

By the pool side



In a big city called Jerusalem there was a special pool. Lots of people who were ill, who could not see, or could not walk, lay near the edge of the pool and waited.

They thought that whenever the water started to bubble, the first person to get into the pool would be made well again.

So every day they waited and waited....and watched the water carefully to look for the first bubbles to come to the surface. One man had been waiting for a very long time – 38 years! He couldn't walk and he waited by the pool every day to watch carefully for the bubbles to start.

But even when he saw them, he was never the first into the water. He couldn't get there quick enough.

One day, Jesus went to the pool. He saw the man who had been ill for a long time. He saw that the man could not walk, or wave his arms, or wiggle his toes.

'Do you want to be healed?' Jesus asked the man. 'Of course I do' answered the man. 'But I don't have anyone to help me to get into the pool when the water bubbles. So someone else always gets there first.'

'Pick up your mat and walk', Jesus told the man. Suddenly the lame man felt new life surging through his body. He knew he was healed.

He got up. He could walk! He could run!

So he picked up his mat and went home, stopping to tell everyone what had happened to him. Jesus had healed him. Jesus is amazing!

