

There is Something about the Faith of the Desperate

📅 Date Delivered	April 19, 2026
☰ Lesson Number	Lesson 3 (Part A)
☰ Primary Scripture	Mark 2:3-4;17
☰ Speaker	Elder Brian K. Rosette
☰ Summary	Faith in Christ can lead to desperate acts; Jesus responds to faith and calls those in need to repentance. His mission must become our mission.

HIM – Lesson 3 (Part A): There is Something about the Faith of the Desperate

Date: 04-19-2026

Primary Text: Mark 2:3-4;17

Main Question

What are we willing to do for ourselves, and for others, to get to Jesus?

Key Theme

Faith in Christ can sometimes lead to desperate acts, but Jesus responds to faith. He has come for those who are in need of a physician, and for those who need

repentance. His mission must become our mission.

I. Foundational Scripture

Mark 2:3-4;17

- "Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. **4.** And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying." (*Mark 2:3-4*)
 - "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (*Mark 2:17*)
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II. The Faith of the Desperate

- The men heard that Jesus was in town and speaking at a house in Capernaum. They carried a paralyzed man to where Jesus was.
- When they arrived, they were presented with **obstacles**.

Word Study: Obstacles — a physical object or intangible hindrances that stand in the way of progress, action, or achievement. They block movement and make it difficult to reach a goal.

- They could have given up, but they were desperate to get the man to Jesus—signaling faith in Jesus' ability to heal him.

Word Study: Desperate — a state of intense need or hopelessness often triggered by severe life stressors that causes a person to abandon boundaries and act in extreme ways to secure what they lack.

- With obstacles front and center, their faith and desperation required them to:
 - Take a breath & regroup
 - Develop an alternate plan

- Make it happen

James 2:17 — Faith without works is dead.

- Their faith-driven desperation moved them to do the work:
 - Work their way through the crowd with the man on a stretcher
 - Climb to the roof (stairs or ladder)
 - Tear the roof open
 - Lower their friend down to where Jesus was
- They didn't quit. They came on purpose, on a mission, and accomplished what they set out to do: **get the man to Jesus**.

III. Lessons from the Teacher (Jesus)

- We are to observe the actions of Jesus and ask: *What is the Teacher teaching? What is He trying to get us to learn and understand?*

A. Faith pleases Him

- **Hebrews 11:6** — Faith pleases God.
- Before addressing the man's sickness, the text says that when Jesus **saw their faith**, He began to work.
- **Mark 2:5** — He responded first to **their faith**, not the man's sickness.

B. God searches the heart

- **1 Samuel 16:7** — God looks at the heart.
- The expectation may have been that Jesus would only heal paralysis, but Jesus addressed what was deeper: forgiveness of sin.
- **Mark 2:5** — forgiveness preceded healing.

C. He has divine authority

- Many did not truly understand who Jesus was.
 - By forgiving sin, Jesus demonstrated divine authority—something only God can do.
 - The scribes and religious leaders considered it blasphemous in their hearts.
 - **Mark 2:6-7**
 - To demonstrate His authority to forgive and His power to heal, Jesus told the man to rise, take up his bed, and go home.
 - **Mark 2:11-12**
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IV. Jesus shows us His heart through His actions

Mark 2:13-14

- After the miracle, Jesus taught the multitude and called **Levi** (a tax collector) to follow Him.
- Tax collectors were considered traitors and extortionists—known for cheating their own people for gain.

Regardless of who we were or what we've done, if we are obedient to His call and leave behind the things, places, ways, and mindsets to follow Him, we too can be effective disciples of Christ.

- We cannot look down on those society has rejected. Our hearts should be extended to them.
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V. Our Brother's Keeper

- Apostle shared last week: **"We are Jesus' next best option."**
- There are people who may never come to church or seek religious leaders—but they encounter disciples at work, in families, in restaurants, on trips, and in everyday life.

- Our responsibility is to show them **HIM** through words and behavior and to set the atmosphere so they can encounter **HIM**.

Mark 2:15

- Jesus ate at Levi's house with tax collectors and others described as sinners—social and religious outcasts.
- Eating at the table was a sign of friendship/relationship.

Matthew 28:19-20 (The Great Commission) — "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

- As with the men bringing the paralytic to Jesus: who do we encounter weekly that needs your faith and "desperation" to help them get what they truly need from HIM?

VI. His Mission Understood

- When scribes and Pharisees questioned why Jesus ate and drank with tax collectors and sinners, Jesus explained His mission.

Mark 2:17 — Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

- Jesus came for the sinner, the sick, the lost.
- He often taught in houses and away from temples—He went where people were.
- It matters when we remember what God brought us from. When we testify with excitement, others can receive hope because they see what He has done.

Knowing His mission is not enough. We must embrace it, and **it must become our mission too.**

- **Luke 19:10** — the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost.
- **Luke 2:49** — "Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

Conclusion

- His mission is our mission, and we must work the work of Him that sent us while it is day.
- We must have faith to believe that He can do all things and not fail.
 - **Luke 1:37** — with God nothing will be impossible.
- We must be willing to take desperate approaches for ourselves and for others and be relentless in our efforts to get people to HIM.
- He wishes that none would perish, but that all would come to repentance.
 - **2 Peter 3:9**

Key Scriptures to Meditate and Memorize

- **Mark 2:3-5, 11-12, 13-15, 17**
- **James 2:17**
- **Hebrews 11:6**
- **1 Samuel 16:7**
- **Matthew 28:19-20**
- **Luke 19:10**
- **Luke 1:37**
- **2 Peter 3:9**