

A Man Is Healed: Acts 3:1-10

Set Up: From a roll of paper, cut a strip about three feet long for each boy. Tell them that these are to be their mats and will be their only means of transportation. Have them kneel on their mats and try to move around the room using only their hands. Gather the mats before beginning the story.

Commander Says: That was a difficult way to move around, wasn't it? The person in our story today had no choice but to either move like that or be carried. His legs didn't work, and there weren't any wheelchairs back then. So the man sat on his mat every day and begged for money. He had been a beggar for a long time, and the people of the town knew that every day he would sit outside the temple at a certain gate called Beautiful.

One day Jesus' disciples, Peter and John, were going to the temple to pray. The beggar asked them for money, and can you guess what they did? (Allow responses.) They did not have any money, and they told him that. But Peter said he had something that the man needed more. Peter knew that God could heal the man, so Peter said, "In the name of Jesus stand up and walk." He reached out and took the beggar's hand and lifted him to his feet. Suddenly his legs became strong, and he knew he had been healed. The beggar was so thankful to God for healing him that he began to walk and jump and praise God. The people couldn't believe what they had seen. They knew this man couldn't walk, but here he was jumping and running around.

The man told everyone what God had done for him. God still heals people today, and we should always be excited to tell people what He can do.

Review: Ask the boys, "What did the man ask Peter and John for?" (Money.) "What did Peter give the man?" (He asked God to heal him.) "What did the man do when he was healed?" (He ran and jumped and told everyone what God had done for him.) "Why should we tell others about God's power?" (Allow responses.) Allow the boys to decorate their mats. This can be done in place of the Program Feature.