

## Paralysed Man Story

There was a **man whose legs didn't work properly**. At the time this story took place, there were no wheelchairs, so the man just had to lie on a **mat** every day. He wasn't able to do much, but, fortunately, he had **4** good friends.

One day Jesus came to town. A crowd of people followed him, and Jesus began speaking to all the people who had gathered at his friend's **house**. However, because this story takes place in Israel, the house had **a flat roof** and it had **steps** up the side.

The **4** friends had a good idea. They had heard about Jesus and that he could do miracles, so they decided to take the **man whose legs didn't work properly** to meet Jesus to ask if he could help him. They carried him across town on his **mat**. But when they got there, the **house** was so crowded that there was no way they could get in.

They didn't want to give up because they were sure Jesus could help their friend, so the **4** friends came up with a bold plan. They climbed up the **steps** on the side of the house onto the **flat roof** and they started making a **hole**. Then they tied some **rope** on to the **bed mat** and let the man down through the **hole** on the **rope** so that he landed at Jesus' feet.

Jesus saw the **man whose legs didn't work properly**, and he saw his **4** friends. He could see that they trusted him. Jesus spoke to the man lying on the **mat**, and he said, "Your sins are forgiven."

Some of the people who were there - the religious leaders and teachers of the law - got annoyed. "Jesus can't say that," they said. "It's only God who can forgive sins." But Jesus said, "I'll prove that I have the power to say this." Then he spoke to the man and he told him, "Stand up, pick up your **mat** and walk."

The man jumped up. He **folded up his mat**, and he walked home on legs that worked properly, praising God all the way.