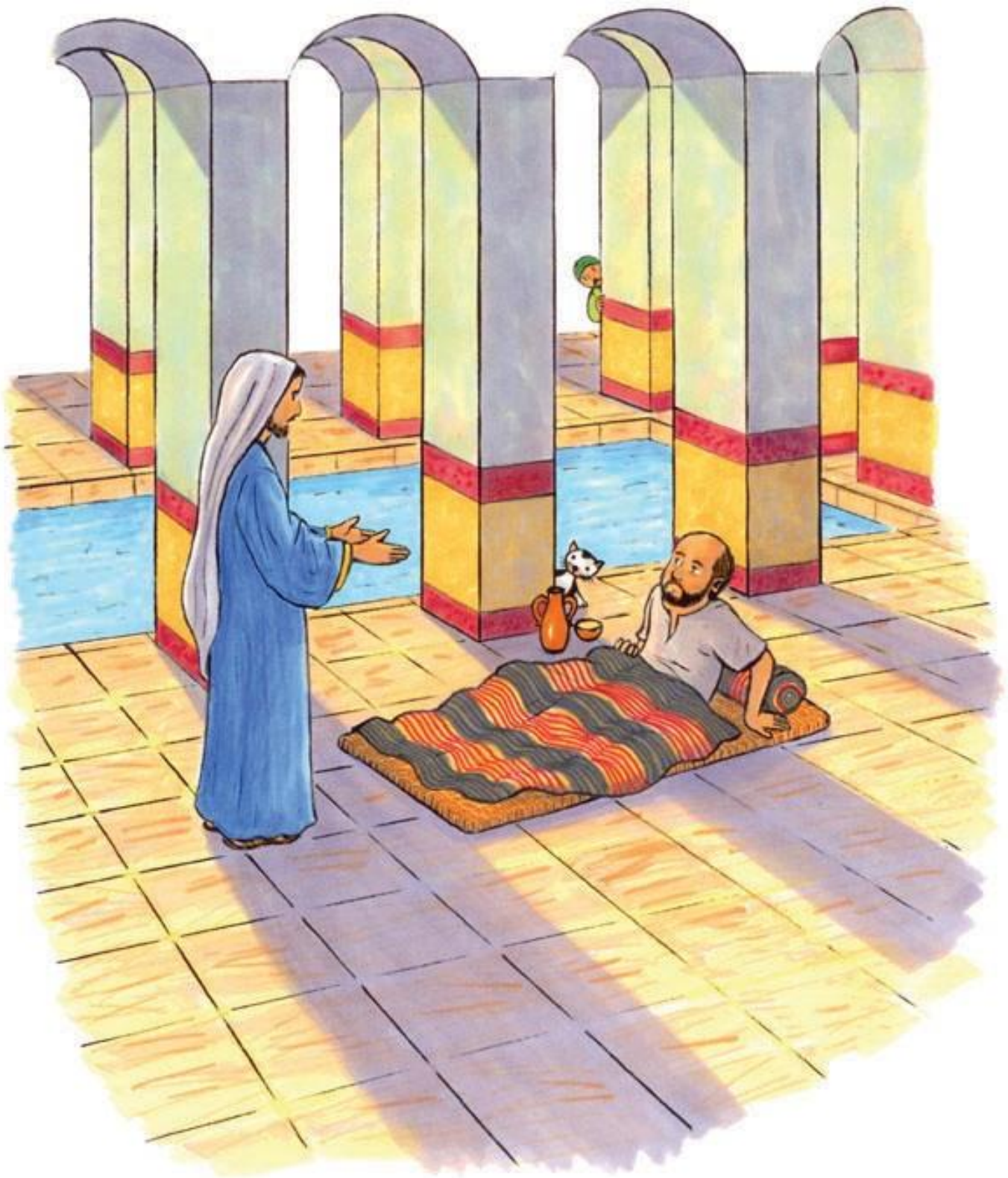


THE POOL OF BETHESDA

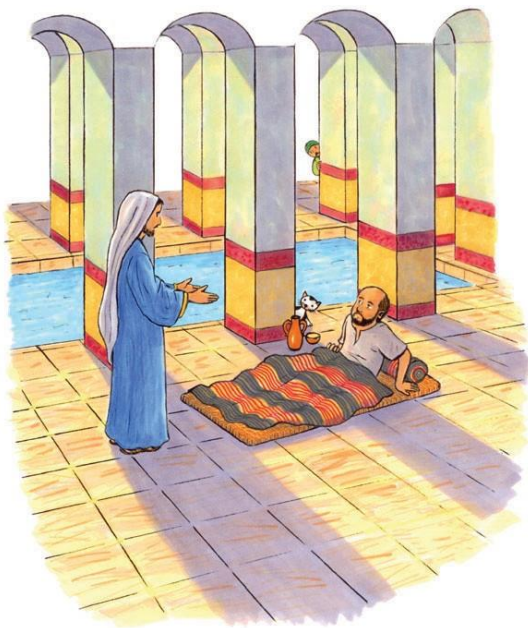
John 5:1–15



Contents

Message	Jesus cares for people who are forgotten.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Jesus, the Son of God, has the power to help the sick.■ The importance of the Sabbath day.■ We should accept God's help.
Bible Text	John 5:1–15

The Pool of Bethesda



Jesus said to him, “Stand up, pick up your bed and walk.” The man stood up. He was cured! He took his bed and left.

The day this happened was the Sabbath. While walking, the man was accused by others for carrying his bed. “Today is the Sabbath. It is against the law for you to carry your bed.”

The man replied, “But the One who healed me told me to pick up my bed and walk!”

They asked him who this man was. But the man who had been healed did not know who Jesus was.

Afterwards Jesus found him in the temple and said, “You are now well. Sin no more.”

Then the man realised, that it was Jesus who had healed him. He told the Jews what had happened.

The pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem had five porches around it. Blind, lame, and sick people gathered under the porches hoping to be cured.

At the pool, there was a man who had been waiting thirty-eight years to be cured. Jesus saw him lying by the pool. He asked the man “Do you want to be healed?”

The man replied to Jesus, “Sir, I do not have anyone who can help me into the water. By the time I get there someone steps into the pool before me.”

The Pool of Bethesda

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the healing in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise / fancy dress, white cloth for the angel, a tub with water...

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- What can one see at the pool of Bethesda? (The water bubbles up from time to time. A sick person entering the water first, will be healed.)
- Why is the lame man healed? (He believes in Jesus and does what Jesus tells him to do.)
- Why are the people upset? (Because the healed man carries his bed on the Sabbath)

Have the children repeat...

- Jesus, the Son of God, has the power to help the sick.
- The Sabbath day is important for us.
- We should accept God's help.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Nobody helped this man for 38 years. However, Jesus showed compassion and helped him.
- Sometimes we need to be patient and wait for our heavenly Father to help us.
- We should also be compassionate and help others in need.

<p style="text-align: center;">Repeat the Message Jesus cares for people who are forgotten.</p>
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