

# THE CRUTCH WALKERS

There existed a planet on which all the inhabitants were unable to walk. They crawled through life not knowing the pleasure of viewing life upright with the easy mobility of walking.

History said that many years before, the descendants had been able to use their legs effectively and walk upright without crawling or pulling their bodies with their hands as they did now.

One day a person came among them who showed great love and compassion toward them. He told them that not only had their ancestors walked on their legs, but that this was possible for them, too. He offered crutches for those who believed him, with the promise that someday, if they trusted him, by using their crutches they would be able to walk upright even without them.

Some of the people decided to try the crutches. Once they were upright, they found how much larger their world became because of this new ease in mobility. They encouraged everyone to join them in this newfound freedom.

Others doubted the crutch walkers would ever be free of their crutches and be able to walk alone. They scoffed at them and said, "We are satisfied with life as we see it. We don't need the assistance of a crutch to experience in life. Only the weak need the aid of crutches to get around!"

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Questions for discussion:

- If you were one of the people in the story, would you have tried the crutches? Why or why not?
- Why do you think some people did not want to try the crutches, and put other people down who did?
- Do you feel that Christianity is only a crutch? If so, in what way? Is this good or bad?
- How would you respond to a person who rejected Christianity because she thought that it was only a crutch?

You might wrap up with some thoughts on the importance of realizing that we are in fact handicapped without Christ, and that it is only when we admit that we are crippled that we are able to walk. Some applicable Scripture might include 2 Corinthians 12:10, Numbers 21:4-9, John 3:14-16, and John 1:9-12.