

LIVE

Help Week Leader Guide

Help Week: A time for student leaders to equip their peers to become missionaries to their school, as they plan and pray for the month of campus ministry ahead.

CLUB TIME PREP:

- Select one student to lead this month's Help Week
- Remind students to post on social media and text friends reminding them about First Priority club time

INTRODUCTION: 3 minutes

Welcome Students, Prayer and Introduction

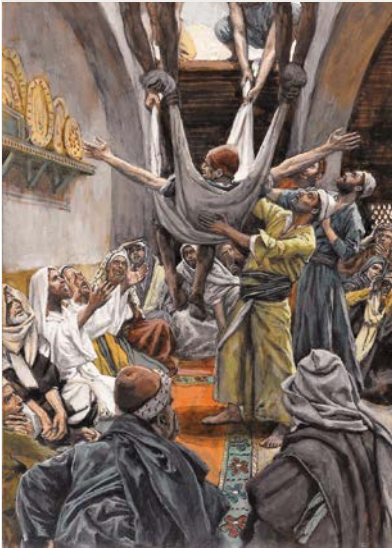
- **Assigned Leader Opens:** "Welcome to First Priority! This club is a place to seek and grow in God. This week is Help Week, which is where we help each other become missionaries to our school. This month we are discussing what it means to live in the madness and the impact that has on sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Introduce Student Leading Discussion:** "Today, my friend, _____, is going to share about why living in the madness is vital to reaching our school with the gospel."



DISCUSSION: Breaking Through the Madness (20 Minutes)

Assigned Speaker Suggestion: Today I would like to begin by reading a passage from Mark chapter 2:

"A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was laying on." (Mark 2:2-4 NIV)



We know that Jesus was God in human flesh and He had all the power to forgive sin and to heal people. In verse five, the Bible says that Jesus saw their faith. What was their faith? Well, these four friends cared so much for their friend they did whatever was necessary to get him to Jesus. These guys went to great lengths to dig down through the roof and lower their friend down in front of Jesus. They had enough faith that Jesus could heal him. I am sure they thought for a minute that this is madness to try and pull this off. I am sure the people that were crowded in the room thought these guys are crazy.

"When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralyzed man, "You're your sins are forgiven." Now some teacher of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in the hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these strange things? Which is easier: to say to the paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins," So he said to the man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!" (Mark 2:5-12 ESV)

LIVE Help Week Leader Guide (continued)

This man is lowered down in front of Jesus and He says, “your sins are forgiven.” Can you imagine what a shocking event this was? I am sure these four friends and even the paralytic did not see that first response coming. Their goal was to try to get the paralytic to walk, not to have his sins forgiven. It has been said by many great biblical teachers that “Jesus knew the greatest need for any human being was their forgiveness of sin.”

There are all kinds of things in life that we need, but there is not one thing that is better than the forgiveness of our sin. You might live to be 100 years old and have a great life and a great family. You might have been a good person by the world’s standards, but if you never had your sin forgiven you would live this life and the remainder of eternity separated from God. Good people don’t experience God for eternity. Only people who except Jesus’ forgiveness do.

In this time of March Madness will you try something crazy? Will you start to pray that God will help you see people the way He does? Will you be crazy enough to believe that God can use you to bring your friends and classmates to Jesus? If so, God may put you into a situation that seems like madness but turns into a pivotal moment that changes someone else’s eternity.



ACTION CHALLENGES:

- 1. Group Challenge:** Be missional here at school. Consider how you can pray to ask God to give you someone to share the gospel with this week. Especially someone who you may not always be around, someone that sharing with may be a little bit of madness.
- 2. Share Challenge:** Take a moment to write a daily reminder for yourself on a sticky note or on your phone notes app. Use this reminder to help you be focused on who you are praying for and why each day.
- 3. Prayer Challenge:** Have someone close in prayer for your group to each accept the challenge of living in the madness this week for the gospel.

WRAP UP: 2 minutes

- Share any FP Club announcements including that next week's meeting is Overcome Week.

