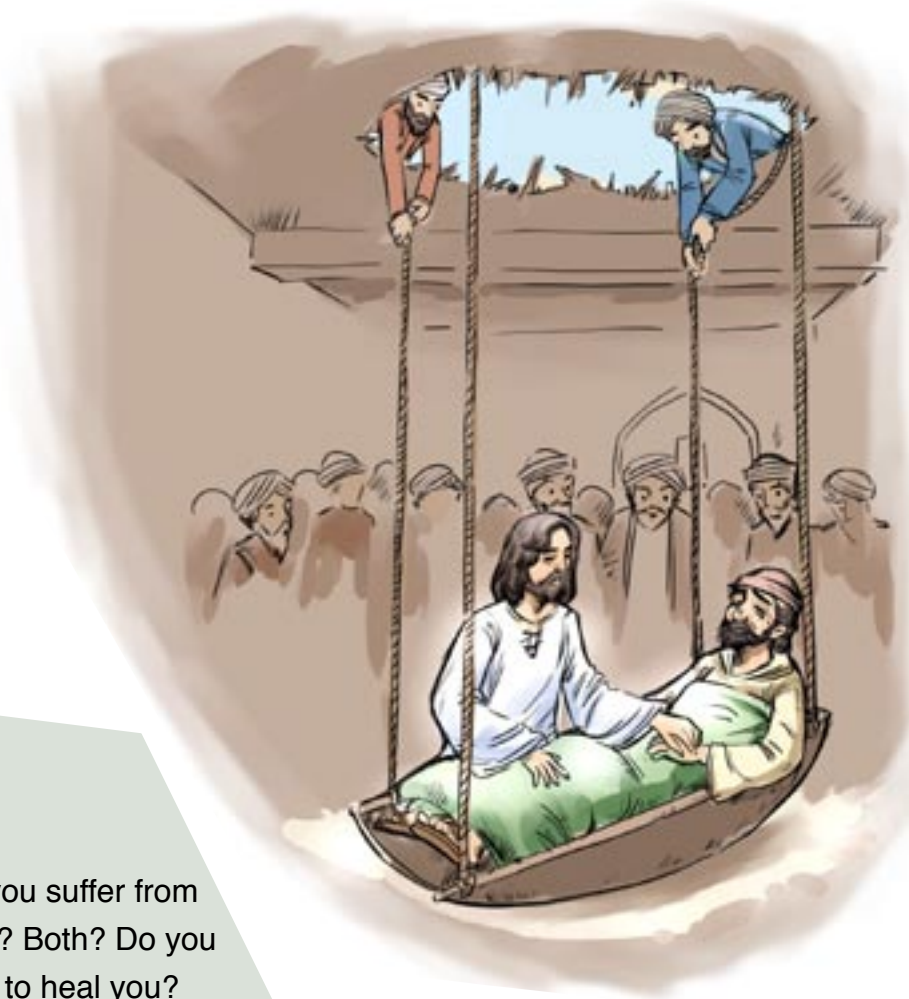


The Great Healer



Getting Started

Do you need healing? Do you suffer from physical or emotional hurts? Both? Do you believe God has the power to heal you?

The Bible has many stories of miracles. Jesus and his disciples healed many people who had many different problems. But the Bible also has stories of sick people whom God chose not to heal. Do you believe God is loving and compassionate? Then why are some people healed and some not? Do you believe God has a purpose behind our pain?

Improving Your Vocabulary

compassionate (adj) - loving, caring about people

paralyzed (adj) - unable to move your arms or legs, or your whole body, because of damage to nerves or muscles

blasphemy (n) - something untrue or hateful about God

prove (v) - to show without a doubt that something is true

authority (n) - power or control over someone or something

elder (n) - a leader in a church

anoint (v) - to apply oil as part of a ceremony

righteous (adj) - good and just; morally upright

Reading God's Word

Mark 2:1-12

1 A few days later Jesus went back to Capernaum, and the news spread that he was at home. **2** So many people came together that there was no room left, not even out in front of the door. Jesus was preaching the message to them **3** when four men arrived, carrying a paralyzed man to Jesus. **4** Because of the crowd, however, they could not get the man to him. So they made a hole in the roof right above the place where Jesus was. When they had made an opening, they let the man down, lying on his mat. **5** Seeing how much faith they had, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My son, your sins are forgiven." **6** Some teachers of the Law who were sitting there thought to themselves, **7** "How does he dare talk like this? This is blasphemy! God is the only one who can forgive sins!" **8** At once Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he said to them, "Why do you think such things? **9** Is it easier to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, pick up your mat, and walk'? **10** I will prove to you, then, that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, **11** "I tell you, get up, pick up your mat, and go home!" **12** While they all watched, the man got up, picked up his mat, and hurried away. They were all completely amazed and praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

James 5:13-16 (ESV)

13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. **14** Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. **15** And the

prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. **16** Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

For further study, see Isaiah 53:4-5

Miracles of healing: Matthew 17:14-21; John 5:1-8, John 11:1-44

Example of not being healed: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

Taking a Closer Look

1. What did Jesus notice about the men who brought their friend to Jesus? (Mark 2:5)

2. What was the first thing Jesus said to the paralyzed man? Why do you think he said this? (Mark 2:5)

3. What were the teachers of the law thinking? (Mark 2:6-7)

4. How did Jesus prove that he had the power to forgive sins? (Mark 2:10)

5. What do you think Jesus thought was more important: healing the man's body or forgiving his sin? What do you think is more important?

6. What should we do if we are in trouble? If we are happy? If we are sick? (James 5:13-14)

7. What can prayer do? (James 5:15) Is everyone healed when they pray?

8. Why do you think God sometimes chooses not to heal?

Taking Action

1. Emotional healing and forgiveness go together. We cannot be healed until we have forgiven those who hurt us, and asked God's forgiveness for ourselves. If you have been hurt by someone, ask for God's help to forgive him/her. And ask God to forgive you for what you have done wrong.
2. In this lesson, we learned that prayer is powerful. If you need to be healed, pray to God and ask for healing. Ask others to pray for you as well. Pray with faith and confidence. God will do what is best for you.

Memory Verse: Ezekiel 34:16

I will look for those who are lost, bring back those that wander off, bandage those that are hurt, and heal those that are sick.

Review the Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the correct vocabulary words.

1. Who has _____ over you? Do you have _____ over anyone?
(Same answer for both questions.)
2. Do you believe you are a loving and _____ person?
3. Do you think someone who is _____ can have a full and satisfying life?
4. Would you ever like to be an _____ in a church? Why or why not?
5. How can a person _____ their love to someone else?



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