

Through the Roof

Jesus heals a paralytic man
Luke 5:17-26

Character Trait: Kindness

(Estimated Lesson Time: 90 minutes)

Objectives:

- Children will identify that God is able to forgive sins.
- Children will recognize that Jesus is God.
- Children will identify how God has shown kindness to them and why it is important to show kindness to others.

Supplies:

- *Through the Roof* loaded onto a tablet or phone in the *Bible App for Kids*
- Paper
- Pens and/or pencils
- Coloring supplies

Welcome Activity:

(5 minutes)

Explain to the children that today you would like to welcome them a little differently. Share that you are very grateful to see "someone..." and insert a specific description of a child or children in the group here such as "someone wearing the color blue" or "someone who has short, brown hair." Continue doing this until you have briefly described all the children without using any of their names. *(For efficiency, specifically use descriptions that purposefully include many children at once. For example, hair color, hair length, and buttons on clothing can simultaneously describe many children in the group at one time.)*

Review:

(5 minutes)

Guide the children in a brief review of the previous lesson by asking the following questions:

- **Who is the one true King?** *(Jesus)*
- **What are some things Jesus taught?** *(God does not want us to worry. God will provide for our needs. Put God first. Trust and obey God.)*
- **How can we talk to God?** *(Anytime and anywhere through prayer)*
- **How does talking with God show that we trust Him?** *(Answers will vary.)*

Today's Bible Story:

(10-15 minutes)

Show *Through the Roof* from the *Bible App for Kids* or share the story aloud:

- Full! The house was full!
- Jesus was in the house, teaching and healing, and everyone wanted to see Him.
- Some men had a friend who could not walk.
- They believed that Jesus could heal him, so they carried him to the house on a mat.
- Because the house was so full, they couldn't get in.

- So they carried their friend up the steps to the flat roof and started tearing up the tiles!
- They opened a hole in the roof.
- Everyone in the house looked up, amazed!
- Then they lowered their friend into the middle of the crowd.
- They thought Jesus would heal their friend.
- Instead, Jesus said to him, "Your sins are forgiven."
- The religious leaders were very unhappy.
- "Only God can forgive sins," they grumbled.
- "What's easier?" asked Jesus. "To forgive a man's sins or make him walk? To show you that I have God's power to forgive sins, I will heal his legs."
- "Pick up your mat and walk home," said Jesus to the man.
- And he did!
- His friends cheered, and so did everyone else.
- Now the house was filled...with praise.



Discussion:

(15 minutes)

Encourage the children to think more about the story by asking the following questions:

- **What did Jesus say to the man who could not walk?** *("Your sins are forgiven.")*
- **Why were the religious leaders very unhappy?** *(They grumbled that only God can forgive sins.)*
- **What happened to the man who could not walk?** *(Jesus forgave his sins. Jesus healed him. He could walk.)*
- **Whose power did Jesus say He had?** *(God's power)*
- **How did Jesus show this?** *(By healing the man who could not walk)*

Remind the children of the special welcome they received today. Point out that you did not use their names. Instead, you described them. They knew exactly who you were welcoming because they knew what to look for in each person.

SAY: Jesus did not just say that He was God. Jesus showed that He was God. Jesus forgave sins and performed miracles *(like healing the man who could not walk)*. Jesus did things that only God can do. Faith is believing in and trusting something or someone completely. The friends who lowered the paralyzed man through the roof had faith that Jesus could heal. We can have faith in Jesus' power today, too.



God's Bigger Story:

(5 minutes)

SAY: While on earth, Jesus performed many miracles, including healing the sick and forgiving sin. Jesus did things that only God can do. This is how Jesus showed people that He was God.

Memory Verse:

(10 minutes)

Seeing their faith *(bring hands together in heart shape)*,
Jesus *(touch your middle finger to the other palm, then switch)*
said to the man *(cup hands around mouth)*,
"Young man, your sins are forgiven *(slide one hand across the other, flip and repeat)*."

Luke 5:20 (NLT)

Activity:

(10 minutes)

Have all the students stand up. Give directions to the children to sit down or remain standing, depending upon whether or not statements apply to them. Some sample statements include:

- Everyone whose name does NOT start with the letter "A", please sit down.
- If you have a brother or a sister, remain standing.
- If you are wearing anything blue, sit down.

Repeat this process with different statements several times. End the game by pointing out how much more difficult it is to demonstrate who someone is compared to just saying their name.

SAY: Jesus did not just say He had God's power. He demonstrated it, too!

Response Activity:

(10 minutes)

SAY: Nothing kept the friends of the paralytic man from getting to Jesus—not a crowd of people, not even the roof on the house! Thankfully, we can now reach Jesus in a much easier way. We can talk to God using our words. This is called prayer.

Character Trait: Kindness

(10 minutes)

SAY: Kindness means showing that you care about other people. Jesus showed kindness towards others in many different ways. In the story, Jesus taught and healed so many people that everyone wanted to see Him—including the man who could not walk.

Encourage the children to think more about kindness by asking the following:

- **How have others shown kindness towards you?** *(Answers will vary.)*
- **How has God shown kindness to you?** *(Answers will vary but might include providing them with people who love them, sending Jesus to help them, and providing them with the opportunity to learn more about God.)*
- **Why is it important to be kind to other people?** *(Everyone is created by and loved by God, and so everyone has value.)*
- **What are some specific ways you can show kindness to others?** *(Answers will vary.)*

Connect with Others:

(5 minutes)

SAY: One way to show kindness to others is by being faithful. This means that you are trustworthy and do the things you say you will do.

SAY: Jesus showed us that we can have faith in God by His actions.

Challenge the children to show others that they can have faith in them, too, by keeping their promises.

Closing:
(2 minutes)

SAY: God wants us to know Him and put our faith and trust in Him. God gave us the gift of Jesus. Jesus did not just help people by performing miracles, forgiving sins, and healing the sick. Jesus also helped us by showing that God is trustworthy. Jesus showed us that we can put our faith in Him because He has the power to do what He says He can do.

Prayer:
(2 minutes)

SAY:

Dear God,
We are grateful that You have the power to heal our bodies from sickness and forgive us from sin. May we become stronger in our faith as we gain more and more knowledge of You.
Amen.

Notes