

WEEK 11: JESUS' MIRACLES

HIGH SCHOOL

GOALS

What can we learn from the healing of the paralytic?
Where is Capernaum located and what is its significance?

LESSON

Materials Needed: Bible, Icon

Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:

The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 123-135

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 76-82

YouTube Video: Capernaum, the town of Jesus <https://youtu.be/lfTro5uRaT8>

YouTube Video: Capernaum - The town of Jesus <https://youtu.be/yURJfvnInAU>

JESUS' MIRACLES - THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

Read Matthew 9:1-8

“So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.” Verse 1

Jesus had gotten into a boat and went across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. He was born in Bethlehem, due to the census and fulfilling the prophecy. Jesus grew up in Nazareth and he lived for an extended amount of time in Capernaum.

Locate Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Capernaum on your class maps.

Every time Matthew uses the word, “behold,” he is placing emphasis on the situation. He is telling us that something surprising or amazing is about to happen.

“Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed.” Verse 2

Matthew does not give all of the same details as Mark and Luke about this paralytic, but this is the same man who was lowered through the roof by friends as he was placed in front of Jesus.

“When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.’ ... ‘Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.’ And he arose and departed to his house.” Verses 2 - 7

Jesus tells the man his sins are forgiven before healing him because this man’s illness was caused by his sins. This is not always the case in our lives, but in this particular man’s situation, he needed to be forgiven for what he had done, then was healed.

Have you ever had a situation when you felt weighed down by something you had done. Then you went to confession and walked away feeling at peace with the tremendous weight lifted from you? Our choices in life affect us physically, as well as spiritually. Our bodies are mind and soul - connected as one.

Jesus healed innumerable people of many different illnesses: such as those told to us in this chapter of Matthew - a man healed of paralysis, a girl restored to life from death, a woman healed from bleeding for 12 years, two men from blindness, and a mute man can now speak after a demon was cast out of him. Truly, all of these are miracles of Jesus.

ICON STUDY

We see a huge crowd surrounding Jesus. This crowd was so immense, there was absolutely no way for the paralytic’s friends / family to get him near Jesus. This did not stop them. They hoisted the paralytic up to the roof of the house, took off a section of the roof, and then lowered the paralytic down in front of Jesus.

Optional Activity:

Securely, have 4 or more people lift a “paralytic” in the class. Remind the students that the friends / family of the paralytic would have carried this man a great distance - amongst an enormous crowd, they managed to lift him up onto the roof of a home, took apart a section of the roof, and then lowered him down. That took a lot of work!

These are pretty amazing friends / family who not only refused to give up when the situation seemed impossible, but were also willing to go through all the work required of them in order to place the paralytic in front of Jesus. We should be incredibly thankful to our friends and family who support and take care of us. We should also strive to be that friend, brother/sister, son/daughter who would endure through any situation in order to help our friend or family member.

ХС НСЪЩЕЛН
ГАСЛАБЛЕННО



WEEK 11: JESUS' MIRACLES

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOALS

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Where is Capernaum located and what is its significance?

LESSON

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ХЕ НЪРЪЕЛН
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WEEK 11: JESUS' MIRACLES

3RD & 4TH GRADE

GOALS

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JESUS' MIRACLES - THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

Read Matthew 9:1-8

Locate Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Capernaum on your class maps.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem and grew up in Nazareth. Now we see him taking about and leaving for Capernaum where he spends a good deal of time.

Every time Matthew uses the word, “behold,” he is placing emphasis on the situation. He is telling us that something surprising or amazing is about to happen.

What does “paralytic” mean? (*Someone who is paralyzed*) Matthew does not give all of the same details as Mark and Luke about the paralytic, but this is the same man who was lowered through the roof by friends as he was placed in front of Jesus.

This man had some pretty amazing family / friends to carry him all that way, through the crowds, and then up the roof and down through the ceiling. Their deep faith in Jesus is why he was healed.

ICON STUDY

We see a huge crowd surrounding Jesus. This crowd was so immense, there was absolutely no way for the paralytic's friends / family to get him near Jesus. This did not stop them. They hoisted the paralytic up to the roof of the house, took off a section of the roof, and then lowered the paralytic down in front of Jesus.

ХЕ НЪРЪЕЛН
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WEEK 11: JESUS' MIRACLES

1ST & 2ND GRADE

GOALS

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CLASS ROUTINE

Continue routine - move photo, light candle, venerate icon, prayer, collect money

JESUS HEALS A PARALYTIC

Matthew 9

Does anyone know what paralytic means? It is someone who is paralyzed for some reason.

There was a man who could not move at all and was stuck laying down in a bed. He had some family and friends who were trying to carry this paralyzed man to Jesus. Why do you think they were trying to find Jesus? (*They wanted Jesus to heal him so he could walk.*) Have you ever been somewhere that had such a huge amount of people that your parents told you to stay close to them because they didn't want to lose you? It was even more crowded than that! The people who were carrying the paralytic could not get to Jesus because there was just too many people!

They weren't willing to give up though! They thought and then thought some more. How are we going to get him inside the house so Jesus can heal him? Somebody had an idea!

They decided to climb on the roof of the house where Jesus was teaching, then lift the paralyzed man to the roof, took apart some of the roof, and then carefully lowered the paralyzed man into the house in front of Jesus!

Jesus saw how much effort they went to in order to heal this paralyzed man. Jesus healed the man because of their great faith in Him.

ICON STUDY

We see a huge crowd surrounding Jesus. This crowd was so immense, there was absolutely no way for the paralytic's friends / family to get him near Jesus. This did not stop them. They hoisted the paralytic up to the roof of the house, took off a section of the roof, and then lowered the paralytic down in front of Jesus.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Continue practice singing, "Lord, have mercy" in multiple languages

ХЕ НЪРЪЛН
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WEEK 11: JESUS' MIRACLES

PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN

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