



## CAN JESUS FORGIVE SINS?

### Slide 1

*In our programs, we share Gospel stories with you. Slide 2 How Jesus went through towns and villages to do good to all those who came to Him.*

*Today, we are going to talk Slide 3 about forgiveness, Slide 4 healing, Slide 5 sin and Slide 6 disobedience.*

*Sin cannot be seen, but it is a little like an illness.*

*It is not the body that is sick, but the soul. Our soul has been sick ever since our childhood. We all disobey God, we sin, even those who seem to be good. Slide 7 We have all sinned, that is to say that we have committed acts or had thoughts that are not pleasing to God.*

*So, it would be wonderful to know Slide 8 who can forgive sins. What do you think?*

*We are going to listen this story which comes Slide 9 from the Gospel of Mark, chapter 2. This will provide us with the answer.*

### Slide 10 HOW CAN WE HELP OTHERS?

**Slide 11** Imagine four men in a hurry, carrying a stretcher. Well to be honest, it is not exactly a stretcher, but rather a kind of mat that serves as a bed.

They have heard that Jesus has come back to their city and Slide 12 they don't want to miss him. It is absolutely essential to get their paralyzed friend as close to Jesus as possible so that he can be healed. Therefore, they were obliged to carry their friend on the stretcher across the city as quickly as possible.

When they reached the house where Jesus was, they stopped Slide 13 in amazement. Impossible to enter! There were crowds of people everywhere and some were blocking the entrance to the house. What could they do?

**Slide 14** - Let us in! Please let us in! It's for our friend! Slide 15 We want Jesus to heal him!

**Slide 16** But no one stood aside to let them pass. All these people came from the surrounding villages and even from Jerusalem, the capital and there were hundreds of them. Amongst them were even a few religious men, doctors of the law and scribes.

Jesus announced the good news of the Gospel and healed the sick. Everyone was listening very attentively. Slide 17 But our four men were still outside and no one was moving.

**Slide 18** No way to go back, let alone wait for another opportunity, so what could they possibly do? They had to find a rapid solution. Jesus was there and they believed that He could heal their friend, right there and then.

**Slide 19** - Look, said one of them, there's a staircase there at the side of the house. If we go up on the roof, we'll find a way to get to Jesus!

**Slide 20** No sooner said than done. They carefully raised the stretcher and placed it **Slide 21** on the roof.

In Israel at that time, the roof of houses was a sort of terrace made of mud placed on branches and beams.

They finally managed to get up there, but what did they do next?

They were scraped away the mud, removed some branches and made a hole. They made the hole bigger and then, **Slide 22** using the ropes that they had brought with them, gently lowered their friend into the middle of the crowd, and set him down **Slide 23** just at the feet of Jesus.

Everyone was silent! Everyone was astonished at this unusual sight, even the religious men who were seated in front.

**Slide 24** Jesus was also watching. What did he see?

Of course, he saw a man who couldn't walk but he also saw something that is invisible to human eyes and neither you nor I could have seen it. He saw the faith of these unstoppable men.

Speaking to the paralyzed man, he said:

**Slide 25** - Take heart my child, **Slide 26** your sins are forgiven! Your sins are forgiven! ... But this man was brought to Jesus to be healed! And... forgive sins... who can forgive sins?

**Slide 27** There was a great deal of commotion amongst the religious men sitting at the front. They were extremely displeased and said to themselves:

**Slide 28** - How can this Jesus speak like this! **Slide 29** He's making fun of us? **Slide 30** There is only God who can forgive sins! **Slide 31** He blasphemes.

**Slide 32** But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said to them:

- Why do you have such thoughts in your hearts? **Slide 33** Which is it easier to do, that I say to this man: **Slide 34** "Your sins are forgiven you" or **Slide 35** "Get up and walk"? You know that I have all power on earth to forgive sins. He said to the paralyzed man, **Slide 36** I order you:

- Get up, take your mat and go to your house.

Immediately, **Slide 37** in front of everyone, the man jumped to his feet, picked up his mat and left the house. He went home, **Slide 38** singing and praising God.

**Slide 39** Everyone was in awe of what Jesus had just done, but they were also filled with fear,

respect and joy. They said:

**Slide 40** - Glory to God! This is extraordinary. Today we have seen some strange and wonderful things!

**Slide 41** **1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!**

**Slide 42** - Who can forgive sins?

*It's easy isn't it..... Jesus Himself gives us the answer.*

**Slide 43** Yes! He can forgive sins, just as he can heal disease. Why? Well simply because he is the Son of God.

Listen to what is written in **Slide 44** Psalm 103, verse 3:

**Slide 45** - It is Jesus who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.

Let me say that again:

**Slide 46** - It is Jesus, who forgives all your sins and heals all your sins. Diseases.

Can you say it again with me? Are you ready? Let's go:

- It is Jesus, who forgives all your sins, and heals all your diseases.

And now that you know exactly who can forgive you, **Slide 47** you can ask Him for forgiveness at any time and **Slide 48** He will forgive you.

**Slide 49** **4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!**

Illnesses, medical reports, operations, and so many other words evoke all kinds of disease and suffering. We know what it means and we know the value of healing. On that day, **Slide 50** Jesus performed an amazing miracle and the life of this man was totally transformed.

But Jesus also wanted to show everyone that he was the Son of God and that He was given the power to forgive sins. He did something that was visible. He carried out a healing, to show that which is invisible, for example, the forgiveness of sins, is also a very real need.

By this miracle, He proves his divinity.

As a child grows, he will too realize his need of God's forgiveness.

If your child's heart is open to the things of God, then why not **Slide 51** invite him or her to receive God's forgiveness. Childhood really is the best age ...

**Slide 52**