

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

NOTES

SET THE SCENE

Tell the group some of the things that you really like about your life, such as your family, playing sports, church etc. You could even bring in a few props to illustrate these areas.

Ask the group to share some of the things they really like about their lives.

Tell the group that God wants to change lives for the better and throughout the Bible there are examples of this.

THE BIBLE

Read the story of Jesus healing the paralysed man in **Luke 5:17-26**. (You could use the Message Bible for a more modern translation.) Tell the group that the man in the story is disabled and cannot walk. Because of this he is unable to enjoy all sorts of things.

1. Who brought the man to see Jesus? (His friends – 19)
2. What was the man carried to Jesus on? (His friends brought him on a mat – 19)
3. Why was it difficult to get to see Jesus? (Because there were so many people } gathered round him – 20)
4. How did the man get into the house? (His friends lowered him through the roof – 20)
5. What two things did Jesus say to the man? ("Friend, your sins are forgiven" – 21. "Take your mat and go home" – 24)
6. What did the man do after Jesus had spoken to him? (He got up and walked – 25)

GO A LITTLE DEEPER

Tell them that God can use anyone, regardless of their age, to help change lives for the better. Share this verse from Proverbs with the group and ask them what sorts of things they can do in response.

- Speak up for the people who have no voice, for the rights of all the down-and-outers. Speak out for justice!

Stand up for the poor and destitute! **PROVERBS 31: 8-9 (THE MESSAGE)**

SO WHAT ABOUT US?

Tell the group that there are many children in the world who do not have happy lives.

Ask the group if they know of any problems a child living in poverty might face. For example: no access to schooling, not enough food, disease, lack of water. You may want to have a couple of photographs of children in poverty for them to focus on.

Ask the kids if they think that God can help these children just like Jesus helped the man who could not walk.

