



Crippled Man Healed

Acts 3:1-4:31

Story Context for Leader:

The group of believers stayed together so the apostles could teach them. Everyone shared whatever they had. People sold their possessions in order to provide for those in need. They ate in the various homes and praised God together.

Bible-Telling Story

Crippled Man Healed

One afternoon, Peter and John went to the Temple, where they saw a man begging. He had been crippled since he was born.

Peter said, "Look at me. I don't have money to give you, but I have something better. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, get up and walk."

As he helped the man stand up, his feet and legs became strong. He stood by himself and then walked. He even jumped for joy and praised God!

People saw the man walking, and recognized him as the beggar. They gathered around the three men.

Peter Preaching

Peter said to them, "This man was healed by the name of Jesus, the one you told Pilate to crucify. You had Jesus killed, but God raised Him from the dead. We have seen Him, and can tell you that He is alive."

"Look at this man. He is standing by the power of Jesus. Turn from your sin and accept Jesus as your Messiah. God will forgive your sins."

The Jewish rulers heard that Peter and John were preaching to the people, so they sent guards who put the men in prison. Still, many people became followers of Christ. The number of believers increased by about 5,000.

Standing before Leaders

The next morning, the two apostles were brought before the high priest and the religious leaders. They asked, "Who gave you the authority to heal this man?"

The Holy Spirit gave Peter the power to answer. "This crippled man was healed by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth—the one you killed on the cross. God raised Him from the dead, and He is the only way of salvation."

The rulers were amazed at how confident Peter and John were. They knew their boldness came from being with Jesus, since the two men didn't have a formal education.

They couldn't say anything about the miracle because the crippled man was standing in front of them. They could see that he was healed.

They decided to threaten the men and demand that they stop teaching about Jesus. Peter and John didn't hesitate to answer. "You are asking us to disobey God so we can obey you. That's impossible! We know what we have seen and heard and cannot stop talking about it."

The leaders eventually released Peter and John. They went and told the fellowship of believers what happened, and everyone prayed together and praised God. Suddenly their building shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. They had new boldness in telling others about God's message.

Crippled Man Healed

hands out as if begging – hands on legs
man begging – crippled since birth

point to self – point to pockets
hand move up

“Look at me – I don’t have money – get up and walk”

hands on legs – hands next to eyes
legs became strong – people saw

Peter Preaching

touch both palms – finger across neck
move hands up – hand out from eyes
*“Jesus healed – you killed
God raised up – we saw Him alive”*

hands point to one side
finger touch each palm
“look at this man” – power of Jesus

wrists together/flip hands
finger touch each palm
“Turn from your sins – accept Jesus”

hand behind ear – wrists together
five fingers
rulers heard – guards put them in prison – 5,000

Standing before Leaders

shrug and hands out
“Who gave you this authority?”

touch both palms – finger across neck
“Jesus Christ – the one you killed”

move hands up
wrists together/move apart
*God raised from the dead
only way of salvation*

fingers out next to face – fist on chest
touch both palms
amazed – confidence – came from Jesus

point to the side – shake fist
could see the man was healed – threatened men

point forward and up at same time
obeying you vs. obeying God

throw hands out
released Peter & John

hands raised – shaking – hands on chest
rejoiced – building shook – filled with Holy Spirit

fist
new confidence in telling others