

They began to pull up the covering and soon made a hole in the roof. One of them ran away and got some long pieces of rope and they tied one piece on each corner of the bed. Then slowly and carefully, they lowered the bed till the sick man was close beside Jesus, just as we see in our picture.

When Jesus saw what trouble they had taken and what great faith they had in his power to heal the sick man, he was pleased. He said to the sick man, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." This made some of the Jewish teachers (who were called scribes) very angry. "How dare he say that he can forgive this man's sins! He is speaking blasphemies. Who can forgive sins but God?" they said in their hearts.

Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them if they thought it is easier to say to the sick man: "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Arise, take up your bed, and walk." Then Jesus showed them that he had power to forgive sin. He turned to the sick man and said: "Arise, take up your bed, and go away to your own house," and immediately the man got up and rolled up the mattress on which he had been lying and put it under his arm and walked out of the house away to his own home—strong and well again.

The people were all amazed and glorified God. "We never saw anything so wonderful," they said, and they knew then that the words of our Golden Text are true: "The Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins."

#### Questions on the Lesson

1. Why did Jesus go away from Capernaum? 2. What did people do when he came back? 3. Who wanted to be taken to Jesus? 4. Why were their friends not able to take them? 5. Whom did four men bring? 6. What was the palsy? 7. How did they carry him? 8. How did they get him into the house? 9. Why was Jesus pleased with these men? 10. What did he say to the sick man? 11. Who was angry at Jesus? 12. What did the scribes say in their hearts? 13. How did Jesus show his power? 14. What did the man do? 15. What did the people think of this? 16. What is the Golden Text?

#### Lesson Hymn

Lord, as to Thy dear cross we flee,  
And plead to be forgiven,  
So let Thy life our pattern be,  
And form our souls for heaven. Amen.  
—Hymn 285, Book of Praise

#### The Catechism

PRIMARY CATECHISM—69. What is the danger in using images or pictures in the worship of God? We may come to worship the image or picture instead of God.

#### The Question on Missions

4. What are the Vegreville (Alberta) Homes like? There are three Boys' Homes, one holding 10 and each of the others 12. The Girls' Home is a new one, large enough for 22 girls. A Christian lady is in charge of each Home, who takes good care of the boys and girls.

#### AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Copy these beautiful words which Jesus spoke to the sick man who was brought to him by four friends, and remember that

*Thy sins be forgiven thee*

Jesus is just as willing to forgive your sins. Never be afraid to tell Jesus when you have done wrong. He will be sorry, but he is sure to forgive you and help you to do right in the future.

**I Have Learned To-day  
THAT I SHOULD BE LOVING**