

THE GOSPEL OF MARK "Forgiven"

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV)

⁽¹⁾ A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ⁽²⁾ So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ⁽³⁾ Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁽⁴⁾ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. ⁽⁵⁾ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁽⁶⁾ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁽⁷⁾ "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁽⁸⁾ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁽⁹⁾ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat 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 tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ⁽¹²⁾ He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

FOUR FRIENDS

*Friendship that would do anything. Risk Physical Danger, Social Ridicule and Financial Responsibility.

*They believed Jesus could heal their friend. You don't do what they did to get a better seat.

*They literally tear a hole in the ceiling. If an opening to Jesus can not be found then one must be made. This is a description of faith that will remove any obstacles to get to Jesus.

*Imagine the noise, dust, the homeowners reaction.

*Jesus **SAW** their faith. Faith is more than words. Words are easy to say and actions speak louder than words. **Words are cheap, actions can be costly.**

WHAT ABOUT BOB?

*People believed that sickness was related to the persons sin or the sin of the parents. If there is a sickness it doesn't mean you have sinned but it doesn't mean you haven't sinned either. 1 Corinthians 11:27-30

*"Your sins" specific. It could be possible that his lifestyle or a decision he had made had landed him on the mat. Maybe a decision that no one else knew about, but Bob and Jesus.

*Bob didn't get what he expected at first but he did get what he needed.

Forgiveness! How many desperately need to know they are forgiven?

-James 5:16

***Forgiveness is more important than healing.**

JESUS THE "SON OF MAN"

*The scribes reaction is totally understandable. Only God can forgive sin. Exodus 34:6-7, Psalm 103:3, Isaiah 43:25, Micah 7:18

*Blasphemy was punishable by the death penalty – Leviticus 24:16

*Son of Man—Jesus has not been **GIVEN** authority, He **HAS** authority. Because Jesus is God!

How far would you be willing to go for a friend?

How far would you be willing to go to bring someone to Jesus?

"SON OF MAN" 3 CATEGORIES

Apocalyptic:

Mark 8:38, 13:26, 14:62

Authority:

Mark 2:10, 2:28

Suffering:

Mark 8:31, 9:9, 12:31, 10:33, 45, 14:21 (2x), 41