

HEALER

What's our word for the year? JESUS

This week's word is: HEALER

Activity: "Strange Remedies"

Count the number of students and add a leader to make it even. Hand out an even number of "Ailment" and "Remedy" cards. Have students try to match each ailment with the appropriate strange remedy.

Answers:

Hiccups : Spoon of sugar

Warts : Duct Tape

Bug Bites : Toothpaste

Poison Ivy : Banana Peel

Bad Breath : Celery

Hair Loss : Stinging Nettles

Splinters : Baking Soda

Sore Throat : Snail Syrup

Cough : Dried Lizard Soup

Dry Skin : Oatmeal

Large Group Questions:

What is sin?

Something we do that God has told us not to do – usually hurts us or someone else

When we sin, which we all do every day, who do we sin against?

God (and ourselves or the other people we hurt)

What does forgiveness mean?

It means being "sent away" from the punishment of our sin. Our sin gets wiped away!

How does forgiveness "heal" our sin?

It heals our relationship with God!

So sin is "when something is wrong in our hearts and minds and actions, but what happens when something is wrong with our bodies?

Illness, disease, disability

How can these things be fixed or made better?

Medicine, doctors, time

Can a doctor just "SPEAK" someone into being better? *No!*

What do we know about Jesus's words?

(From previous lessons: His words can change things!)

Small Groups:

Read Mark 2:1-12 and solve the crossword puzzle.

Large Group:

Imagine you are the friends in this story, what are you hoping is going to happen when you lowered your paralyzed friend down through the roof to Jesus?

You are hoping Jesus is going to heal him from his paralysis!

But then what did Jesus say instead?

"My child, your sins are forgiven." (2:5)

Do you think the friends were confused?

"Wait, what? We brought him here to get healed from paralysis – why is he talking about forgiving his sins?"

Why were the religious leaders angry?

Only God can forgive sins!

Give students an example like this:

If person A hurt person B and person C said "It's okay, your forgiven" – does that work?

Why is God the only one who can forgive sins?

He is the only true judge of right and wrong and it is him that we "sin" against by breaking his commandments.

Why can Jesus forgive sins?

He was God!

What are some of the ways Jesus proved that He was God?

Not sinning, teaching in the temple when he was a kid, changing water to wine, casting out demons

Did the religious leaders believe he was God?

No!

So he tried to prove it to them again – what did he do this time?

Healed the man's paralysis.

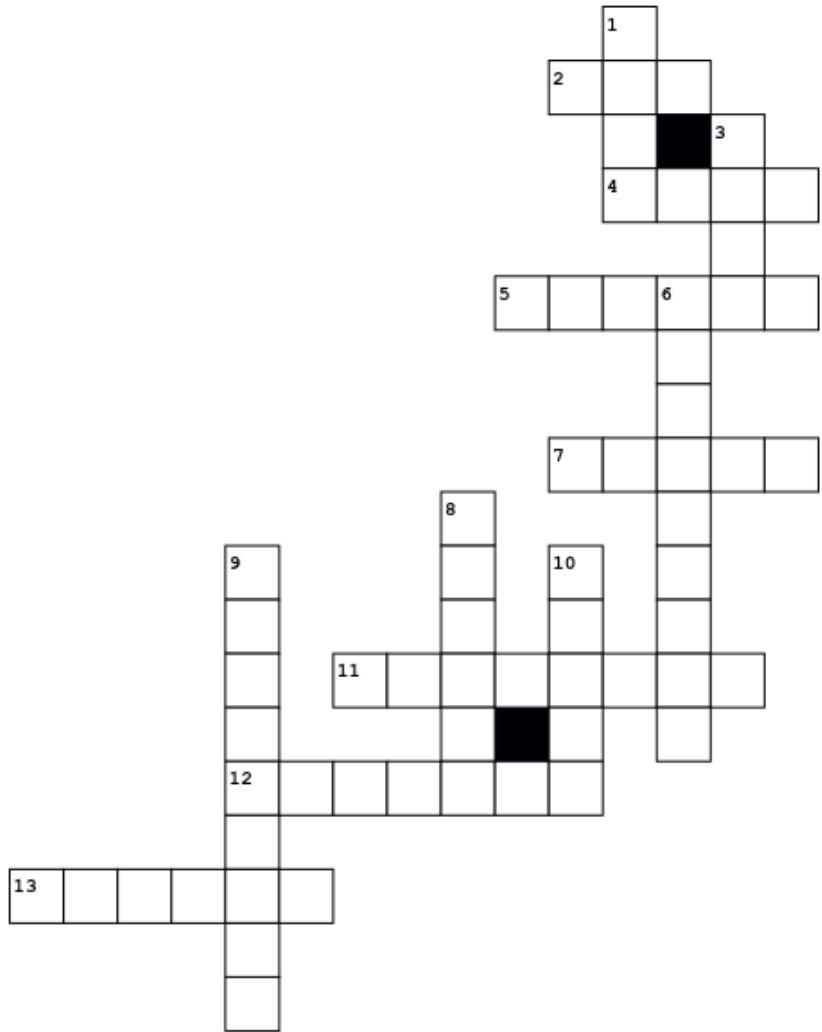
Do you think you would have believed Jesus was God if you saw that happen?

So Jesus healed the man in TWO ways – what were they?

Jesus healed his relationship with God by forgiving his sin

Jesus healed his body by healing his paralysis

Is your sin forgiven? Is your relationship with God healed?



Mark 2:1-12 (NLT)

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back _____ **3 DOWN**.

Soon the house where he was staying was so _____ **13 ACROSS** with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, _____ **1 DOWN** men arrived carrying a _____ **6 DOWN** man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the _____ **4 ACROSS** above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My _____ **10 DOWN**, your sins are _____ **11 ACROSS**."

But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, "What is he saying? This is _____ **9 DOWN** ! Only _____ **2 ACROSS** can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your _____ **8 DOWN**? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or ' _____ **7 ACROSS** up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, " _____ **7 ACROSS** up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

And the man _____ **5 ACROSS** up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and _____ **12 ACROSS** God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"



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Dry Skin

Oatmeal

