



Through the Roof

Welcome (Parents and Carers asked to stay until after the Pilots Prayer)

Welcome back to Friends on Faith Adventures. We are looking forward to going on a journey and nobody knows where we will end up. All we know is we have got our crate filled with adventure and an open path ahead. So, hold on tight and enjoy the ride!!

Let's hear about FOFA bear and FOFA cam's adventures this week and how everyone got on with the Walking the Way challenge. (Encourage everyone, including parents and carers, to join in.)

The Pilots Prayer

Lord help us to be:

Prepared for adventure

In all we do.

Loving and caring,

Open to others

Together as one community

Sharing the love of Jesus on our way.

Amen

Fun Together

Game: Lower away

What you need: For each team: a chair

A teatowel or towel

Four balls of any size (from pingpong balls to footballs)

A bucket, bowl or box

Split the group into teams of approx. five people. At one end of the hall have a chair with its back away from the end where the teams are gathered, and a bucket on the far side of the chair.



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Four children grab the corners of the teatowel or piece of fabric and the fifth child places a ball in the centre of the fabric.

The four children run with the ball, trying to keep it on the cloth without touching it with their hands. If it goes off the cloth, they have to go back to the start. When they get to the chair at the other end of the hall, the child who was not holding the cloth kneels on the chair and has to throw the ball into the bucket or bowl. If they miss, a different member of the team has to try until someone is successful.

The whole team then runs back to collect the next ball. The winning team are the ones who get all four balls into the container first.

Game : I need a friend

What you need:

- bread (check for GLUTEN INTOLERANCE and use gluten free bread for any child who is unable to eat ordinary bread)
- Chocolate spread (Check for NUT ALLERGY – if any child in the group has a nut allergy, ensure chocolate spread is nut free or use jam instead)
- Knife
- Blindfold
- Wet wipes
- Apron (optional, but may be wise!)

Children should work in twos. One of the two is blindfold. The other should hold their hands behind their back. Thus one child can see and the other one can use their arms but they each need to other to complete the task of making a chocolate spread sandwich and eating it. Beware, this can get very messy, especially if you make it a race between two teams.

The Big Story: Through the Roof – Luke 5: 17 to 26

You will need

- *toilet rolls*



Through the Roof

- **blanket**
- **picture of house in Bible times**

Today's theme is that we sometimes need a friend to help us

Reader 1: There once was a man.

Reader 2: Let's call him _____

Reader 1: Or it could have been a woman.

Reader 2: We could call her _____

Reader 1: There was once this person whose life was tough.

Reader 2: They couldn't use their arms, they couldn't use their legs. In fact, they were completely paralysed.

Reader 1: I wonder what that would be like. You could hardly do anything if all you could move was your head. Let's choose a volunteer. *Wrap toilet paper round and round the selected child like a mummy, covering them from the neck down. Encourage the child to stay very still.*

Reader 2: I know a thing or two about Jesus, and I know Jesus cured a lot of people who were sick. Perhaps Jesus could cure our friend here from their paralysis.

Reader 1: Oh yeah, great idea. How is XXXXX going to go and ask Jesus for help? They can't exactly walk there or hop on a bus!

Reader 2: You're right. We've hit a bit of a snag with our story here. Anyone got any ideas?

Allow the children to come up with suggestions. They are bound to suggest carrying the person. Try to steer them towards realising that they can't carry the person alone, but several of them together could lift the person on a blanket.

Reader 1: What would we do without friends? XXXXXX called their friends to help. Not with a mobile phone, of course – the friends were always around, waiting to help and one would go and call another.



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Encourage the paralysed person to ask a friend to help, and that friend to recruit another and so on until you have four volunteers.

Reader 2: So the four friends carried XXXXXXXX on their bed to see Jesus. (*volunteers should try to lift – or drag – child on the blanket*)

Reader 1: Great! And Jesus healed them.

Reader 2: Nope. It's here that they hit the next snag. Jesus was inside a house. And lots of people had had the same idea about going to see him. The crowd was so big that it filled the house and out into the street. Nobody wanted to let them through.

Reader 1: They tried saying “scuze me” but nobody listened.

Reader 2: They tried pushing through but nobody moved.

Reader 1: But then they had a brainwave. Ping! Can you guess what they did?

Reader 2: I don't know if you've seen what houses were like in Jesus's time. Let's see a picture. What do you notice?

Reader 1: The four knew their friend needed to see Jesus so they didn't just give up. They carried their friend up onto the roof up the stairs at the side of the house.

Reader 2: That must have been tough. *Encourage the carriers to sigh and wipe their foreheads*

Reader 1: Then they got on their knees and began to chip away at the roof, pulling at the roofing material until they made a big hole in the roof, big enough to fit a person through. *Encourage the children to pretend to dig*

Reader 2: And they lowered their friend down through the hole until his bed was right at Jesus's feet.

Reader 1: I bet Jesus was a bit surprised at that!

Reader 2: Jesus took one look at XXXXXXXX and said, “Your sins are forgiven”. Just like that. “Your sins are forgiven”. He meant that God forgave the sick person for anything they had ever done wrong. People didn't like that. They got a bit cross.

Reader 1: “Who do you think you are, saying that God forgives this person their sins? Only God can say that. You can't go around forgiving people – it just doesn't work like that!”

Reader 2: I guess they've got a point.



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Reader 1: So, Jesus said “OK, which is easier, to tell someone that their sins are forgiven or to tell someone who is paralysed to stand up and walk?”. Which do you think is easier?

Reader 2: And while they were all muttering about it and wondering what Jesus meant, Jesus bent down and said, “Get up, pick up your blanket, and go home”. *Encourage the volunteer playing Jesus to help the child playing the paralysed person to break out from the toilet paper.*

Reader 1: And the paralysed person did just that.

Reader 2: What?

Reader 1: The paralysed person got up.

Reader 2: No!

Reader 1: Yes! he paralysed person picked up the blanket or mat they’d been lying on.

Reader 2: No!

Reader 1: Yes, and the paralysed person walked off home.

Reader 2: No!

Reader 1: No, of course they didn’t. The paralysed person danced and sang and praised God for healing them... and so did the crowds.

Reader 2: That’s a pretty remarkable story – and it wouldn’t have happened if the paralysed man’s friends hadn’t worked so hard to bring him to Jesus.

Reader 2: I wonder whether you would have kept trying to get your friend to Jesus too.

Creative Adventure

You will need:

- Template cut out of card
- Paper fasteners
- String or strong wool
- Crayons/felt tips to decorate

Colour the template pieces to make a person.



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Use paper fasteners to fasten arms and legs to shoulders and hips behind the back of the person

Use wool to join together the top of the arms and the top of the legs, with a third piece of wool going from the centre of the top piece, tied to the second piece, and then dangling down. When you pull on the string, the arms and legs should move like a jumping jack.

Use the puppet to show how the paralyzed man danced after he had been healed by Jesus.

Wondering questions to use during creative time:

I wonder what it's like not to be able to move your arms and legs

I wonder why so many people wanted to see Jesus

I wonder what your friends have done to help you in the past.

The Adventure Map

Explain the Adventure Map and how a lot of the books were written shortly after Jesus's time. They tell us about what Jesus said and did and how his friends lived their lives, sharing with others how to be good followers of Jesus.

Take the young people to the Adventure Map that you have created on the wall. Get the children to find where on the Map today's story came from. Choose one or some of the things created by the children to be photographed and attach this to the wall to create a visual reminder of where the story came from and your adventure together. The aim is that in a year you will have lots of reminders of the stories and where in the Bible they come from. Use a piece of string or ribbon to connect the photo of the craft work to the book of the Bible.

Walking the Way



Through the Roof

This is a time to invite the parents and carers back in to share what the children have been up to during the session. They will also be here to hear about the Walking the Way challenge and the tasks (should they choose to accept them) that the children (and parents) are about to undertake.

For the Younger: FOFA the bear

This is FOFA. FOFA likes nothing more than to go on an adventure; FOFA is a little more adventurous than me. FOFA believes that faith is a journey and that's why FOFA would love to take you on a journey with him and walk the way of God in our everyday lives. Each session FOFA would like to go home with one of you and add to FOFA's scrapbook of things you do together. FOFA doesn't mind if you draw a picture of what you have done, take a photograph or just write a story about it. FOFA also doesn't mind if you just come and tell the rest of us what you got up to together. But because FOFA's memory isn't very good as FOFA's brains are made of stuffing, it would be better to save the memories in the book if you can. At the end of our time together we can always remember the great adventures we have been on together with FOFA and hopefully you will walk a little closer with God.

For the Older: FOFA cam

This camera is your window on the world. You have one shot at this, so choose carefully. You will be given a very precious piece of equipment – a FOFA cam. You have one photo to take with the camera, that records one thing – a way you have met the challenge. If there are other people in the photo, please ask their permission first and explain this photo will be put on display here. Bring back the camera and your photo next time to share your moment - and remember you only have ONE shot at this!

Every time we will choose someone to take FOFA bear and someone to take FOFA cam to help them with the challenge – but we can all have a go at the challenge!

Our Walking the Way Challenge this time is: **Look out for an opportunity to help someone do something they can't do on their own.**

Adventurers Go!

So, today's story was about how a paralysed man's friends helped him to come to Jesus to be healed and we can help our friends too.



Through the Roof

Prayers (choose one/both)

Spoken Prayer

Jesus, you long to help people, but sometimes they find it difficult to ask you.

Help us to remember that we can always talk to you in our prayers for ourselves and for other people.

Use us to help others.

And share your good news with them, so they can get to know you too. Amen.

Amen

Active Prayer

- Blanket
- Post it notes

Spread a blanket on the ground and give each child a post it note. On the note they should draw or write the name of someone they know who needs some help from Jesus because they are ill or worried or lonely or sad. On the back they could draw or write something that they could do to help that person too. Place all the post-it notes on the blanket then all hold the edge of the blanket and lift it up saying “We bring our friends to you, Jesus”.

Amen

End Prayer Every Session: Altogether

We are Friends on Faith Adventures, travelling together with God.

Adventurers go! Amen



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What you need for this session

Games:

For each team:

- a chair
 - A teatowel or towel
 - Four balls of any size (from pingpong balls to footballs)
 - A bucket, bowl or box
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- bread (check for GLUTEN INTOLERANCE and use gluten free bread for any child who is unable to eat ordinary bread)
 - Chocolate spread (Check for NUT ALLERGY – if any child in the group has a nut allergy, ensure chocolate spread is nut free or use jam instead)
 - Knife
 - Blindfold
 - Wet wipes
 - Apron (optional, but may be wise!)

Story:

- toilet rolls
- blanket
- picture of house in Bible times

Craft:

- Template cut out of card
- Paper fasteners
- String or strong wool
- Crayons/felt tips to decorate
-

Prayer:

- Blanket
- Post it notes



Through the Roof

Location	Possible hazard	Action required	Action taken	Signature
Games	Allergic reaction to foodstuffs	Check consent forms for any allergies or dietary requirements and change foods used accordingly	Supervision by adult	
Story	Injury to backs, arms or knees through lifting. Injury through falling/dropping	Children to be encouraged to drag blanket rather than carry. Appropriate volunteers to be chosen for the roles in the story (i.e. small/light child for paralysed man, stronger and bigger children for friends)	Careful planning and supervision by adult leader	
Craft	Injury to fingers from paper fasteners	Demonstrate to children how to open fasteners safely. Adult available to assist. For smaller or less dextrous children, slightly open the flanges of the paper fastener before the activity. Make holes in the card prior to putting the fastener through – use a sharp pencil through into plasticine or equivalent.		