

READ IT

This week's Bible story is

Four Friends

from Luke 5:17-26

Jesus heals, forgives and loves.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Roof
- Jesus
- Friends
- Paralyzed

Jesus was often in trouble with the religious authorities when he did healings because he healed on the Sabbath, ignored cultural rules and customs, and interpreted scripture in new ways.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 348-353

Spark Bible pages 1135-1136

Family Prayer

Thank you, Jesus, for your love, forgiveness, and healing. Keep us mindful of all who do not know of your love. Give us opportunity to share the good news of the wholeness you bring to life. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 What do you like to do with your friends?
- 2 What do you like best about one of your closest friends?
- 3 Whom do we know who needs healing? What can we do to help them?
- 4 Healing does not always come in fantastic ways like in this story. Sometimes healing means finding wholeness and goodness in the midst of a disease. What is your vision of wholeness and goodness? What does that look like in a life?



Eye Spark

Next time you see your good friends, remember this story of the Four Friends and Jesus.



Ear Spark

In worship, when you hear the words "your sins are forgiven," remember this story of Jesus healing, loving, and forgiving.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Take a family walk in your neighborhood noticing the roofs around you. At each building or home, say a little prayer for the people inside. You might pray that they know Jesus' love, feel God's forgiveness, or experience the healing that they need.

For younger kids

Make a model scene of this story using blocks and dolls. Act it out – give everyone in your family a part!

For older kids

Can you find any Christian games online? Are there any that go with this story? If you were going to create a game that went with this story, what would it be like?



Four Friends



Jesus knew the man was paralyzed.

Think, Speak, Shout!

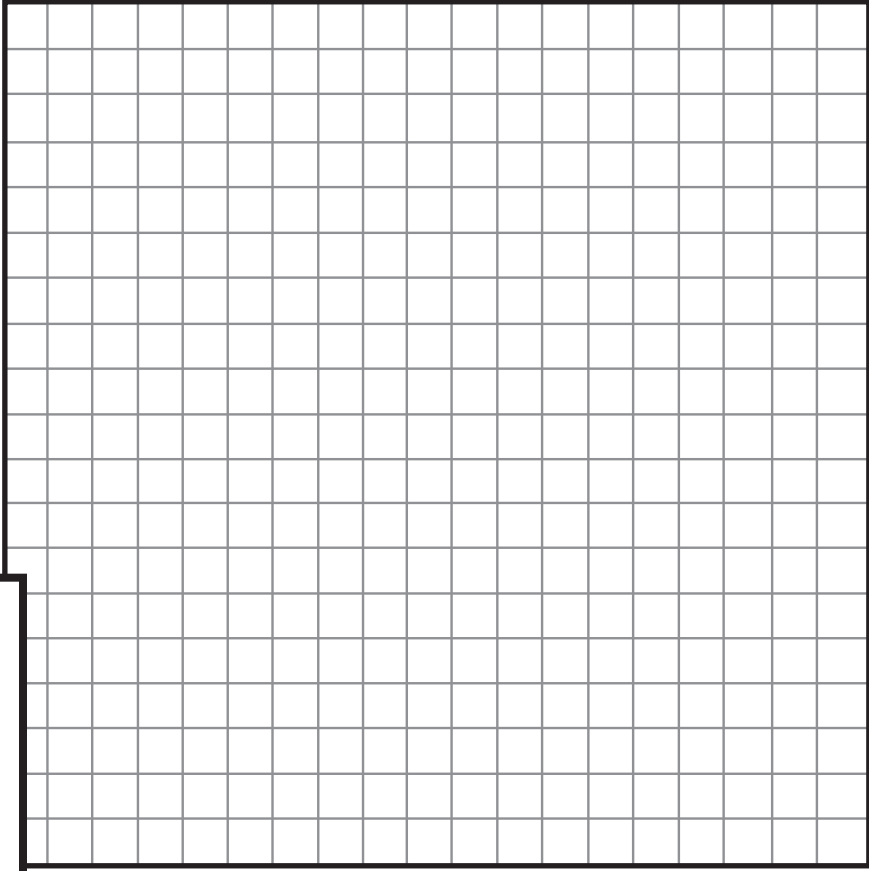
When Jesus healed the paralyzed man, everyone was excited and amazed. What do you think they were thinking? What were they saying? Fill in these thought and speech bubbles to share their excitement.



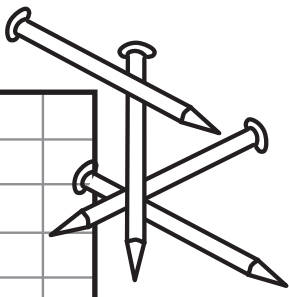
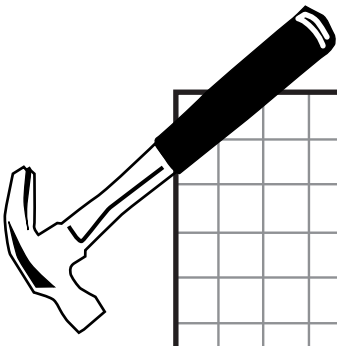
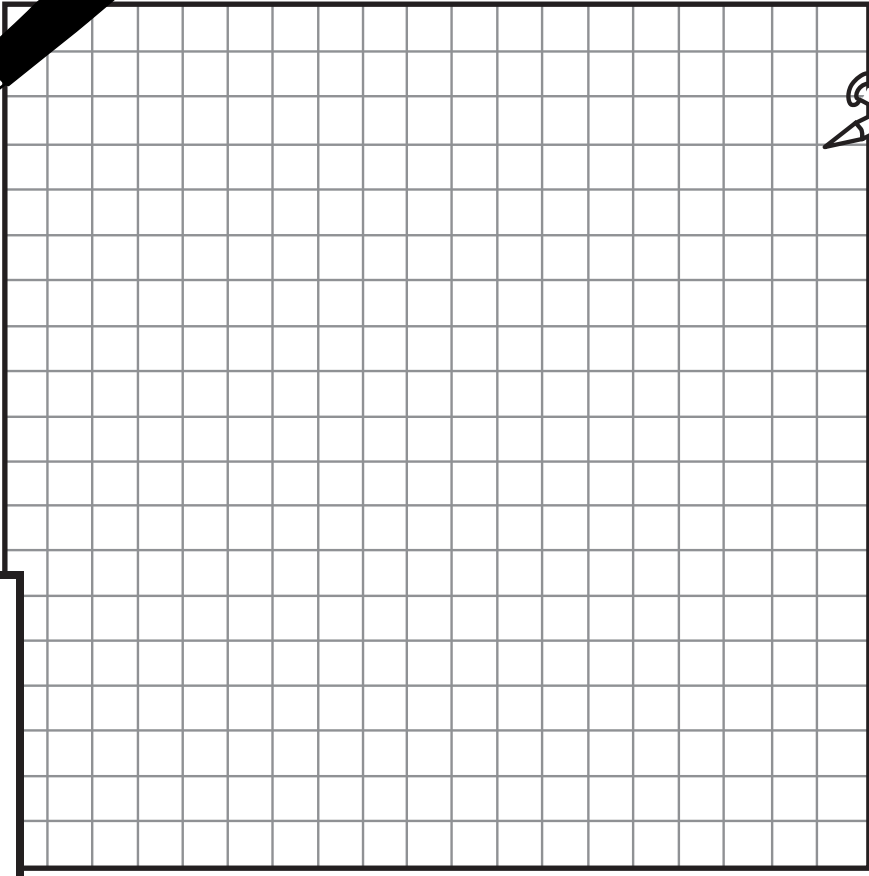
Biblical Architect

Good hosts are prepared for anything, but the owner of a home Jesus was visiting probably didn't expect to see four men lowering their friend through his roof. Maybe it's time for some renovations! Sketch out plans for a new home that has plenty of roof access, skylights to watch out for unexpected company "dropping in," and plenty of seating for crowds and Pharisees.

TOP VIEW

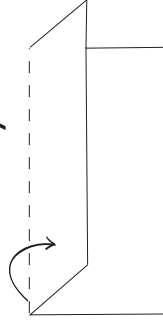


FRONT VIEW

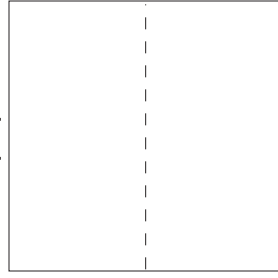


Home Sweet Origami

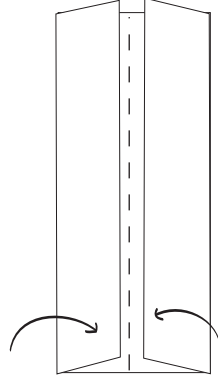
In this story, a group of men visit a house in a very unusual way! Create an origami house of your own by cutting out the square provided and using the instructions below to fold it. If you want, you can create a design on the house when you are done.



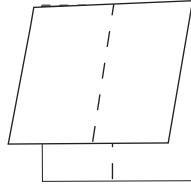
1. Fold the paper in half.



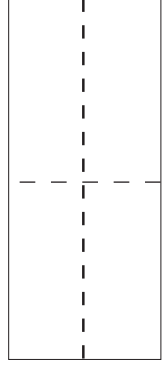
2. Open paper up and you have a center crease.



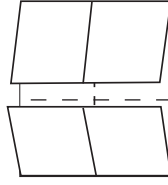
3. Fold the bottom half up to crease and top half to crease in the center.



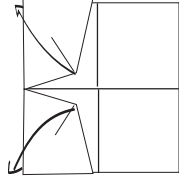
4. Fold paper in half.



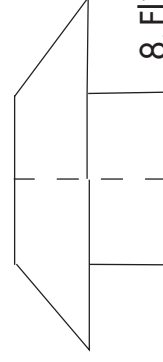
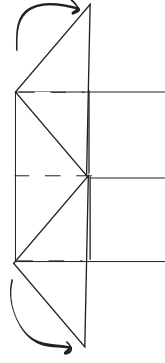
5. Open it and flip over.



6. Fold right side to meet center crease. Fold left side over.



7. Pry open the top left corner and press down to make a triangle. Do the same for the right corner.



8. Flip over and you have a house!

