

Jesus Forgives and Heals a Man Who Could Not Walk

Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:15-26

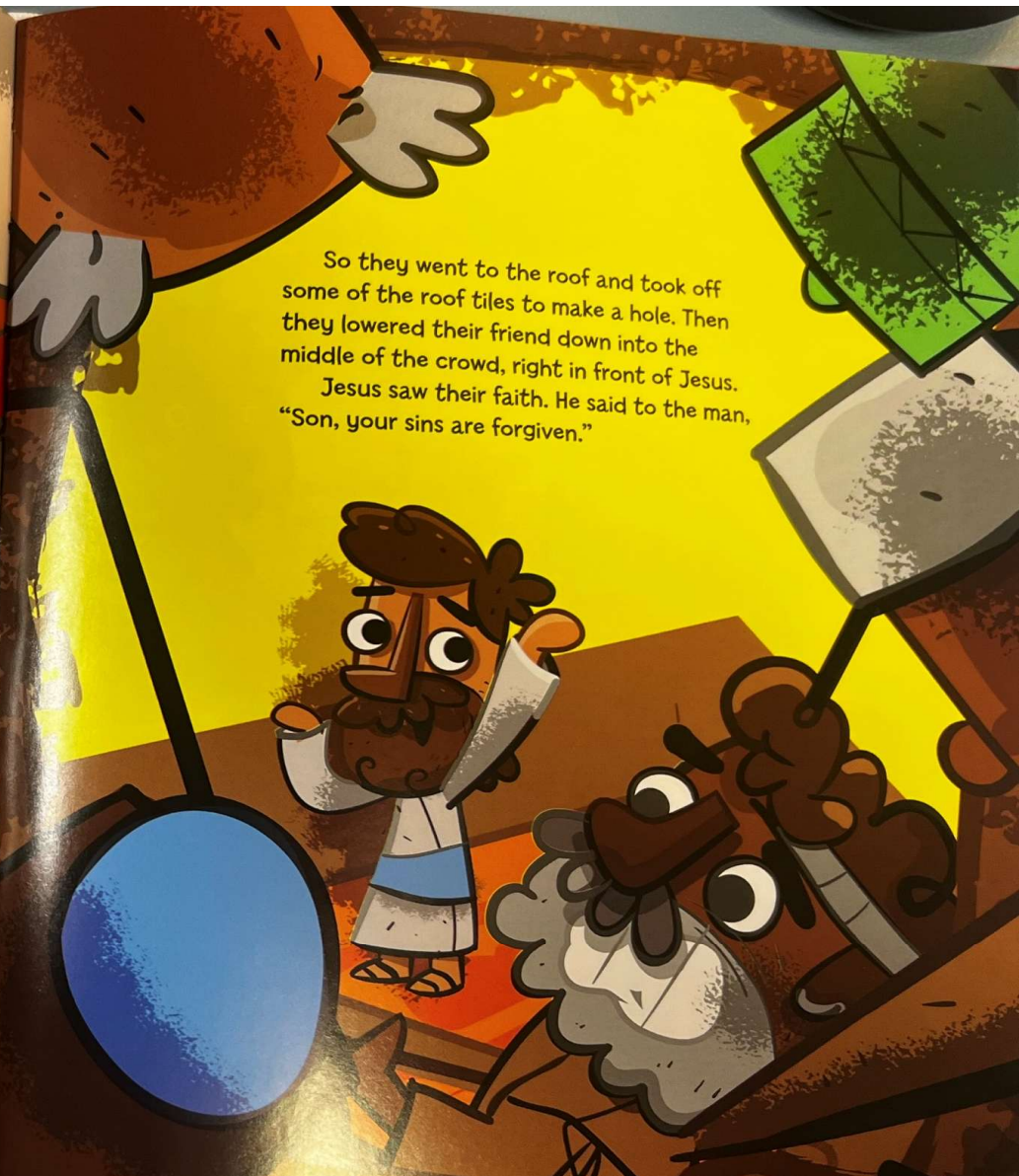


The news about Jesus had spread all around, so many people wanted to see what he was doing. One day Jesus was in Capernaum teaching God's Word in a house. Soon the house was so full of people there was no room to get in.

Four men heard that Jesus was in town and that he had the power to heal the sick. They had a friend who could not walk, and they wanted to take him to Jesus. When they got to the house, they couldn't reach Jesus because of the crowd.



So they went to the roof and took off some of the roof tiles to make a hole. Then they lowered their friend down into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. Jesus saw their faith. He said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."



There were some Pharisees and teachers of the law in the room, and they did not like what Jesus said. They thought to themselves, "He's saying a very evil thing! Only God can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew what they were thinking and said, "The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus said to the man who couldn't walk, "Get up. Take your mat and go home."



Right away, the man stood up in front of them. He took his mat and went home, praising God. All the people were amazed as they watched the man walk out through the crowd. They praised God saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

