

www.tabsda.org/tabtown



#### Friends Find a Way

If you had taken a walk in the town of Capernaum one certain day, you would probably have heard, "Jesus is in town! Jesus is in town!"

A crowd of people hurried to a house where Jesus was healing and teaching. And what a crowd it was! There was no room inside the house. There was no room in the yard either. All kinds of people were in that house with Jesus: Pharisees, teachers of the law, ordinary people, and many, many sick people. There was a very sick man in that town and oh, how he wanted to meet Jesus! But he had a problem. He was paralyzed. How could he get to Jesus? He couldn't move. All he could do was lie on his bed and think about how sick he was. If only he could meet Jesus! He just knew that Jesus would make him well.

The paralyzed man was fortunate in at least one way. He had four very good friends who were happy to carry him to Jesus. Each took a corner of his mat, and off they went. But when they found the house where Jesus was healing, they couldn't reach Jesus. There were people everywhere. No one would let them through the crowd. So near and yet so far!



The sick man was worried that he wouldn't see Jesus after all. What could he and his four friends do?

There had to be a way to get through that crowd. His friends took him up to the roof of the house. How strange! Have you ever entered a house from the roof? It isn't easy. Do you know what the four friends did next? They made a hole in the roof—big enough for their sick friend and his mat to fit through. Then, with ropes, they let the sick man on

his mat down, down, down. He landed right in front of Jesus!

Jesus' eyes were so kind. He said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Forgiven, I'm forgiven! the man said to himself.

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Pharisees teachers law were happy this. They already refused to

a happy

help this man because of his sins. They thought to themselves, How dare Jesus try to forgive sins! Only God can forgive sins!

Jesus could read their minds. He spoke strongly to them, "Why are you thinking these things? People need to be helped. Which is easier: to say you are forgiven, or to say you are healed? You will soon know that I can forgive sins on earth!" Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Rise up, take your bed, and go back to your house!" Suddenly the man could move his legs and his arms. He was healed all over! He got up, rolled up his mat, carried it out of the room, and headed home. This time the crowd let him through! Everyone was amazed and praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!" The four friends were really happy that they had brought their friend to Jesus. How about you? Do you want to bring someone to Jesus?

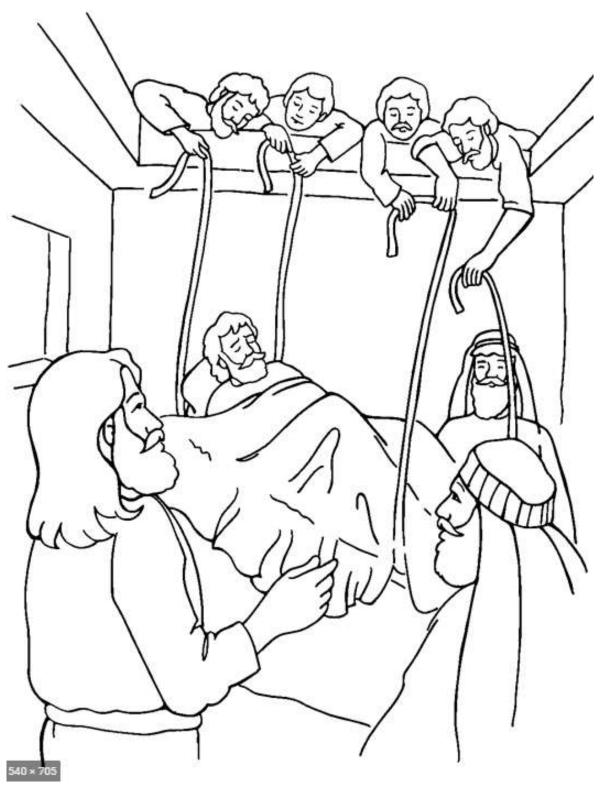


# Friends Find a Way Questions

	Who was in the house with Jesus?
- - -	
	What did the four friends do?
-	Was Jesus upset when he saw the sick man? Explain
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If	you were one of the friends, what other way would you have gotten your friend to Jesus? Explain
-	

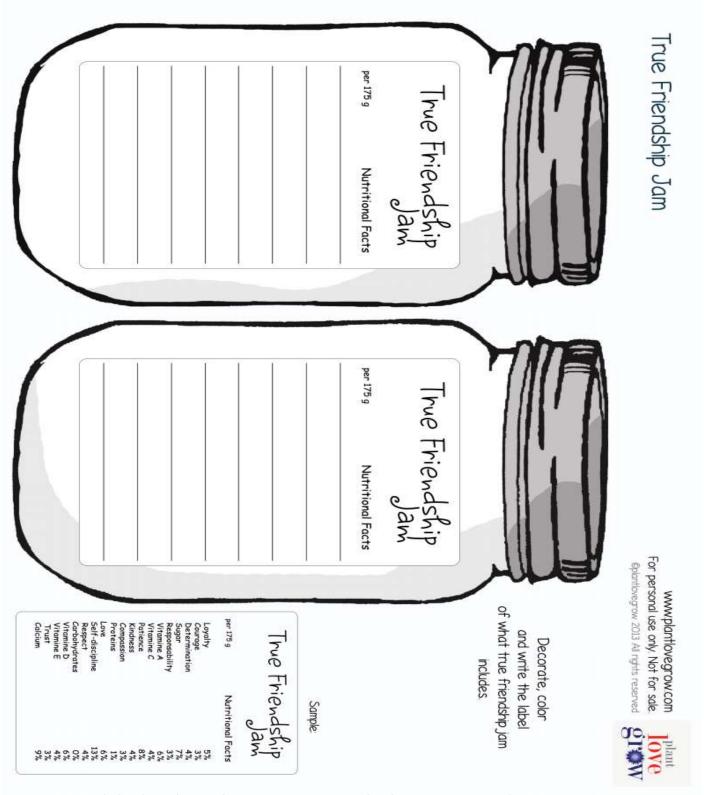


# Friends Find a Way Coloring Page





### Friends Find a Way Craft



Add the label to a Jar and share it with someone.



## Friends Find a Way Puzzle

### Friendship Alphabet Challenge

Can you come up with a friendship themed word for each letter of the alphabet?



A	N	
	<i>o</i>	
C	P	_
D	<i>Q</i>	_
<i>E</i>	R	_
<i>F</i>	S	_
G	<i>T</i>	
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	
* D-0% STr	Y	
	Z	



### Cactus friends

Get too close and you'll get hurt!

They may pretend to be your friend, but they are not.
They make mistakes and may pretend to apologize.
They pick on you or others.
They want to control you.
They ask you not to tell others if they have hurt you.
They don't want you to have other friends.

They don't let you have a say over things.

They say bad things about you
in front of you.

They say bad things about you behind your back.

They hurt your feelings on purpose.
They make you feel bad
about the way you look.

They don't care about your opinion. They like to get you in trouble.

They create stories about you that are not true.

They make you feel miserable. You don't feel safe

when they are around.

#### Flower friends

Everyone blooms together!

They genuinely care about you as a friend. They make mistakes and apologize.

They are respectful of your feelings.
They like you as you are.
They make sure that you are safe.

They understand that sometimes you want to play with other people.

You can work things out when issues come up. They will not tease you if you tell them to stop. They will talk to you directly

They will talk to you directly if there's a problem.

You can discuss together if you have bruised each other's feelings.

They support you and encourage you to be yourself.

They respect your opinion even if it's different.

They like to play and have fun with you.

They tell the truth.

They make you feel good about yourself.

They want to spend time with you.

You feel safe with them around.

YOU want to bloom with other flower friends.

YOU are allergic to cactus friends.

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