

JUNE 21, 2020

# JESUS HEALED A MAN WHO WAS LAME

## GAME TIME

### THE POOL OF BETHESDA

Set out a towel in the grass outside. Have children take turns laying down on the towel while the others shout, "Get up, pick up your mat, and walk!" The child on the towel should then begin to walk around. He is healed! If you have a pool and adult supervision, play in the water as a family and talk about how the man thought the Pool of Bethesda had magical powers but really it was Jesus who healed!

**SAY:** *The man in our Bible story thought that if he could get into a pool while the water was stirred up, his legs would work. The man never got into the pool; he met Jesus instead. Jesus healed a man who could not walk, and the man obeyed Jesus. In a similar way, we are sinners who need Jesus' help. Jesus wants us to trust in Him. Jesus can free us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him.*

## BIBLE STORY

### John 5

Jesus went to Jerusalem and stood by a pool called Bethesda (buh THEZ duh). Many sick people were lying by the pool. Some could not see, others could not walk, and some were paralyzed. Jesus saw a man who could not walk. The man had been there a long time. Jesus asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

The man answered, "Sir, I have no one to put me in the pool when the water is stirred up. Someone else always gets in before me." The man thought if he could get into the water, he would be able to walk again.

Jesus said, "Get up, pick up your mat, and walk." Right away, the man was healed. He picked up his mat and started to walk.

This happened on the Sabbath, so the Jews told the man who was healed, "It is against the law to pick up your mat on the Sabbath."

The man said, "The man who healed me told me to pick up my mat and walk."

"Who was the man?" the Jews asked. But the man who was healed did not know who had healed him. By this time, Jesus had slipped away into the crowd.

Later, Jesus found the healed man in the temple area. Jesus said to him, "See, you are healed. Now stop sinning so that something worse doesn't happen to you."

The man went to tell the Jews that Jesus had healed him. So the Jews tried to stop Jesus because He was healing people on the Sabbath. Jesus told them, "My Father is always working, so I am working too." Now the Jews hated Jesus even more. Not only did He break their rule about not working on the Sabbath, He was saying that He is God's Son. Jesus is God's Son, and He always did what God said was right.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** The man at the pool needed help. Jesus healed him, and he obeyed Jesus. In a similar way, we are sinners who need Jesus' help. Jesus wants us to trust in Him. Jesus can free us from sin so we can follow Him and obey Him.

### ROLL OUT A PLAY DOUGH MAT

Give children a ball of play dough. Show them how to roll the dough flat with their hands or rolling pin and then use a craft stick or pencil to trim the dough into a mat shape. If you have plastic people figurines, use them to play out the Bible story of the man picking up his mat and walking.

**SAY:** *Jesus healed a man who could not walk. Before he met Jesus, the man lay on a mat hoping to get into the pool that he thought would help him. All people need the kind of help that only Jesus can give. Jesus wants people to trust in Him so He can free them from sin.*

