Healing of the Man Who Could Not Walk

Acts 3:1-4:22
Healing of the Man Who Could Not Walk

Today’s story is from the Bible Book of Acts. It takes place in the city of Jerusalem at the temple where many people came to pray and worship God. Most of the Jewish people in this time believed in God but not in Jesus. Some thought Jesus was a fake. Some had not even heard of him. They thought it was okay to believe in God but not believe in Jesus.

2. There was one Jewish man who went to the temple every day but he did not go into the temple courtyard like the other people. This man could not walk. He had never walked in his whole life.

This man could not work to make money. Instead, people would carry him to the temple gate every day and he would beg for money. Sometimes people would stop and give him money. Sometimes people would just pass on by on their way to the courtyard.

3. Peter and John were apostles and they liked to go to the temple too. They would go into the temple courtyard and tell people about Jesus. They wanted everyone to believe in and follow King Jesus!

One day when Peter and John were about to walk through the temple gate they noticed the man who could not walk. The man was asking everyone for money.

4. Peter looked at the man and said, “Look at me” so the man looked up at him. “I don’t have any silver or gold but I have something much better.” What do you think would be better than silver and gold? Peter said, “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk!” Peter grabbed the man by the right hand and all of the sudden the man felt his feet and his ankles start to feel stronger.

5. He couldn’t believe it. Even though he had never walked in his whole life he jumped up and started walking around. It was amazing! It was a miracle. And all because of the power of Jesus Christ.

6. The man was so excited that he kept walking and jumping and calling out praises to God. He followed Peter and John into the courtyard. Everyone heard him and came to have a look because they knew this was the same man who had always sat beside the gate begging. Now he could walk.
7. Many people had gathered around so Peter started telling them about Jesus. He said that God had sent Jesus to help everyone in the whole world. The people felt happy to hear about Jesus but they felt sad too. They felt guilty that they had called Jesus a fake. They felt really guilty because, before this, they had thought that it was good that Jesus died on the cross. Now they were so sorry.

8. Peter told them that there was good news. Since God made Jesus their king through his death and resurrection, they could repent. Repenting means telling God that you are very sorry for the bad things you have done. It is saying that you don’t want to do the bad things anymore and that you want to follow Jesus now. Peter had already been telling everyone that they could tell God they were sorry and then be baptised. All of their sins would then just be washed away.

9. While Peter was talking to the people some priests and the captain of the Temple Guard overheard. They did not like what Peter was saying. They didn’t believe in Jesus and they didn’t want anyone else to either. They were very angry so they arrested Peter and John and put them in jail.

10. The next day all of the Jewish leaders and even the High Priest and his family gathered together for a big meeting. They asked Peter to tell them what happened. Peter answered their questions by giving a very good speech. He told them how God had sent Jesus to bless the whole world. God wanted the Jews to accept Jesus and say thank you. But many of them did not like Jesus and some of them killed him on a cross. But the good news was that Jesus did not stay dead. He had come alive again and became the world’s true king. It was by Jesus’ power that the man could now walk.

The leaders were astonished that Peter could make such a good speech. He had never even been to proper schools like they had but he spoke like a very important person. What should they do? They still did not want people to believe in Jesus but they couldn’t argue with Peter. They wanted to punish Peter and John but everyone knew that the miracle they had done was real. After all, the man that couldn’t walk was now walking and jumping around. So the leaders did the only thing they knew to do. They ordered Peter and John to stop teaching about Jesus.

11. Do you think Peter and John stopped teaching about Jesus? No way! Peter said, “Should we obey God or should we obey people?” Then they said, “We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” They would never stop preaching about king Jesus!
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12. There was nothing more to say so the Jewish leaders let them go. And guess what Peter and John did? They kept telling more and more people about Jesus. Even while they had been in jail the group of believers grew to 5,000 men. And this was only counting the men. I wonder what happened to the man who had been healed? He probably just kept walking and jumping and praising God!

So when you notice that someone needs your help do you help them? Maybe you could push someone’s wheelchair if they asked. Or maybe you could be a friend to someone who other people make fun of.

We can also help people when we tell them about Jesus like Peter and John did. Whenever we are kind and when we tell someone about Jesus then God is pleased.
Please visit www.missionbibleclass.org to find this and many other free resources to help you teach the Bible to children.