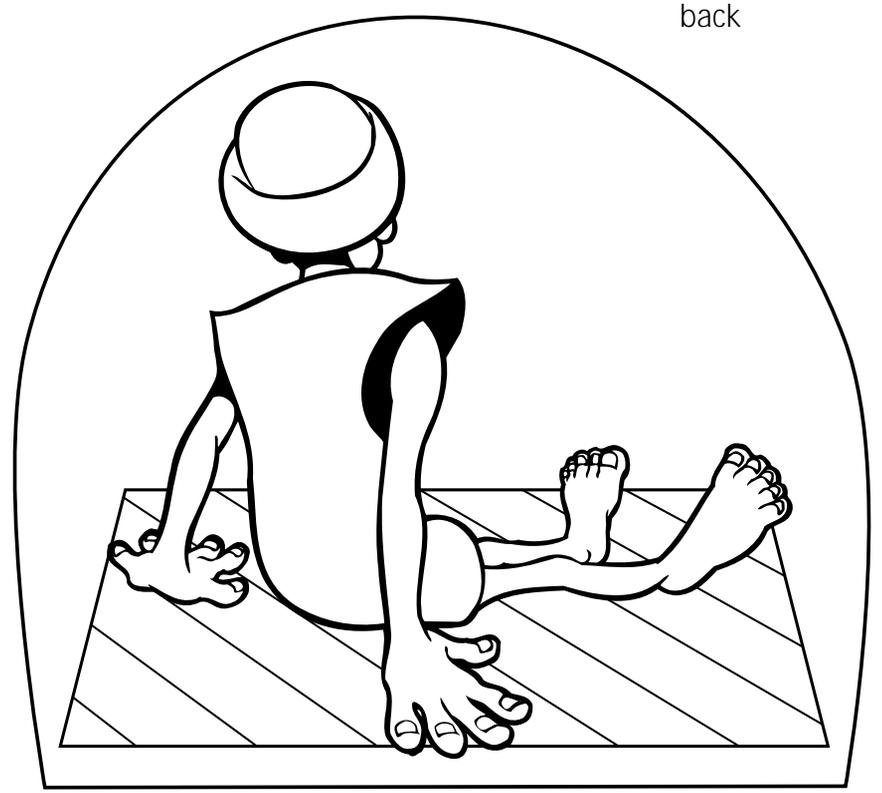
REPRODUCTION

Page

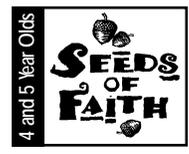
A



front



back



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

READ-OBED-UB-EB

Page

B

Friends help!

Friends help!

friendship boxes

Friends help!

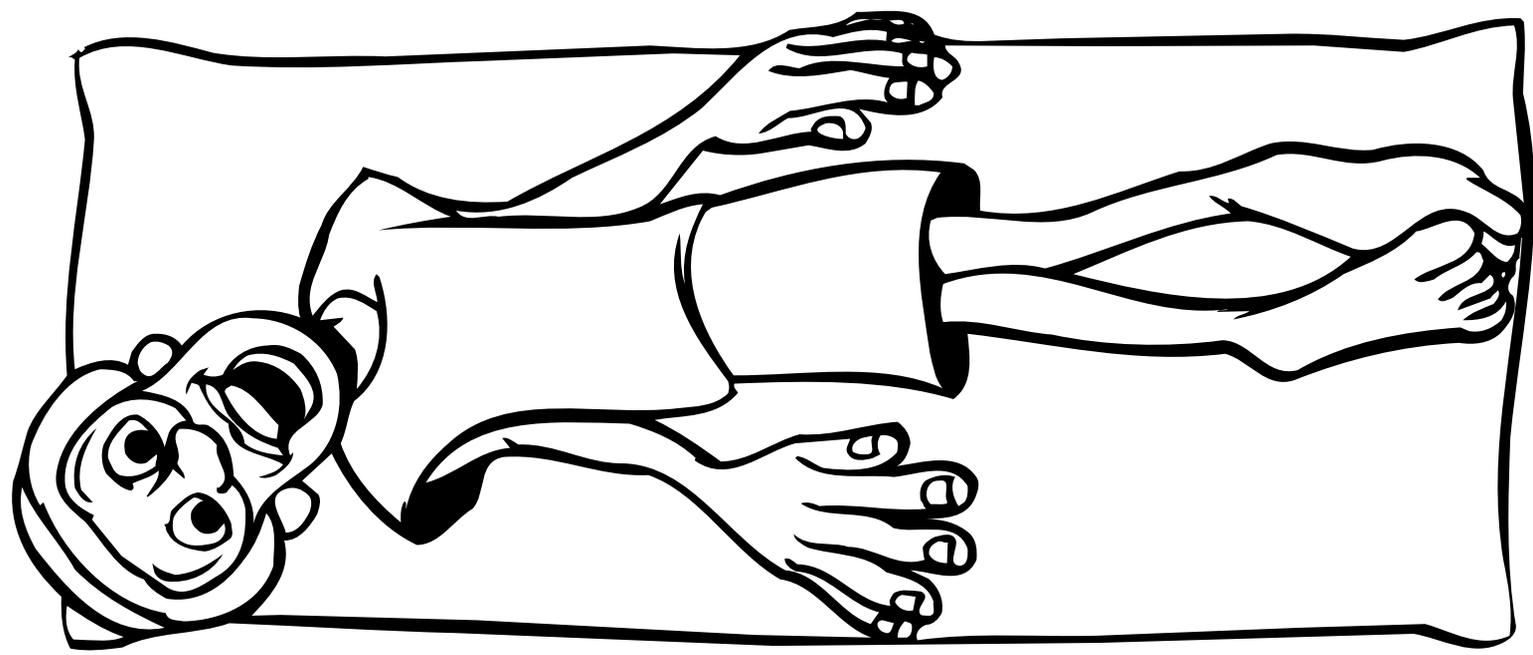
This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying,
“We have never seen anything like this!”

Mark 2:12

scripture text box

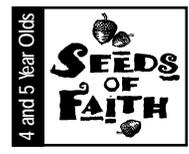


Core/Craft
1 copy for each child



paralytic

Page
C
e-b-e-e-o-o-r

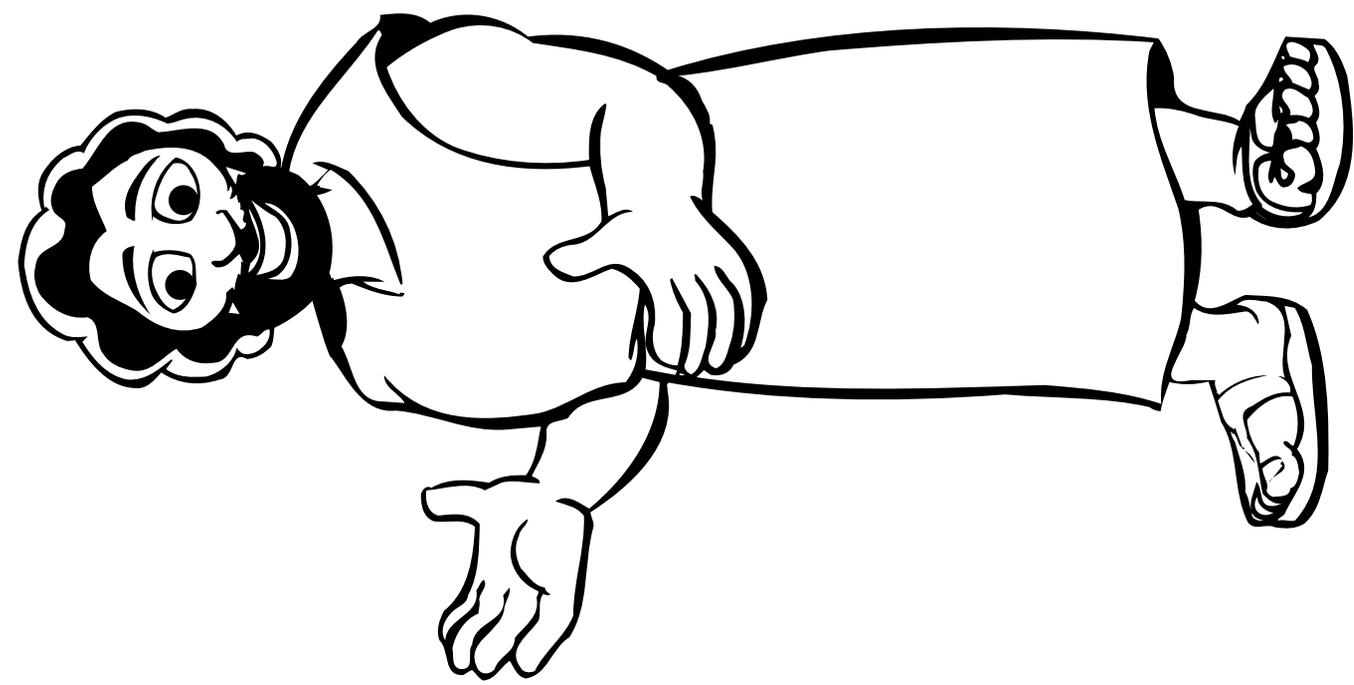


Supplement/Game
2 copies for the teacher

REPRODUCTION

Page

D



Jesus figure

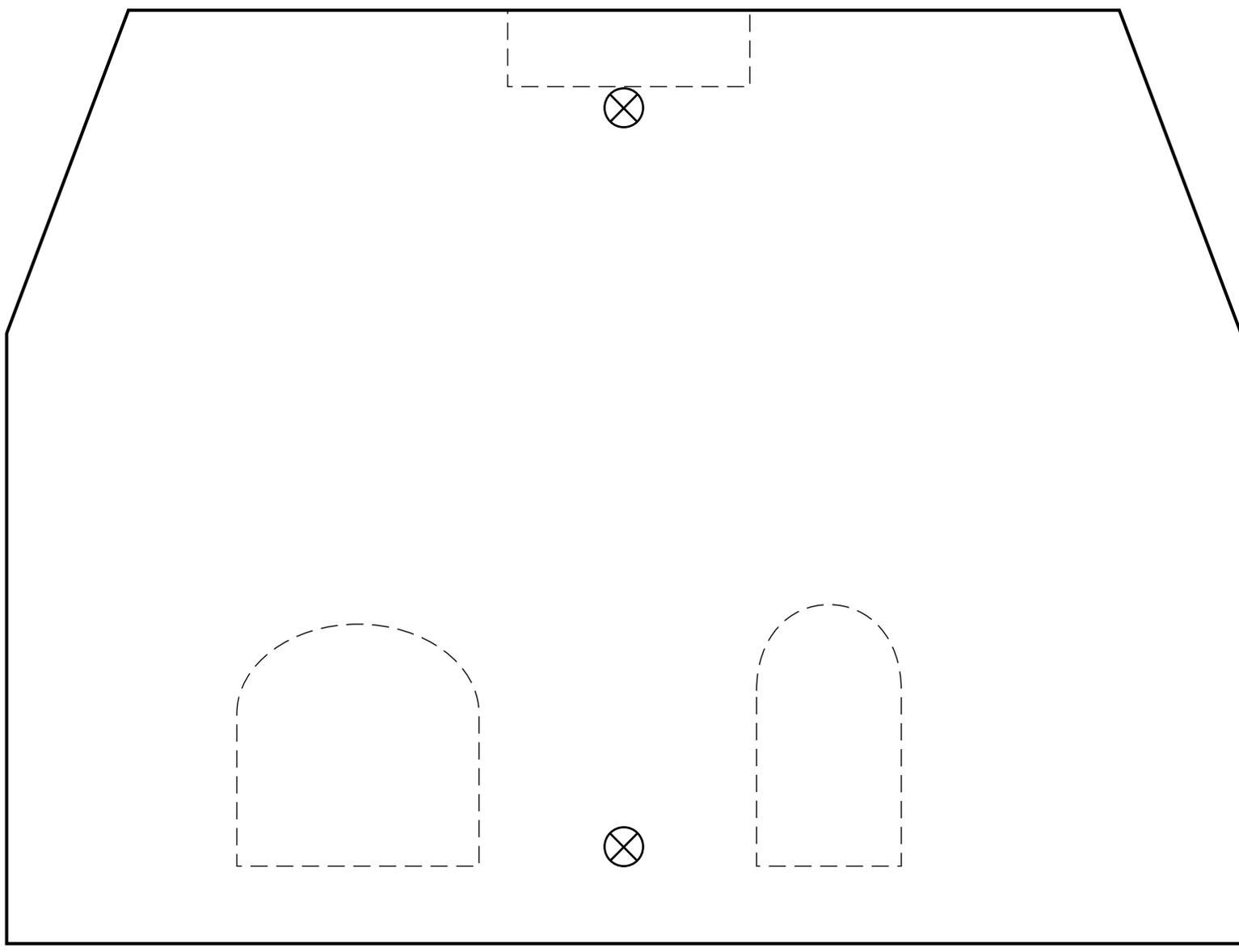


Supplement/Craft
1 copy for each child

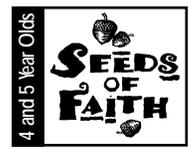
READ-OBEDY-TO-PEP

Page

E



house picture



Supplement/Craft

1 copy for each child

READ-OBED-**E-B-E-E-O-T-P-E-R**

Page

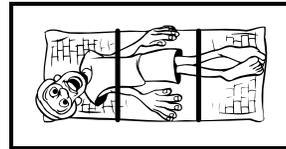
F



four friends



Jesus



paralytic



crowd

This amazed everyone
and they praised God
saying,
"We have never seen
anything like this!"

Mark 2:12

scripture text box