

Down Through the Roof
Mark 2:1-12

Jesus was in a house in the town of Capernaum (kuh PER nih um). There were so many people in the house that on one else could even get in the door!

Some men brought their friend to Jesus. The man was a paralytic (pair uh LIT ik). He was paralyzed and could not move. His friends believed that Jesus could make him well, but they couldn't even get in the door.

They had an idea. They would find another way into the house. If they could get up on the roof, they could remove a part of the roof and make a hole above the crowd. That is just what they did. Then they attached ropes to the bed on which their friend was lying and slowly lowered him down into the room, right in front of Jesus!

When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Some Jewish leaders were sitting there and they were thinking, "Only God can forgive sins. How can this man tell him that his sins are forgiven."

Jesus knew what they were thinking. He said, "Which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven', or 'Take up your bed and walk'?" Of course the easier thing would be to say, 'Your sins are forgiven' Jesus was God and really could forgive sins, but there would be no way to prove if this had really happened.

So to prove to them that he could forgive sins, He did the harder thing. He said, "Take up your bed and walk." And the man who had been unable to move, stood up and walked. Everyone could see what had happened as a result of Jesus' words.

The people could hardly believe their eyes. They had never seen such power!

Memory Verse

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases.

Psalm 103:2-3 (NIV)

*Listen to this story about the Healing of the Lame Man at:
<http://gardenofpraise.com/bibl48s.htm>*