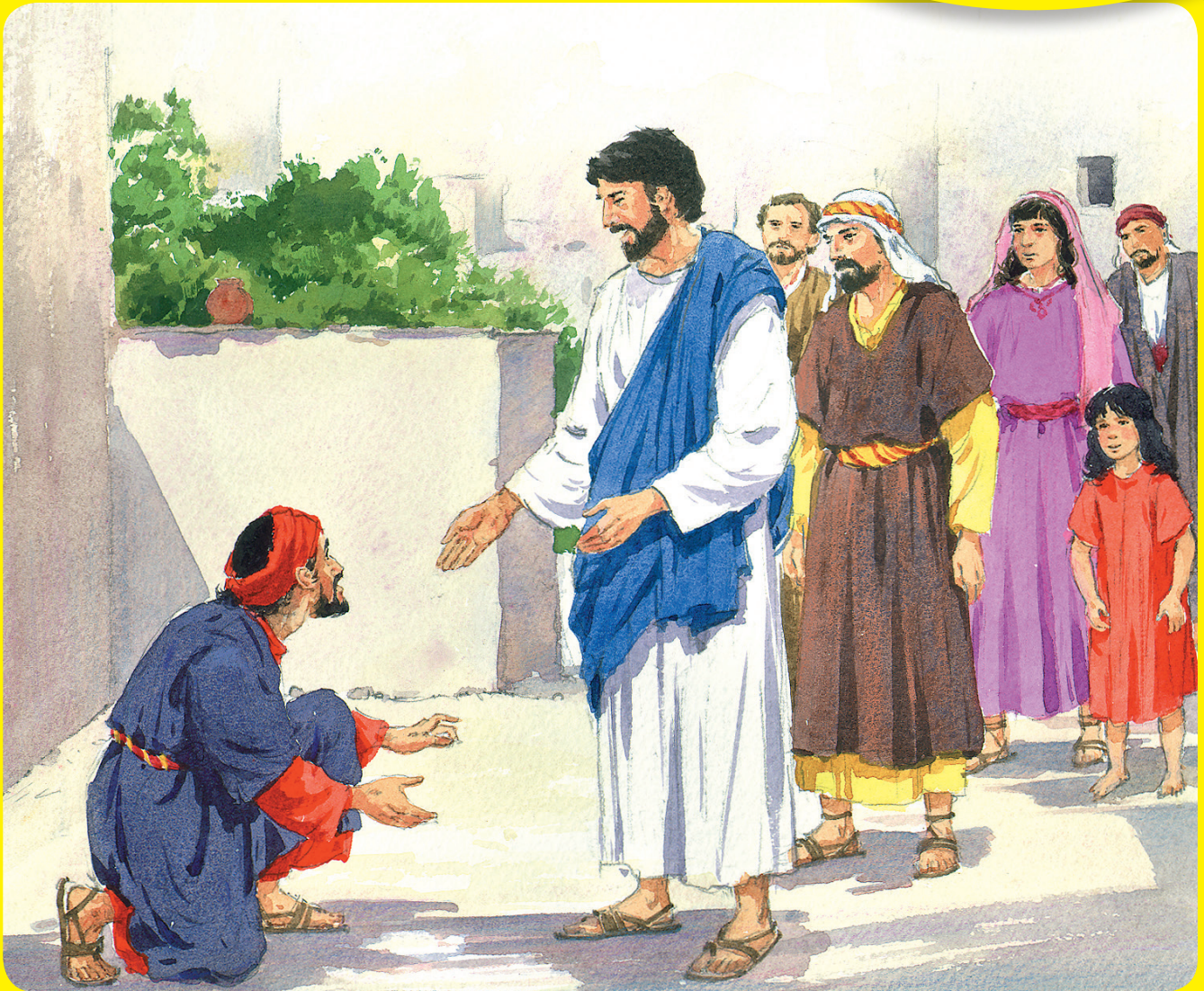


A Father Asks for Jesus' Help

Bible Story based on John 4:46-54



A man who worked for the king came to see Jesus. He said, "Please help my son. He's very sick."

Jesus cared about the father and his sick son. So Jesus said, "You may go. Your son will live."

The man believed what Jesus said, and so he left. He started to

go home. But before he got there, his servants came running. They told the man, "Your son is healthy! He's not sick now!"

The boy got better right at the time when Jesus said he would. The father and his family and servants learned that Jesus can help us when we ask.

A Long Wait

Michael's dad hurt his knee playing soccer. It didn't get any better. Finally Dr. Li said Mr. Allen needed to have an operation* so that the knee would feel better.



Mrs. Allen said, "Michael's father is having an operation* on his knee and it is taking a long time.

"Let's pray together," said Mrs. Anderson. Mrs. Allen and Michael held hands and Mrs. Anderson prayed, "Dear Jesus, please help Michael and his mom be patient as they wait."

Michael prayed, "Jesus, please help the doctor's take care of Nate's arm."



On the day of the operation, Michael went to the hospital with his mom. They sat in a waiting room. First they talked and read a book. Then they played a game. But the operation seemed to take a long time.

Mrs. Allen said, "Michael, let's go to the hospital chapel and pray. We can ask Jesus to help us be patient as we wait."



Michael and his mom went back to the waiting room. Only a few minutes later Dr. Li came in to say that Michael's dad was going to be fine. The operation helped his knee. Michael said, "See Mom, Jesus can help us when we ask."

Michael liked the inside of the hospital chapel. It looked like the inside of a tiny church building. A lady was in the chapel. She smiled when Michael and Mrs. Allen came in.

"My name is Mrs. Anderson," she said. "My son, Nate, is having an operation on his arm. I came here to ask Jesus to help the doctors take care of him."



I needed an operation [ah-puh-ray-shun]* too!



Talk Time

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT JESUS:

Jesus can help us when we ask.

Talk together about how, in the Bible story, the man's son was healed. How did Michael ask for help for his dad? Discuss different family members, friends, and neighbors who might need help. Keep a prayer list and pray for them throughout the week.

Photo Prayer Collage

Make a photo prayer collage to help your family remember friends and family they are praying for. Hang the collage near the table so it is in view during prayer time. Check back to see how prayers were answered and say a prayer of praise for those answers.



What You Need for Your Collage

- Photos of friends and family members you will be putting on your board
- Backing board for your collage: poster board, magnetic board, photo sleeves, picture frame with a collage mat, or another option that works for your family
- Tape, gluestick, or photo corners depending on your backing
- Paper
- Markers

To Make Your Collage:

1. Arrange the photos on your backing board.
2. Fasten the photos to the backing board leaving room for names.
3. Print the name and prayer concern for each photo and add the paper labels to your collage.
4. Post your collage where family members can see it and remember to pray for the people in your collage.

Memory Verse

*This is how we know
what love is: Jesus
Christ laid down
his life for us.*

1 John 3:16