

Jesus Forgives a Paralytic's Sins Because of his Friends' Faith

About 3 minutes, from Mark 21-12

Participants (*No need to memorize lines; the aim is to relive sacred events, not to perform*)

Levi

Voice (*of Jesus*)

Scholar

Prompter Shout a *brief* line and Echoes repeat it.

Echoes Children and all adults who want to take part. Echoes need no script.

Levi I am Levi, one of Jesus' twelve disciples. We're in Capernaum now.

Prompter & Echoes By the beautiful Sea of Galilee.

Levi Oh, hello sir. I'm a bit surprised that you've come to hear Jesus; you scholars normally oppose his teaching.

Scholar I'm investigating it. Just look at this mob rushing to hear Him!

Prompter & Echoes Hurry! Hurry!

Levi Look! Four men are bringing a paralytic on a mat!
The door is too crowded to get in. They're climbing up on the roof!

Scholar (*Look up*) Hey! Stop tearing up the roof!
(*Shield your face from falling debris*) Debris is falling on us! Quit that!

Prompter & Echoes What is going on?

Levi They made a hole! They're lowering the paralytic in front of Jesus.
Wow! That's an unspoken prayer of faith.

Prompter & Echoes Audacious faith!

Scholar You up there! Stop disturbing our meeting! Pull that guy back up!

Levi Jesus is looking with compassion on the paralytic. Listen!

Voice Son, your sins are forgiven.

Scholar What? This deluded rabbi is blaspheming! Only God can forgive sins.

Voice Why do you question these things?
Which is easier to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven";
or, "Get up, and pick up your mat and walk?"

Scholar Oh, any fool could simply tell a sinner his sins are forgiven!

Voice I will prove to you that I, the Son of Man, have power to forgive sins.