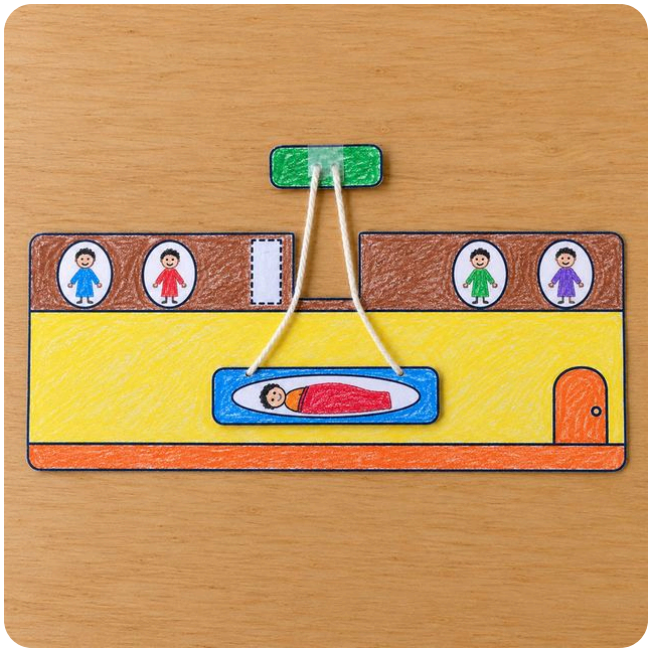
Preschool–Grade 5

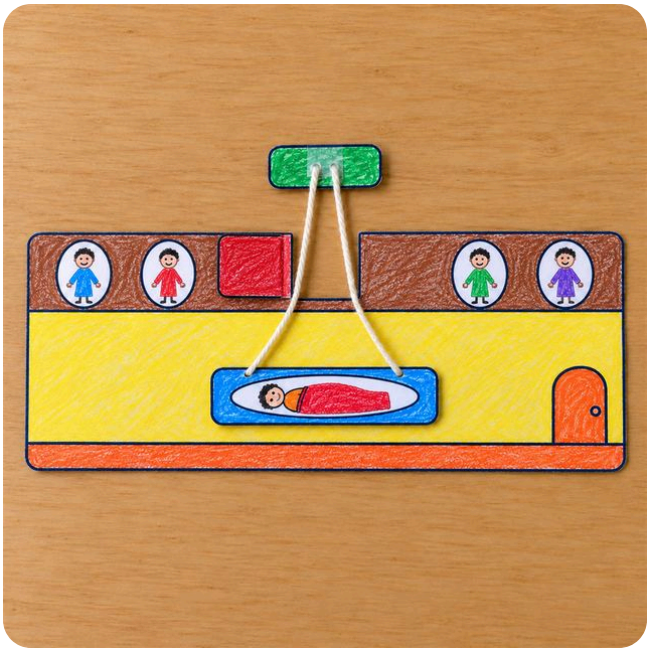
Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man Craft

Through the roof to Jesus · Mark 2:1–12; Luke 5:19 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



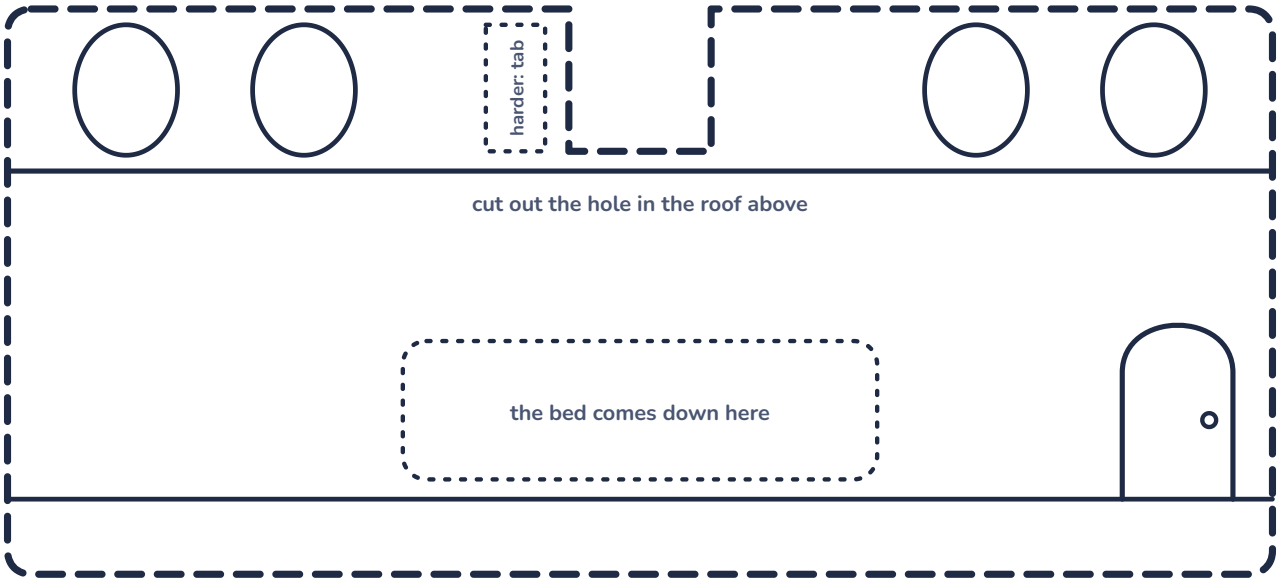
Harder

Both levels are a house card with a brown roof, a yellow room and an orange floor and door. Four men are drawn in the roof windows, the four who carried the bed (Mark 2:3). A blue bed with the sick man drawn on it hangs on two pieces of yarn that run up through the hole in the roof, so it can be let down into the room: "they let down the bed" (Mark 2:4). Medium (left): the card, the bed and the yarn. Harder (right): the same, with a red tile cover beside the hole that opens and closes, because "they uncovered the roof" (Mark 2:4).

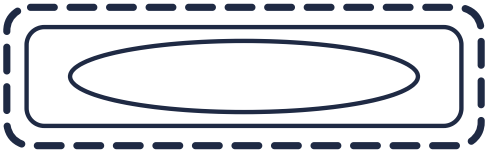
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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: roof brown, room wall yellow, floor and door orange. Draw a man in each roof window.



bed: blue. Draw the man lying on it.



pull tab: green

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card (and the hole in the roof), the bed, the pull tab and the verse strip. You also need 2 pieces of yarn and tape.

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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Tile cover (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines. Fold on the dotted line.



tile cover: color it red on both sides

How to add the tile cover

1. Make the card with the bed and the yarn from page 2 first.
2. Color the tile cover red on the front and on the back. Cut it out on the dashed lines.
3. Fold the glue tab on the dotted line.
4. Put glue on the back of the tab only. Press the tab on the dotted box on the roof, just left of the hole, so the tile cover swings over the hole and closes it. The yarn stays under it.
5. Tell it: pull the bed up to the roof and close the tile cover. The men could not get in the door, so "they uncovered the roof" (Mark 2:4): swing the tile cover open. Then let the bed down "through the tiling… into the midst before Jesus" (Luke 5:19).

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vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/hole-in-the-roof-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), brown, yellow, orange, blue and green crayons or markers, crayons for drawing the men, 2 pieces of yarn about 12 inches long for each child, clear tape, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a red crayon.
Before class: cut the yarn. For preschoolers, cut out the card (with the hole in the roof), the bed, the pull tab and the verse strip ahead of time, and tape the yarn to the bed and the pull tab.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and put the yarn on. Kids color the pieces and draw the men in the windows and the sick man on the bed. Help them glue the verse strip on the back. Then they pull the tab and let the bed down through the roof.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut out the pieces and tape on the yarn themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then add the tile cover from page 3, which closes over the hole and swings open: "they uncovered the roof" (Mark 2:4). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the roof brown, the room wall yellow, and the floor and the door orange. Color the bed blue and the pull tab green. Leave all the windows white.
2. **Draw:** in each of the four roof windows, draw one of the four men who carried the bed (Mark 2:3). In the bed's window, draw the man lying on his bed.
3. **Cut:** cut out the card, the bed, the pull tab and the verse strip on the dashed lines. Cut out the hole in the roof too.
4. **Yarn:** turn the bed over and tape one piece of yarn to the back of the bed at each end.
5. **Hang the bed:** lay the bed on the dotted spot in the room. Bring both pieces of yarn up through the hole in the roof to the back of the card, and tape both ends to the pull tab.
6. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, low down so the yarn can still slide, and read it together.
7. **Tell it:** pull the tab down behind the card, and the bed goes up to the roof. Let the tab go slowly, and the bed comes down into the room: "they let down the bed" (Mark 2:4). Then say what Jesus said: "Arise, and take up thy bed" (2:11).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Why couldn't the men bring the sick man in the door? *(The house was so full there was no room, not even about the door, Mark 2:2, 2:4)*
- Point to the four windows. How many men carried the bed? *(Four: he was "borne of four," 2:3)*
- Point to the hole. What did the men do to the roof? *(They uncovered the roof and broke it up, 2:4)*
- Let the bed down. Where did it land? *("Into the midst before Jesus," Luke 5:19)*
- What did Jesus see? *(Their faith, Mark 2:5)* What did He say first? *("Son, thy sins be forgiven thee," 2:5)*
- The scribes thought, "who can forgive sins but God only?" (2:7). Who can forgive sins? *(Only God. Jesus is God who came as a man, 1 Timothy 3:16, so He forgave the man's sins.)*
- What did the man do when Jesus said, "Arise, and take up thy bed"? *(He got up, took up the bed and went out before them all, Mark 2:11–12)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: sick of the palsy** means paralyzed, not able to move his body to walk; **borne of four** means carried by four men; **the press** means the crowd; **nigh** means near; **uncovered** means opened up; **tiling** is the covering of the roof; **couch** means bed; **thy sins be forgiven thee** means your sins are forgiven; **arise** means get up; **bear** means carry; **burdens** are heavy loads; **fulfil** means do it all the way.
- **What the Bible says:** Mark says they "uncovered the roof" and "broken it up" (2:4); Luke says they went "upon the housetop" and let him down "through the tiling" (5:19). The Bible doesn't say how the roof was built or how they got up. The card, the hole, the yarn and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** each child draws the four men in the roof windows and the sick man on the bed. The dotted spot in the room is where the bed came down "before Jesus" (Luke 5:19).
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything and tape the yarn on ahead of time. Use clear tape that holds well, and glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child let the bed down.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Jesus heals the paralyzed man lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/hole-in-the-roof.

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