**Esperanza Lutheran Church Sunday Funday #9**

**November 8, 2020**

**All Ages**

**Bible Story: Four Friends**

**Emphasis:** Brave and good friends that help a paralyzed friend.

**Bible Background:** Four friends in our story brought a friend to be healed by Jesus.  Now there was a big crowd to see Jesus. There were many people who wanted to be healed. So the four friends in our story had to be creative to find a way to bring their friend to Jesus for healing. So they cut in a hole in the roof and lowered their friend to see Jesus.  Jesus did something unexpected then-- instead of healing the man--Jesus forgave his sins.  Then Jesus healed the man to show that he was speaking and acting for God.

**Read the Bible Story!:** Healing of a paralyized man and his four friends (read the story) (Spark Bible: Four Friends page 438)  It is an amazing story.  A story of healing and friendship.  It is also a story of compassion, love and determination.

**Questions:**

1.  How many friends brought the paralyized man? (four)

2. What did the friends do when there was no way for them to get to Jesus? (cut a hole in the roof and lowered the paralyized man down from the roof)

3. What did they use to lower their friend down to Jesus? (a stretcher and ropes)  Do you think it was hard to lower him down? (Yes! It took four of them to figure it out and the strength to lower him down to the ground in front of Jesus.)

4. What happened when Jesus saw the man come down from the ceiling?  (he probably was surprised and impressed by the four friends)  (Jesus forgave the man and healed him too!)

**Activity:** Build a house and take out a part of the roof!  You will need something to build with, legos,wood or plastic blocks. (if you go to the store pick up sugar cubes, they are fun to build with.)

Together with your child build a house. As you build,talk about the story.  When you are finished take off part of the roof and build a figure (person) to lower down into the building.  Talk about how difficult it was for the four friends to lower their paralyized friend down to Jesus.

**Ehpaize: Jesus heals the paralyzed man and his friends helped!**

**Hold hands and end in a Family Prayer:** Dear Jesus, you have love and compassion for everyone. Thank you for my friends and for my family.  Please give friends to people who may be lonely or sick.  Amen