

# Four Friends, One Healing

CHARACTERS: 8+ Reporter, 4 Friends, Scribe, Paralytic, Owner, non-speaking crowd

PROPS: Microphone

COSTUMES: Biblical

SETTING: Outside a house in Capernaum

SCRIPTURE BASED ON: Mark 2

*At rise: Reporter is before a crowd*

REPORTER: I'm reporting live from Capernaum. *(Sticking the microphone between Scribe and Amazed 1)* What just happened here?

SCRIBE: A tragedy! An outrage!

AMAZES 1: A miracle! Amazing! We've never seen anything like this!

REPORTER: Like what?

SCRIBE: Blasphemy!

AMAZED 1: A healing. Ask him yourself. *(Pulls Paralytic carrying mat from crowd)*

PARALYTIC: Jesus healed me. Not only did he heal my paralysis but he forgave my sins as well.

SCRIBE: No one can forgive sins but God alone. Jesus should be ... *(AMAZED 1 covers his mouth so he can't finish)* Glory to God for such an amazing miracle.

REPORTER: *(to PARALYTIC)* Start at the beginning.

PARALYTIC: We heard Jesus was here and heard all about his miraculous healings so my four good friends brought me here. So many people gathered together that there was no more room, not even in the doorway, and He was speaking the message to them.

I thought, *We're never going to get to him.*

My friends were determined they weren't going to let a couple hundred people stop them so they carried me on the roof, dug through the dried mud and straw, then lowered me on the mat.

I'm thinking: *Whoa! Keep the ropes even or I'll roll right off.*

REPORTER: Did you?

PARALYTIC: Nope. Seeing our faith, Jesus told me: "Son, your sins are forgiven."

SCRIBE: *(finally breaking free)* How dare he speak like this? He blasphemed! Who can forgive sins but God alone? *(FRIENDS 2, 3 and 4 detach from the crowd. 2 clamps a hand over scribe's mouth. As each of the friends gets ready to speak, they pass off scribe to another friend to keep Scribe quiet)*

FRIEND 1: Jesus knew what these goofballs were thinking and said, "Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, pick up your mat, and walk?'"

PARALYTIC: Next think I knew, I was walking and here I am.

OWNER: Hey! Whose gonna pay for a new roof?

FRIEND 2: People matter more than buildings.

FRIEND 3: Teamwork makes the dream work!

FRIEND 4: You have to look at problems as opportunities and look for creative ways to solve them.

FRIEND 1: You can't get bogged down with expense or labor ....

FRIEND 2: *(Nodding head at Scribe)* Or what other people think ...

FRIEND 3: Or criticism.

FRIEND: Glorify God in all you do.