Jesus Heals a Paralysed Man
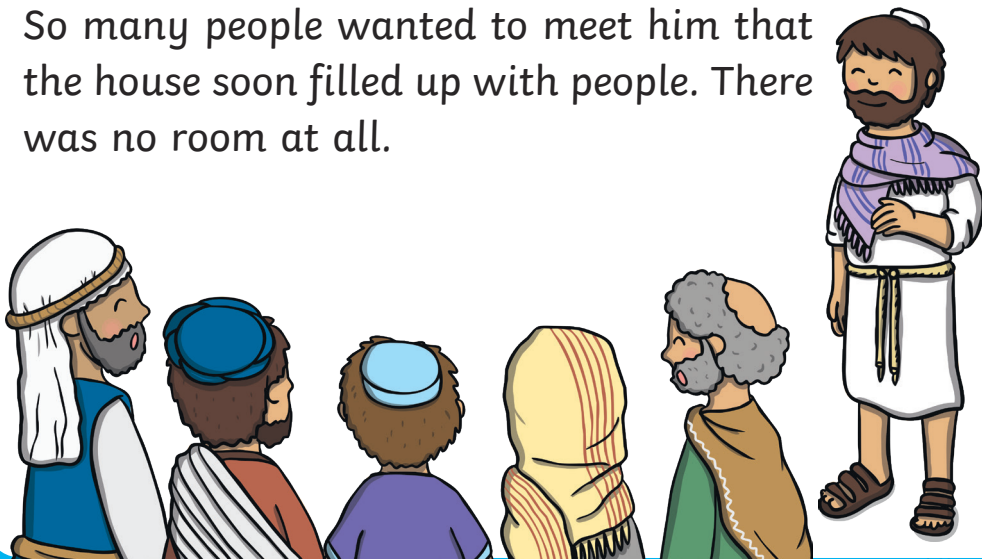

Wherever Jesus went, huge crowds of people followed him – they wanted to see what he would do next!

Jesus was in a house in a town called Capernaum. So many people wanted to meet him that the house soon filled up with people. There was no room at all.

Among the people who wanted to see Jesus was a paralysed man. Paralysed means he couldn't walk or use his legs at all. This meant that the man had no way of getting to Jesus through the crowds of people.

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The man's friends knew he felt sad. They wanted to help their friend.

All of a sudden, one of them had an idea. He gathered his friends together and whispered his plan to them.

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Inside the room where Jesus was talking, there was a loud noise. Dust and bits of the ceiling started falling to the ground.

Everyone looked up in amazement to see spades appearing through the ceiling, digging a hole! Suddenly, there was a rectangle-shaped hole in the ceiling.

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A face appeared at each corner of the hole. Then, the people watched a mat being lowered by ropes through the hole. Laying on the mat was the paralysed man.

As the man's friends gently lowered him to the floor, the crowd of people made space.

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Jesus walked up to the paralysed man and then looked up through the hole in the ceiling. Jesus was very pleased with what the friends had done.

He looked at the paralysed man and said "You are forgiven for everything you have done wrong."

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Some important people were watching what had happened.

"Who does Jesus think he is?" thought one of them angrily.

"Only God can tell people they are forgiven for the wrong things they have done!" thought another person.

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Jesus was very special so he knew what the important people were thinking.

"Why are you thinking these things?" he asked. "What would be easier for me to say? You are forgiven or get up and walk?"

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Jesus turned to the paralysed man lying on his mat and said, "Get up, take your mat and walk home."

To the astonishment of everyone watching, the man did exactly that! He was able to get up by himself and walk.

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"We have never seen anything like this before!" cheered one person. "God is good!" said another. It was a very special day.