

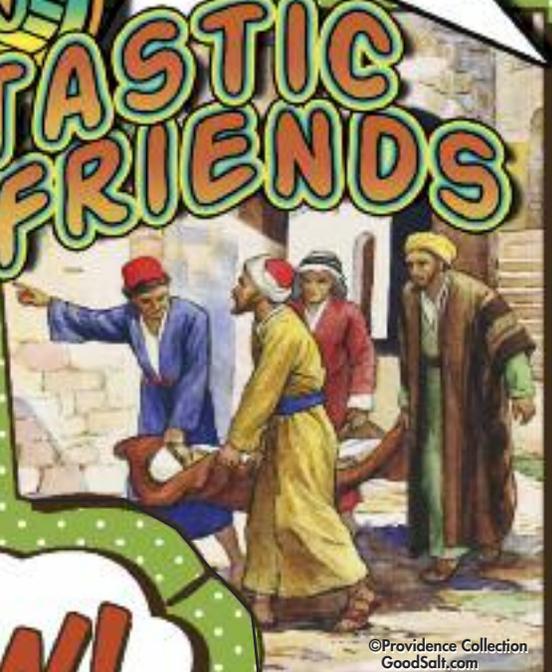
FOR CHILDREN
AGES 9 THROUGH 11
SUMMER QUARTER 2018
PART 1 OF 13 SECTIONS
JUNE 3, 2018

STANDING STRONG FANTASTIC FRIENDS

By Laura Thomas

LIE DOWN ON YOUR BED. TRY NOT TO MOVE A SINGLE MUSCLE IN YOUR WHOLE BODY FOR ONE FULL MINUTE. (IT'S OK TO BLINK.) NOW IMAGINE BEING LIKE THIS OR NOT ABLE TO USE YOUR LEGS ALL THE TIME. IF THERE WERE SOMEONE WHO COULD HEAL YOU AND MAKE YOU COMPLETELY WELL AGAIN, YOU'D WANT TO SEE HIM, RIGHT? WELL, YOU'D NEED FANTASTIC FRIENDS TO HELP YOU OUT.

IN MARK 2:1-12, YOU CAN READ ALL ABOUT A PARALYZED MAN WHO HAD THE VERY BEST FOUR FRIENDS EVER! THEY HAD AMAZING FAITH THAT JESUS WOULD HEAL THEIR BUDDY AND THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN. BUT FIRST, THEY NEEDED TO GET HIM TO JESUS.



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WOW!

Challenge:

Who are your best friends? How can you encourage your own friends and share your faith with them today?



THE FOUR

CARRIED HIM ON A FLIMSY BED ALL THE WAY TO SEE JESUS. **WHOA!!!** THE HOUSE WAS JAM-PACKED WITH PEOPLE LISTENING TO JESUS TEACH. HOW WOULD THEY BE ABLE TO GET IN AND SEE JESUS WITH SUCH A HUGE CROWD? THERE JUST HAD TO BE ANOTHER WAY TO GET IN.

"THAT'S IT!" THEY CAME UP WITH A BRILLIANT PLAN. THEY JUST NEEDED TO GET ON TOP OF THE FLAT ROOF, RIP A HOLE THROUGH IT, AND LOWER THEIR PARALYZED FRIEND DOWN TO JESUS. THAT WOULD GET THE LORD'S ATTENTION!

YES!

OH, BOY, DID IT GET ATTENTION!

JESUS SAW THE AMAZING FAITH OF THE MAN'S FRIENDS. THEY TRULY BELIEVED JESUS HAD THE POWER TO HEAL. JESUS TOLD THE GUY WHO WAS UNABLE TO MOVE TO GET UP AND CARRY HIS MAT HOME. AND JUST LIKE THAT—

WHAT A MIRACLE! AND WHAT AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE FOUR FAITHFUL, FANTASTIC FRIENDS! YOU TOO CAN JOIN IN WITH OTHERS TO BE A SUPER-FAITHFUL AND FANTASTIC FRIEND TO SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP!

THE PARALYZED MAN STOOD ON HIS FEET AND CARRIED OFF THE MAT THAT HIS FRIENDS USED TO CARRY HIM ON!

\$2.45
 ISBN 978-1-59843-742-3
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By Judith Hupp

BRIGHT —or— WRONG

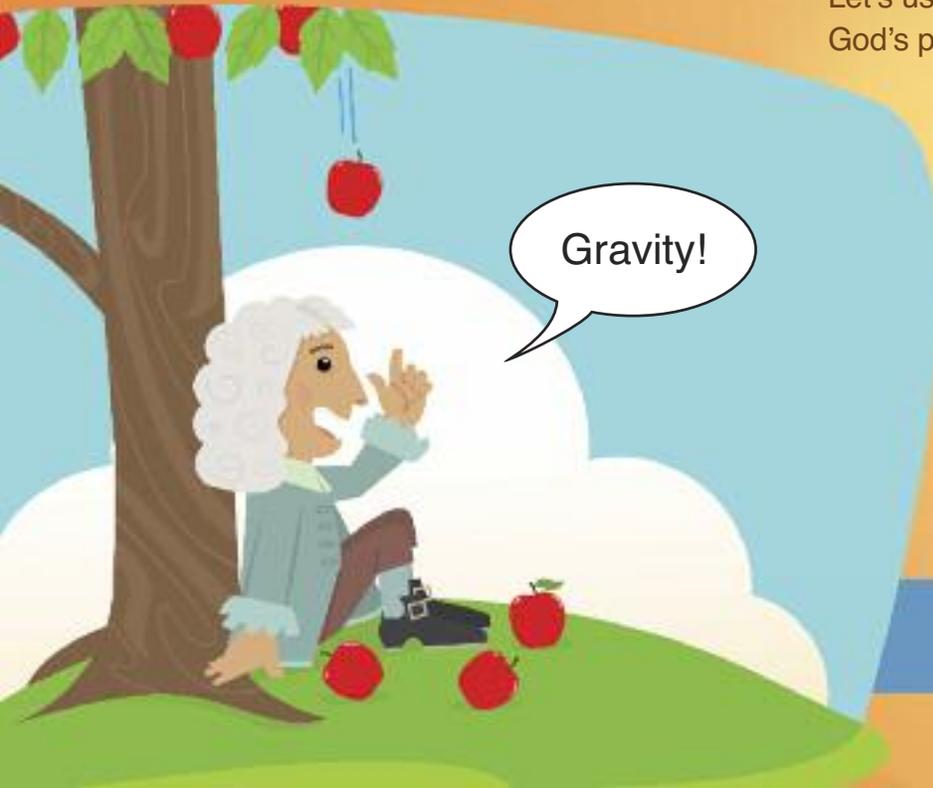
If you could invent something, what would it be? Is there some gadget that you wish existed to help you clean your room? Or one that would create a force field around you to keep you from getting hurt while playing sports?

Unlike Isaac Newton, we don't need to sit under an apple tree and get bonked on the head by falling fruit to discover that God's creation always has something new to discover.

We might be amazed to learn about the invention of tiny nanobots that may someday swim throughout human bodies fighting infections. While inventions like these might one day help people to live longer, only God has the gift of eternal life that empowers those who trust Him to live forever!

Move over scientists; you are not powerful enough to get rid of sin. But God is!

Let's use some weird science to learn more about God's perfect solution for our salvation.



**“For he hath made
him to be sin for us,
who knew no sin;
that we might be made
the righteousness
of God in him”
(II Corinthians 5:21).**