

**1** Jesus went back to Capernaum, and a few days later people heard that he was at home.

**2** Then so many of them came to the house that there wasn't even standing room left in front of the door.

**10** I will show you that the Son of Man has the right to forgive sins here on earth."

Jesus was still teaching **3** when four people came up, carrying a crippled man on a mat. **4** But because of the crowd, they could not get him to Jesus. So they made a hole in the roof above him and let the man down in front of everyone.

They praised God and said, "We have never seen anything like this!"

**5** When Jesus saw how much faith they had, he said to the crippled man, "My friend, your sins are forgiven."

So Jesus said to the man, **11** "Get up! Pick up your mat and go on home." **12** The man got right up. He picked up his mat and went out while everyone watched in amazement.

**8** Right away, Jesus knew what they were thinking, and he said, "Why are you thinking such things? **9** Is it easier for me to tell this crippled man that his sins are forgiven or to tell him to get up and pick up his mat and go on home?"