LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BEFORE & AFTER: HOW JESUS TRANSFORMS OUR LIVES

Sermon Text: Mark 2:1-12
Date: November 8, 2026

OVERVIEW

When a paralyzed man is brought to Jesus for physical healing, Jesus addresses a need far deeper than his inability to walk—his need for forgiveness and reconciliation with God. By healing the man, Jesus demonstrates His divine authority to forgive sins, revealing that He is more than a miracle worker; He is the Savior we desperately need. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus has made forgiveness possible for all who trust in Him, offering a hope that goes far beyond our present circumstances.

Related Scriptures: Daniel 7:13–14; Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:22; Hebrews 11:1; Colossians 2:13–14

1. What stood out to you from the sermon or passage? Was there anything that encouraged you, challenged you, or helped you see Jesus or the gospel more clearly?

Read: Mark 2:1-5

2. The four friends demonstrated remarkable faith and determination in bringing the paralyzed man to Jesus. What does their example teach us about loving others and pointing them toward Christ? What obstacles or hesitations sometimes keep us from doing the same?

3. Pastor Ricky emphasized that "What seems like our greatest need is not necessarily our deepest need." How does this challenge the way we often approach God with our problems and desires? How can understanding our greatest need for forgiveness change our perspective on the difficulties we face?

4. How does the gospel give us genuine hope, peace, and assurance even when our circumstances don't change? How have you experienced God's faithfulness in the midst of ongoing difficulties?

Read: Mark 2:6-12

5. The scribes correctly recognized that only God can forgive sins, but failed to recognize who was standing before them. How does Jesus' healing of the paralyzed man reveal His true identity and authority? Why is it essential to understand Jesus as more than simply a good teacher, moral example, or miracle worker?

Read: Colossians 2:13-14

6. While forgiveness is freely offered to us through faith, it came at an extraordinary cost to Jesus. How does reflecting on what Christ accomplished through His death and resurrection deepen our gratitude for God's grace? How should that gratitude shape the way we live and share the hope of the gospel with others?

