

THE GOSPEL OF
mark

Carried to Jesus
Mark 2:1-12

*“Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, ‘**Son, your sins are forgiven.**’”*

Mark 2:3-5

The Power of Forgiveness

Sometimes what we _____ distracts us from our deepest _____.

*“But I want you to know that **the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.**’ So he said to the man, ‘I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.’ 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!’”*

Mark 2:10-12

Our deepest need is _____.

This man’s healing is simply _____
of God’s invisible forgiveness.

The Power of Friendship

*“When Jesus saw **their faith...**”*

Mark 2:3-5

We all need others who will _____ when we can’t stand on our own.

*“**Two are better than one**, because they have a good return for their labor: If they fall down, they can help each other up. But pity those who fall and have no one to help them up!”*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Who has carried you to Jesus?

Who can you carry to Jesus?

Gospel of Mark: Carried to Jesus

Questions based on Sermon from January 21, 2024

Getting to Know Me –

1. If you have anyone new in your Growth Group, go around to share your names and a brief introduction.
2. Who would you trust to carry you if you were not able to walk?
3. Have you ever had to rely on your friends when you were hurt or sick? Is it difficult for you to accept help from others?

Digging Deeper

4. What new insight or information did you learn about from hearing Pastor Phil's sermon this Sunday?
5. Read Mark 2:1-5 – Why do you think Jesus reacted to their faith and healed the paralyzed man? Can you share a time when your friend's faithfulness helped you through a difficult time?
6. What is the significance of Jesus stating that the man's sins were forgiven and why do you think it was confusing to his friends? What do you think they were hoping would happen when they brought the man to Jesus?
7. Read Mark 2:6-7 – How did the "teachers of the law" respond to Jesus' statement? Why did they react this way?
8. Read Luke 5:19-26 – Here we see Luke sharing the same story. This is a story worth repeating. What stories of Jesus' faithfulness in your life are worth repeating? Take a moment to share with one another.

9. Read Mark 2:8-11 – How is Jesus' divine power subtly revealed in this scene?

10. Read Mark 2:12 – What reaction did the people have when they saw the man was physically healed? How have you been changed by your encounter with Jesus?

Going Deeper:

In addition to the compassion of friends to help each other, we see in this chapter the *compassion of Christ* to bless the friends who carried the paralyzed man to him by acknowledging their faith and the *power of Christ* to heal the man of both his spiritual and physical condition.

11. In Mark 2, we see that faith and forgiveness are made visible. In what ways are your faith in God and his forgiveness for you manifest in your life?
12. Who are the people in your life who have carried you to Jesus? And who can you carry closer to Jesus this week? Send a note to them this week.
13. List some practical ways your Growth Group can help each other through the trials of life?

Prayer

Father God, we long to see the eternal view you have for each of us. We are so grateful that you loved us enough to provide a way back to you. Your goodness and compassion are greater than we can ever understand. We thank you for rescuing us from sin and making us alive in Christ! Amen.

We exist to glorify God by guiding people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

THE GOSPEL OF
mark

Carried to Jesus
Mark 2:1-12

*“Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, ‘**Son, your sins are forgiven.**’”*

Mark 2:3-5

The Power of Forgiveness

Sometimes what we want distracts us from our deepest need.

*“But I want you to know that **the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.**’ So he said to the man, ‘I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.’ 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!’”*

Mark 2:10-12

Our deepest need is forgiveness.

This man’s healing is simply visible verification of God’s invisible forgiveness.

The Power of Friendship

*“When Jesus saw **their faith...**”*

Mark 2:3-5

We all need others who will carry us when we can’t stand on our own.

*“**Two are better than one**, because they have a good return for their labor: If they fall down, they can help each other up. But pity those who fall and have no one to help them up!”*

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

Who has carried you to Jesus?

Who can you carry to Jesus?