



<p>3. The proof that Jesus forgives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Jesus knew that this was the man’s greatest need. He had done things which ruined his relationship with God – just like you and me! He needed that relationship fixed. The only way for it to be fixed was for Jesus to forgive him.</li> <li>• <i>Q: How did the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law respond this?</i></li> <li>➤ Instead of rejoicing that Jesus had given this man the best gift ever, they thought Jesus was presuming to give something that he had no authority to give.</li> </ul> <p><b>Read Luke 5:22-24</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Note that Jesus “knew what they were thinking”!</li> <li>• <i>Q: What question does Jesus ask them?</i></li> <li>➤ Jesus is asking them which is easier to prove? That I can forgive sins, or that I can make this man walk again?</li> <li>• <i>Q: Which would you say is easier to prove?</i></li> <li>➤ You can’t really see “forgiveness”, so you can’t prove that you have given it.</li> <li>➤ But you can prove that you can make someone walk again. If you say, “Get up” and the person gets up – it proves you can do it!</li> <li>➤ Actually, it’s a much bigger thing for God to forgive sin than to make someone walk. It means doing something about all of the sins we’ve every committed against God in our whole life. That’s a very big deal!</li> <li>➤ So, if Jesus was able to show he had God’s power and could therefore make someone walk again, then he would prove that he had God’s power to forgive.</li> <li>➤ Imagine the tension in the room as Jesus turns to the man and says, “Get up!”.</li> <li>• <i>Q: What would happen if Jesus didn’t really have God’s power?</i></li> <li>➤ Nothing! The man would just keep lying there! What did happen?</li> </ul> <p><b>Read Luke 5:25-26</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Jesus proved that he had God’s power to make the man walk. He also proved that he could therefore also forgive the man’s sins.</li> <li>• <i>Q: What was the reaction of the people who saw all this?</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>So What?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Anyone who comes to Jesus and says sorry will be forgiven. We can be sure of this because Jesus proved it by making a man walk again</li> <li>• <i>Q: How would knowing this help if you are tempted to think you have done something that God can’t possibly forgive?</i></li> <li>• <i>Q: What do you think stops people coming to Jesus and saying sorry?</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Memory Verse</b></p>	<p><i>Luke 5:32</i> I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.</p>

## Sunday school lesson – Lower Primary

<b>BIG IDEA</b>	God can forgive sins
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Luke 5:17-26
<b>Preparation</b>	<p><b>Read</b> Luke 5:17-26. The teaching that Jesus gives through this episode is primarily aimed at the Pharisees and Teachers of the law who were present in the room. They likely didn't let the man into the room since he wasn't deemed worthy, and they clearly didn't believe they needed forgiveness from Jesus. Jesus shows them his compassion for those who recognise their need. He also shows that he has authority to forgive sins, by the visual demonstration of healing the paralysed man. This rightly resulted in praise to God. It is indeed "remarkable" that God forgives sin.</p> <p><b>Take home message:</b> We can be sure Jesus will forgive us when we are sorry.</p> <p><b>Prepare for "Getting Started":</b> Have a picture of you and a friend or alternatively 2 dolls/figurines to act out scenario. For use during the story – have 3 Lego men and a Lego house (with flat roof – keep one wall space empty so you can show inside), as well as a piece of card with strings attached, or something to use as a stretcher.</p>
<b>Getting Started</b>	<p>Use a picture of you and a friend, or 2 dolls/figurines. Talk about a scenario where you hurt your friend. When you hurt someone, you wreck your friendship (demonstrate by either ripping photo in half, or else putting 2 dolls apart with backs to each other). <i>What do you need to say to your friend if you hurt them?</i> You need to say sorry! <i>What does sorry mean?</i> It means you know you shouldn't have done what you did, and you want to be friends again. To be friends again, the person who was hurt needs to forgive you. <i>Do you know what forgive means?</i> It means accepting the other person back as your friend again, just like it was before they hurt you (act out by putting the photo back together or putting the 2 dolls back together again). But what about if we do something against God and ruin our friendship with God? That's much worse than hurting a friend. How do we know if God will forgive us and make us his friend again? We are going to look at a story from the bible to find out.</p>
<b>Finding Out</b> 1. Seeking Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Show the man lying on the stretcher</li> <li>• <i>Q: What do you think is wrong with this man?</i></li> <li>➤ His legs don't work, and so he can't walk!</li> <li>• <i>Q: What would it be like if you couldn't walk? What wouldn't you be able to do?</i></li> <li>➤ This man heard about Jesus. He heard that he could make people better. He knew Jesus could help him too. He wanted to go and see Jesus.</li> <li>• <i>Q: What was the problem with getting to see Jesus? (He couldn't walk!)</i></li> <li>➤ This man had some kind friends though. They offered to carry their friend to go and see Jesus (act out with the Lego people)</li> <li>➤ They finally arrived at the house where Jesus was. They knew Jesus could help their friend because they knew Jesus had God's power. They really wanted Jesus to heal their friend.</li> <li>➤ But then they had another problem!</li> </ul> <p><b>Read Luke 5:19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Q: What was the problem?</i></li> </ul>



## Sunday school lesson – Pre-School

<b>BIG IDEA</b>	God can forgive sins
<b>Bible Reading</b>	Luke 5:17-26
<b>Preparation</b>	<p><b>Read</b> Luke 5:17-26. The teaching that Jesus gives through this episode is primarily aimed at the Pharisees and Teachers of the law who were present in the room. They likely didn't let the man into the room since he wasn't deemed worthy, and they clearly didn't believe they needed forgiveness from Jesus. Jesus shows them his compassion for those who recognise their need. He also shows that he has authority to forgive sins, by the visual demonstration of healing the paralysed man. This rightly resulted in praise to God. It is indeed "remarkable" that God forgives sin.</p> <p><b>Take home message:</b> We can be sure Jesus will forgive us when we are sorry.</p> <p><b>Prepare for "Getting Started":</b> Have a picture of you and a friend or alternatively 2 dolls/figurines to act out scenario. For use during the story – have 3 Lego men and a Lego house (with flat roof – keep one wall space empty so you can show inside), as well as a piece of card with strings attached, or something to use as a stretcher.</p>
<b>Getting Started</b>	<p>Use a picture of you and a friend, or 2 dolls/figurines. Talk about a scenario where you hurt your friend. When you hurt someone, you wreck your friendship (demonstrate by either ripping photo in half, or else putting 2 dolls apart with backs to each other). <i>What do you need to say to your friend if you hurt them?</i> You need to say sorry! <i>What does sorry mean?</i> It means you know you shouldn't have done what you did, and you want to be friends again. To be friends again, the person who was hurt needs to forgive you. <i>Do you know what forgive means?</i> It means accepting the other person back as your friend again, just like it was before they hurt you (act out by putting the photo back together or putting the 2 dolls back together again). But what about if we do something against God and ruin our friendship with God? That's much worse than hurting a friend. How do we know if God will forgive us and make us his friend again? We are going to look at a story from the bible to find out.</p>
<b>Finding Out</b> 1. Seeking Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Show the man lying on the stretcher</li> <li>• <i>Q: What do you think is wrong with this man?</i></li> <li>➤ His legs don't work, and so he can't walk!</li> <li>• <i>Q: What would it be like if you couldn't walk? What wouldn't you be able to do?</i></li> <li>➤ This man heard about Jesus. He heard that he could make people better, even people like him who couldn't walk. He knew Jesus could help him too.</li> <li>➤ But there was a problem – how could he get to Jesus if he couldn't walk?</li> <li>➤ This man had some kind friends. They offered to carry their friend to go and see Jesus (act out with the Lego people)</li> <li>➤ They finally arrived at the house where Jesus was. But then they had another problem! There were lots of people that had come to see Jesus. They were already there in the room with Jesus. They didn't let the man and his friends in.</li> <li>➤ What could they do? They had come all this way to see Jesus. They knew Jesus could help their friend because they knew Jesus had God's power. They really wanted Jesus to heal their friend, but they couldn't get to him!</li> </ul>

