



**Bible Story:** With a Little Help from My Friends (Four Friends Who Helped) • **Mark 2:1-12**

**Bottom Line:** God created you to work with others.

God's image

**Memory Verse:** I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:14

**Life App:**— Identity—Knowing who God made us to be

## 1. Bible Story Review

**What You Need:** Bible

**What You Do:**

- Read **Mark 2:1-12**
- *For older kids, work through the passages of scripture— spend time engaging in the passages with the kids. Think of questions you can ask them as you read these verses (Who, what, when, where, why how questions)*
- Be sure to touch on the following points:
  - Jesus was teaching at a house in a city. So many people came to hear Him that there wasn't any room—not even outside the door!
  - Four men came, carrying a man who couldn't walk. They couldn't get close to Jesus because of the crowd. So, they made a hole in the roof of the house and lowered the man on a mat, through the hole.
  - Jesus saw their faith and told the man that his sins were forgiven. He told the man to get up, take his mat, and go home!
  - The four men worked together to get their friend to Jesus, and Jesus showed how powerful He was by forgiving his sins and healing him!

“What are some ways that you can work with others? (*Me and my friends can help cheer up a friend who's sad. I can help my brother or sister clean their room. I can help my mom bake cookies for our neighbor. Me and my friends can help clean the classroom at school.*) Great ideas! Just like the four men worked together to help their friend, you can work with your friends to help others, too. So, remember, **[Bottom Line] God created you to work with others.**”

## 2. Help!

**What You Need:** Oven mitts or alternative; collection of various objects to use with the oven mitts

**What You Do:**

- Gather your family together in a circle.
- Set the objects in the center of the circle.
- Give each kid a pair of oven mitts. Family members can take turns.
- Challenge kids to do tasks while wearing the mitts on their hands. Tasks can include:
  - Looking up the memory verse, Psalm 139:14
  - Cutting a circle out of paper
  - Removing a cap from a marker and writing their name
  - Picking up a piece of cardstock from a flat surface
  - Unwrapping a piece of hard candy
  - Spinning a penny on a hard surface

#### What You Say:

“Imagine what it would have been like to be the paralyzed man in the story. Using scissors or flipping through a book are typically simple tasks, but for the paralyzed man, even the simplest task was difficult and often impossible. There is no way he could have seen Jesus without his friends. Remember, **[Bottom Line] God created you to work with others.** Just like the four friends in our story, you can do so much more with others than you could alone. We are made in the image of God, and each of us reflects just a little bit of God to the world around us. When we decide to work with others, we reflect even more of who God is to the world.”

### 3. Discussion Questions

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

**Ask:**

- What could happen if we don't work together?
- When is it hard to work with others? What can you do when that happens?
- What are some rules we should always follow when working with others?
- How does working together with others show the world who God is?
- What can you learn about working together from the four friends of the man who couldn't walk?
- Can you think of a time when you worked with others to help someone?

### 4. Lesson Recap and Prayer Journal

**What You Need:** Prayer journal, paper, something to write with, Bible

**What You Do:**

- As a family, **add to your prayer journal** or make a prayer journal if you have not already done so.
  - The Bible teaches us that the “the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective” (**James 5:16b**). We are encouraging you to make a family prayer journal. It can be as fancy or as simple as you want. An example is provided on our Kids at The Heights Facebook Page! A prayer journal can be a tool to record your prayer requests and thanksgivings. It can also help you grow your faith as you keep a record of how the Lord answer your prayers.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

#### What You Say:

“God, You are great! There is no limit to Your creativity! You made us in Your image to reflect You and Your creativity to the people around us. Just like the four friends in our story today, we can do so much more together than we could do by ourselves. God, You created us to work with others. Our church is a great example of what we can do when we work with others. Thank You, God, for all the people who worked together to help us learn about You! In Your name, Amen.”