

Our Compassionate Savior
Luke 5:12-26

• Does Jesus _____?

- Jesus' authority is marked by _____.

• Can Jesus meet the _____?

- Jesus is more committed to our well-being _____.

• Will Jesus _____?

- Jesus' authority is marked by _____.

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION:

1. Can you think of a time when you felt genuine desperation maybe due to financial hardship, illness, or something else? Share the circumstance surrounding this time and the emotions you felt.
2. Over the past several weeks Luke's gospel has been teaching us that Jesus, as God in flesh, possessed authority over everything. Often experience shows us power is abused and used to oppress and take advantage of people. Luke 5:12-15 shows us unlike what we often experience, Jesus uses his absolute power for good. If we are in Christ, God is for us, not against us, and His power is and will be used for our good, not our destruction; how do you struggle to believe this?
3. Read Luke 5:13-26. Consider the friends who brought this man to Jesus. Notice the text tells us that seeing "their" faith, Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven." What can we learn from the friends who brought the paralyzed man to Jesus? Who are friends God has given you who need your spiritual and physical help?
4. Luke 5 takes an unexpected turn when in front of the Pharisees and teachers of the law, Jesus tells the paralyzed man his sins are forgiven. Instead of immediately healing the man, Jesus uses this opportunity to declare himself to be God (only God can forgive sin) and demonstrates this by miraculously restoring the man's ability to walk. The deepest need of our souls is to be forgiven of our sin and reconciled to God. Do you see yourself as forgiven by God of your sin through the sacrifice of Jesus? Reflect on how God has moved in your life and saved you from your sin. As a group thank God for showing his love and acceptance by forgiving our sins. Who do you know that needs to know their deepest need for forgiveness can only be met in Jesus?