

JESUS HEALS A MAN WHO COULDN'T WALK

Jesus went to a place where there was a pool with water that came up from the ground. Many sick people used to stay around the pool. They knew that the first person who went into the pool, after the water moved, would be healed.

One man had been sick for 38 years. Jesus thought about how long the man had waited. Then Jesus asked the man, "Do you want to be healed?" The man said, "I don't have anyone to put me in the water fast enough; someone always gets in first."

Then Jesus said, "Rise, pick up your stretcher and walk." And the man did just that—he was healed. When the Jews saw the man carrying his stretcher, they were upset because he was doing work on the Sabbath. They told him to stop, and he told them that he had just been healed. They wanted to know who healed him, but he didn't know.

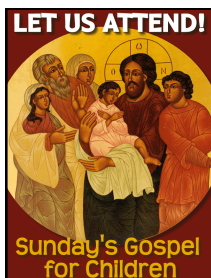
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Jesus went to a place where there was a pool.
Where did the water in the pool come from?
2. Sick people stayed near the pool--why?
3. One man had been there for 38 years. Why didn't he get healed?
4. What did Jesus tell the man?
5. What happened then?
6. It is a blessing from God to be healed.

HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC



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Pre-12



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A MAN CAN WALK AGAIN

One Sabbath day, our Lord Jesus Christ went to Jerusalem. Near one of the city gates was a pool called Bethesda. Around this pool, many sick people lay, waiting. They were waiting for the water to move! You see, every now and then, an angel would come and make the water move. When that happened, the first person to go into the water was healed! So, the sick people waited and watched for their chance.

One man who was there had been sick for 38 years. When Jesus saw him, he knew the man had been there a long time. He asked the man, "Do you want to be healed?"

The man said, "Yes, I do, but I don't have anyone to put me into the pool when the water moves. Every time I see it moving and try to get into it, someone else always gets in first."

Then Jesus said, "Get up, pick up your stretcher, and walk." When He said this, the man was healed. He picked up his stretcher and walked!

Because it was the Sabbath, when the Jews saw the healed man carrying something, they told him, "It is the Sabbath! It's against the law for you to carry that."

He answered, "Oh, the man who healed me told me to do it."

"Who healed you?" they asked. But the man did not know who had healed him, for the place was very crowded.

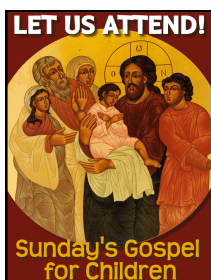
Later, Jesus saw the man in the Temple and told him, "Look, now you are well! Don't sin anymore. I don't want anything worse to happen to you."



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Jesus went to a place where there was a pool. What was the name of the pool?
2. Why did sick people stay near the pool?
3. One man had been there for 38 years. Why didn't he get healed?
4. What did Jesus tell the man?
5. What happened then?
6. Have you even been sick, and then gotten better? It is a blessing from God to be healed. Pray and thank God that He heals us.



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TO WALK, OR NOT

At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.

One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, "It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet." But he answered them, "The man

who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.' "They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk'?" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

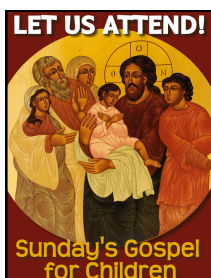
Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.



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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. When Jesus sees the man what does he know about him?
2. Why had the man been lying by the pool for a long time?
3. What do you think it might feel like to be sick for that long?
4. Why would it be important to Jesus that the man had been sick for a long time?
5. What does Jesus do for the man?
6. How do you think that might feel?
7. What does this gospel tell us about Jesus? About ourselves?



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TO WALK, OR NOT

Characters: Narrator, Jesus, Man, Jews

Narrator: At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had.

One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him,

Jesus: Do you want to be healed?

Narrator: The sick man answered him,

Man: Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.

Narrator: And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured,

Jews: It is the Sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.

Narrator: But he answered them,

Man: The man who healed me said to me, 'Take up your pallet, and walk.'

Narrator: They asked him,

Jews: Who is the man who said to you, 'Take up your pallet, and walk'?

Narrator: Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

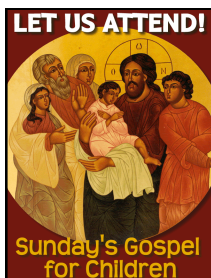
Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him,

Jesus: See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you.

Narrator: The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.



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DO YOU WANT HEALING?

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take up your pallet, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked.

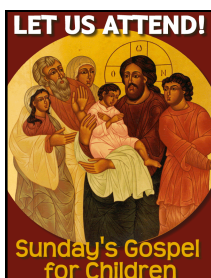
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healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befall you." The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Jesus ask the man?
2. Does the man answer his question? What does the man say?
3. Have you ever heard someone answer a question that way? For example, if your teacher asks someone in your class if he did his homework how might one of your classmates respond?
4. Why might a classmate respond that way? What is she assuming the teacher wants to know, already knows, or wants to do?
5. What is a person really doing when he or she answers a question that way?
6. Based on the man's response to Jesus do you think he understood who Jesus is?
7. When do you respond to Jesus in this way? How might you change your response?



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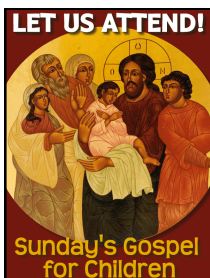
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