

A Service of Healing and Wholeness

Family Learning Guide

Scripture: Matthew 9:1-8

Main Theme: Jesus offers us healing and wholeness in the midst of a broken world

We are no strangers to pain, suffering and loss—nor to prayers for healing in the midst of that brokenness. Indeed, we live in a world where our bodies, our minds, our relationship and creation itself suffers the effects of brokenness. Jesus' healing of the paralytic in Matthew includes first a forgiveness of sins, then a healing of his body. This dis-ability is not, then, a consequence of sin, and Jesus sees the sin as the deep wound from which the man most needs healing. Jesus' ability to both forgive sins and to heal the man's body are evidence that he is the Son of God.

Questions for Parents to Consider:

- When have you experienced healing? What were the means of that healing? Did that healing look like what you first expected?
- When have you seen prayers for healing go unanswered? How have you processed that dissonance?
- What comes to mind when you think of the brokenness right now in your life and the world? What do you think healing and wholeness might look like in those situations?

Questions to Discuss with Your Children:

- Tell me about a time you have been hurt. How did you heal or move past that pain?
- What helps you feel better when you are hurt?
- How do you think God feels when we hurt? What do you think God's healing looks and feels like in our lives?

Learning Activities:

- Do a scavenger hunt for items at our home that help your children feel better when hurt. This might include band-aids, a stuffed animal, music, etc. Talk together about why those things help them feel better.
- Think of someone your family knows who is in need of healing right now, and choose one way to try to help them know they are loved, and to support their healing.

Prayer Focus: People in need of healing

Pasadena United Methodist Church

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