

Central Church of Christ

Sunday PM Growth Group: 09/25/2022

Mark 2:1-12

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!"

Class #2B - Mark 2:1-3:6 - When we begin to recognize our sin, we can see Jesus as our savior and begin to obey him.

Think of a loved one who suffers from a serious physical injury. Imagine what life would be like for that person and family if you had the ability to heal them. Is there any reason you might refuse to heal them?

What is our biggest problem and how does God deal with it?

What was Jesus's inherent message to the Pharisees who kept getting angry at him?

Take a moment and think about the things in your life you'd like Jesus to fix. If he showed up one day and said, "Name it and I'll fix it," what would you ask from him? Why?

What obstacles did the paralytic face in his bid for healing?

How did he manage to get in front of Jesus?

What would you—along with the people in the house—expect from Jesus when the paralytic comes down through a hole in the roof? How do you think you would have reacted to his initial statement?

How big of a deal is your sin to you? In what ways does your perspective of your sin reflect God's view of it? Reflect on those you tend to minimize, ignore, or justify.

If you were able to choose, would you rather be healed physically of a life-altering ailment or illness, or forgiven your sins? Why?

We often forget that Jesus the gentle rabbi is also the Son of Man riding on the clouds in judgment. How do you reconcile these two characteristics of our savior?

Reflect on your own history with Jesus. When you first believed, how quickly did you turn from your sin to follow Jesus's ways?

What's the focus of Jesus's ministry? People or theological correctness? Who benefits from what Jesus says? Who loses out?