

EPISODE 6 Indescribable Compassion (52 minutes)

Group Gathering: Make a wide circle. The first person introduces themselves and *explains what cheers them up on a rainy day, or how they like to help a friend who needs cheering up.* “Pass” the imaginary ball to the next person to invite them to share.

Opening Prayer: O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Scripture References

Matthew 8:1-4 When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a **leper who came to him and knelt before him**, saying, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Mark 2:1-11 When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, “Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? **9** Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and take your mat and walk’? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic— **“I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.”** And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

EPISODE 6 Indescribable Compassion

Describe the Leper in 5 words or less

Describe the paralyzed man in 5 words or less

Group Discussion After Watching

WHO is Jesus?

WHAT would you change in this story?

WHERE do you see yourself in the story?

WHEN is the last time you've been amazed by what you saw?

WHY does Jesus act the way he does?

Share with a Partner

A for Amazed

B for Bothered

C for Confused

D for Delighted

Freewriting Prompts

What is healing for your body?

What is healing for your mind?

What is healing for your friendships?

What is on your heart for the week ahead? How can you spend time with friends and family who help you really heal and find peace this week, either outside, at a distance, or via technology?

Closing Worship

Compline in the Book of Common Prayer, Page 127

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*