

Jesus Heals The Paralytic

Luke 5:17-26

I. **Our Savior continues to work miracles**, validating the authority of His words, continually pointing to His deity. For *“who can do these things except God?”* Why is this important? Ans: so we know that:

- A. Jesus really _____ the authority to grant us forgiveness
- B. Our salvation in Christ is _____

II. **Setting the scene...** (Also Mark 2:1-12)

- A. **Jesus in Capernaum**, by the Sea of Galilee, fulfilling prophecy **Matt. 4:12-16**
- B. **Jesus at the house** (likely Peter's) (*map pics*)
- C. The house was super crowded. Included **in that crowd were some Pharisees and Teachers of the Law:**
 - 1. **Pharisees**- a small sect (approx. 6,000). Legalistic, and known for their _____ adherence to the ceremonial fine points of the law. Their name means “separated ones”. Jesus’ interaction with them was usually adversarial. He rebuked them for using human _____ to nullify scripture, and especially for rank hypocrisy.
 - 2. **Teachers of The Law**- A scribe who was known as an expert in the Law of God, referred to by Luke as “_____” (10:25). Professional scholars whose specialty was explaining application of the law. They knew well the scriptures concerning the coming Messiah but lacked the faith to believe when He did come.
 - 3. **They came as far as from Jerusalem** because Jesus’ reputation had already spread. Jesus’ ministry was making much noise and they wanted to _____ Him carefully. *“Aren’t we supposed to be the spiritual leaders?”*

III. (v.17) **Jesus, knowing the hearts of the critics** and the conflict that was about to happen with them, also knew something was brewing outside that God was orchestrating as a means by which Jesus would refute these established critics.

IV. (v. 18-19) **They see no access so they get creative and keep working hard...**

- A. **The Lord wants us to _____ in getting our needs met**- it’s good for us. Without it, help can seem cheap and not as valuable. Deeds are an _____ to show our true faith... (**James 2:14-18**).
- B. **Sample:** sometimes it’s so easy to stand right in front of someone who desperately needs the Lord, and just pray “Lord please reach them?...”, not realizing that God was already answering that prayer by sending you to do that.
- C. **“Through the tiles”**- These homes were made of stone and mud w/ criss cross beams on top that would hold a second floor or roof full of mud-baked, sectioned tiles. They were often laid over w/ an extra set just to insure rain would not get in. Our friends got _____, brought him up the ladder or outside steps and pried one of these sections open to lower him down.
- D. **The faith of the friends**
 - 1. What an amazing reminder of how the Lord often answers prayers through the blessing of _____ (**Rom. 15:1; Gal. 6:2; Prov. 31:20**)
 - 2. Their amazing actions were a testimony to their _____ in Christ. *“Okay guys... Jesus is the real deal... this has to be the Messiah, let’s gather him up and take him over there!”*
- E. (v.20) **“Seeing their faith, He said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.”**
 - 1. Christ ignored the paralysis, and instead addressed the man’s greatest need- being forgiven for his _____.
 - 2. Sin is not always the cause of maladies but sometimes it is (Is- **John 5:14; 1 Cor. 11:28-20; Isn’t- John 9:1-3**)
- F. (v.21-26) **Jesus takes it a step further**
 - 1. It is definitely easier to “claim” the power to forgive sins than to heal a paralytic. So He proved His power to forgive sins by instantly & completely healing the man. If He could do the harder thing, He could also do the _____. Although, they didn’t realize that the forgiving of sins was definitely the harder, as it involved both being God and being _____ a cross.