

TO HELP US STUDY

1. Who was Jesus talking to in the house? _____
2. Why could the four men not get into the house with their sick friend? _____

3. What was wrong with the sick man? _____
4. How did the four men get their friend into the house to Jesus? _____

5. When Jesus saw their faith, what did he say? _____
6. Why did the teachers of the law not like this? _____

7. How did Jesus know what these men were thinking? _____

8. To prove his power to forgive sins, Jesus told the paralyzed man: " _____, take your _____ and go home."
9. When the man got up and walked home, what did the people say? _____

10. This man was fortunate to have friends who brought him to Jesus. Have you brought any of your friends to Jesus? _____

TO HELP US REMEMBER: *Young ones*—Mark 2:12, "We have never seen anything like this!"
Older ones—Mark 2:10-12

TO CHALLENGE TEEN THOUGHT

This story raises the old question: Is there any connection between sin and sickness? Find scriptures to back up your answer and write it on the back of this page.

TIPS FOR TEACHING PARENTS

What good will it do for us to teach our children to feed the poor, if they never come in contact with the poor? Why teach them to minister to the sick if they are never in contact with sick folks? Likewise, are we not merely talking words if we teach our children to bring their friends to Christ and never put this teaching into practice?

We can drive this lesson home unforgettably by encouraging our children to invite their playmates or school chums to church with them. If we're wise, we'll guide our kids to close friends who are likely to accept their invitations. Otherwise they may "cast their pearls before swine" and wind up battered and discouraged early. Wisely and carefully handled, however, this practical application of this lesson can bring its truth into the realm of real life for our kids.

For the very young, of course, this suggestion may not be usable. Most school-age children, however, will thrill at the chance to bring friends to worship with them.

FOR ADULT STUDY: Mt 28:18-20; Prov 11:30; Isa 52:7; Mt 5:13-16; Rom 1:16; Jn 1:40-49.