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Mark 2:1-12 Power to Change Our Life

Club Talk Help Sheet

TALK TIPS

It's a sin to bore a kid with the gospel.

Memorize the outline, the conclusion, the application and the opening sentence or two. Don't try to "wing" those parts, but don't try to memorize the whole talk.

Mark 2:1-12

1A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. 4Since 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. 5When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . ." He said to the paralytic, 11"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Main point / Last sentence idea

- Jesus has the power to change our life.
- Jesus came to restore us to real life.

Introduction ideas

- Story about needing help OR a time you were literally down on your back and needed help from people to do everything
- Story about how you have helped a friend who was hurt/sick
- Story about a time where it may have appeared that you were hurt on the outside but you were really hurting more on the inside
- Story about a friend(s) that would do anything for you

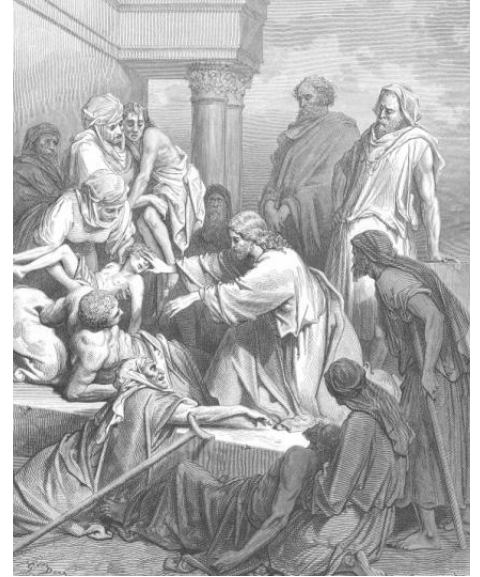


Illustration ideas

- Stand in the middle of the crowded room so they get an idea of how it would have felt to have no room in the house.
- Have a man sitting on a mat in front of you talking and have them act the story out a little so kids can picture what it may have looked like
- If in a place where you can drop some hay or something from the ceiling and maybe even lower someone in (maybe could only be done at camp but saw this once at a club in a barn)
- Use a Yoga mat. Unroll it and act as if the man was really lying there as you talk about him being lowered in. When he is told to pick up his mat, then re-roll the mat and begin to walk out through the crowd. Ask the crowd to imagine what this sight would be like. A guy who could not walk is now up in front of you.

Things you might use or say when talking about the Bible passage:

- Talk through what it must have been like to be one of the four friends. They had definitely heard stories about Jesus, or they wouldn't have gone to the trouble to

bring their friend there, but they also weren't sure if Jesus could do anything.

- I might give the paralyzed man a name in order to make the story more real
- We don't know what Jesus was saying but whatever it was it wasn't too important for Jesus to stop what he was doing and pay attention to this man. Jesus valued each person and he values each student.
- The religious people of the time didn't understand Jesus, but the non-religious people always wanted to be around Him.
- You can choose to put an emphasis on the SIN here or not. This talk can also be a great intro/set up to Sin if you place an emphasis on verses 8-10.
- The people who see Jesus can only respond in one way, they praise him as God. (then describe God...the creator...the healer...etc)

Application/Challenge Ideas:

- We all have an idea of what we think about God but I bet as you keep coming to Young Life and learning about Jesus, that you too may be surprised about what you hear and see Jesus do.
- Jesus doesn't want you to live a life on a mat, he has given you the ability to run! Will you just sit there? Or will you get up and go?