

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

RECEIVING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

⁴⁶ The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷ keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin..." Exodus 34:6-7 (ESV)

⁴⁵ "The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip[a] and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' ⁴⁶ He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp." Leviticus 13:45-46 (ESV)

"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy." Isaiah 35:5-6 (ESV)

²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld." John 20:23 (ESV)

"Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ² And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³ Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴ And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." ⁵ And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶ But Peter said, "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!" ⁷ And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸ And leaping up, he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. Acts 3:1-8 (ESV)

Search for the "Renewal Church Denver" app or "St. John's Denver" app in your app store.

More of God's truth all week long at renewaldenver.tv and sjdenver.tv

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What's the most odd or funny thing that you can remember happening during a worship service?
- If you could cure one disease in the world, which would it be?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Luke 5:12-26. Which is easier – to forgive sins? To heal a leper or paralytic?
- Read Luke 5:12-26. Is the main point of this passage the identity of Jesus, or to go to Jesus for healing, bringing others with us?
- Read Luke 5:12-26. Is it wrong to help people solve problems in their life as a way of introducing them to the Gospel?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Use a question from N.T. Wright's "Luke: For Everyone" (pg. 39-40).
- What do you most admire about the team of friends that brought the paralytic to Jesus in Luke 5:12-26?
- How would it change your prayer life if you took your prayers to Jesus with the same urgency and confidence that the paralytic's friends had while bringing him to Jesus in Luke 5:12-26?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Who is someone in your life that needs Jesus? Download the "MissionHub" app (right now) and try using it for one week.

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- "Jesus, there is great physical and emotional pain in the world. You have begun to take it away with the power of the cross, and will one day wipe away all of it when you return. You have now entrusted your disciples with forgiving sins and doing the works of your kingdom. Create in us a spirit eager to share the Good news with urgency, and place joy in our hearts because of Your love. Amen."

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

1. What has God been teaching you in His word this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
2. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection)
4. Pray for one another.