

# Cooperation

## WORKING TOGETHER

to do more than you can do alone

WEEK  
**Three**

### READ LUKE 5:18-19

### DAY 1

Have you ever tried to carry someone on a mat? Why not give it a try. Grab a big towel and attempt to carry a friend or sibling from one room to another. Impossible right? Can you imagine carrying a grown man all by yourself? Not possible. Now ask for some help. Was that easier?

In these verses, to get their friend in front of Jesus, these four friends had to cooperate and work together. Can you imagine how hard it must have been to carry their friend to the house where Jesus was teaching? And then when they arrived, they realized that it was way too crowded to get him in the through the door. No problem! They worked together again to carry him up to the roof, dig their way in and lower him down, right in front of Jesus. Because they worked together, their friend met Jesus face to face. By cooperating, they changed their friend's life forever.

**THANK** God for friends who are willing to cooperate!

### READ LUKE 5:20

### DAY 2

Did you notice the part of the verse where it says, "when Jesus saw their faith?" Jesus recognized that these friends believed in Him. They knew that Jesus could heal and forgive! And because they cooperated, the man was able to receive something even better than the ability to walk! Jesus forgave him. His life was completely changed because of his friends. They were willing to do whatever it took to get their friend to Jesus, believing that He could help their friend.

Do you sometimes feel like it's hard to stand up and do the right thing? Do you think it's hard sometimes to point others to Jesus? Why? Would it be easier if you had some help? Think about the friends at your church. How could you work together to change someone else's life? Write down some ideas and take them to church this week.

**ASK** God to help you cooperate with others to make a difference.





# Cooperation

## WORKING TOGETHER

to do more than you can do alone

WEEK  
**Three**

### READ LUKE 5:25-26

### DAY 3

When Jesus healed the man, what were the three things he did. Write them in the space below.

What if his friends had given up? What if they'd arrived at the house, witnessed how crowded it was and just turned back around? Or what if they decided it was a lost cause anyway and hadn't even attempted to get their friend to Jesus in the first place?

But they didn't. They figured out a way to work together to get that man to Jesus. And because they cooperated not only was the man able to walk, but Jesus forgave him! The man stood up, picked up his mat and went home, praising God the whole way!

Have you ever wanted to give up when things were too hard? Think about these friends. They didn't let the distance or the crowd or even a roof get in their way. They worked together to change that man's life. And you can too when you choose to cooperate.

He stood; He picked up his mat; He praised God.

**LOOK** for ways to work together and do something big for God.

### READ ROMANS 15:5-6

### DAY 4

It's hard to cooperate with others sometimes, isn't it? When that happens, the best place to start is prayer.

Our verse for today reminds us that we can pray to help us get along with one another. When you start to feel yourself getting frustrated or angry when you're trying to cooperate, stop and pray. Remember that cooperation and working together is ALWAYS better than working alone.

Write out a prayer. Pick a friend that you're having a hard time getting along with and ask God to give you "one mind and one voice."

**KNOW** that God will help you when you need Him.

Dear God,

*We can work together to change someone's life.*

