

THE HEALING OF A PARALYTIC

Discussion Guide
February 26, 2012

“We Have Never Seen Anything Like This

Mark 2:1-12

Mark 2:1-12 — ¹ And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ “Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk’? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”— he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

Sermon Outline

- I. **Jesus—Seeing Him Changes Everything**
 - A. His Authority (from the Gospel of Mark)
 - B. His Healing
 - C. His Forgiveness
- II. **The Scribes and Pharisees—Don’t Be That Guy**
 - A. Arrogance Can Be Blindness
 - B. Arrogance Leads to Hypocrisy
 - C. Arrogance Separates Us From God
 - D. Arrogance Is Devoid of Love
- III. **The Friends—What Are You Willing To Do?**
 - A. Jesus “Saw” Their Faith in Action
 - B. Fellowship Is Important—It can help us be bold
- IV. **Next Steps**
 - A. Are you like the paralytic in the story?
 - B. Are you like the Scribes and Pharisees in the story?
 - C. We all need to be more like the friends in the story.

Luke 5:17— *On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.*

Psalm 103:1-5— *1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, 5 who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.*

Matthew 10:1— *And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction.*

Psalm 32:1-2— *1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit*

Isaiah 43:25— *“I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.*

Discussion Questions

1. If you were one of the paralytic's four friends and saw the crowd where Jesus was, what would you do?
2. How would you feel if you were the paralytic when your friends decided to help you "drop in on Jesus"?
3. What qualities do the four friends possess that impress you the most?
4. Why were the teachers of the Law so upset with Jesus?
5. If you had friends who would take you to Jesus for healing today, what kind of healing would you ask for (e.g. physical, spiritual, emotional, relational)?
6. When was the last time that you took a friend to "see" Jesus (exercise your faith)?

NOTES

F	O	R	G	I	V	E	D	S	A	V	M	_____
T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	E	A	O	C	_____
Q	U	E	S	T	I	O	N	K	O	I	N	_____
C	S	Y	V	R	E	P	O	R	T	E	D	_____
G	A	T	H	E	R	E	D	Y	H	J	O	_____
D	L	P	P	L	N	T	L	W	F	G	O	_____
I	M	M	E	D	I	A	T	E	L	Y	R	_____
J	H	L	Q	R	R	K	S	I	N	S	E	_____
U	E	E	M	A	N	Y	E	P	P	S	U	_____
S	A	S	P	R	E	A	C	H	I	N	G	_____
O	R	P	U	R	E	T	U	R	N	E	D	_____
M	T	H	O	S	P	H	O	M	E	V	N	_____
E	S	M	J	O	H	P	I	C	K	H	L	_____
CAPERNAUM	DAYS	DOOR										
EVEN	FORGIVE	GATHERED										
HEARTS	HOME	IMMEDIATELY										
JESUS	LIKE	MANY										
MORE	PARALYTIC	PICK										
PREACHING	QUESTION	REPORTED										
RETURNED	RISE	ROOM										
SAID	SINS	SOME										
THERE	TOGETHER	WHEN										

God's Vision and Mission for the Alliance Bible Church

The Alliance Bible Church is a multi-cultural church celebrating the life of Christ in us by:

- Proclaiming the full message of God's Good News to the diverse cultures of McHenry and surrounding communities,
- Discipling believers in living the deeper Christian life,
- Equipping His people for the work of ministry, and
- Demonstrating the unconditional love of Jesus to our community through meaningful acts of service.

Micah 7:18-19—¹⁸ Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Mark 2:17—“Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

Mark 7:6-8—“This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

John 14:15— “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

Mark 8:34-38—³⁴ And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Mark 11:22-23—²² And Jesus answered them, “Have faith in God. ²³ Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.”