



That's My Jam: How to Break through Barriers

Speaker: Pastor Nick Farr | 8.1.2021

Read Mark 2: 1-4

“Communities identify problems more easily.”

1. The weak and infirm were generally shunned/outcast in Jesus's time. Who made up this man's "community?"
2. Pastor Nick offered three choices this man's community had, (go home, wait until later, or be bold,) which one is your natural inclination? Which one are you more likely to vote for? Why?
3. The friends decided to dig through the roof. The room below was packed with people that would have mud and sticks raining on their heads. Do you think the friends had a plan if someone below tried to stop them? Why didn't anyone? (Speculate.) If you were one of Jesus's disciples (especially Peter or Andrew and it was your house,) would YOU have tried to stop them?
4. Pastor Nick said the digging wasn't an instant thing. It must have been going on for a while. Do you think the crowd took their cue from Jesus and just ignored what was happening? Why or why not?

“Breakthrough happens in community.”

Read Mark 2:5

5. The Scriptures say nothing about the faith of the man on the mat. It only talks about the faith of the four men who carried it. What was it they believed in? Did they KNOW, or did they only HOPE? What makes the difference?
6. In your dealings with God, do you KNOW He will keep His promises, or do you HOPE He will?

Read Mark 2: 6

“Someone is always going to put down (or deny) your breakthrough.”

7. Jesus's response to the scribes were telling. “Which is easier, to say ‘you're forgiven’ or to say ‘get up and walk.’ Which response is easier? Which was safer? Which could not be denied?”
8. Which is easier to believe, that Jesus forgives sins, or Jesus heals bodies? Which is the greater, physical or spiritual healing? Which one are we more likely to ask for? Why?

“God's power is revealed when we allow ourselves to be lowered.”

9. Share, if you will, a time when pride got in the way of God doing something amazing in and through you.
10. Are you more comfortable helping someone, or asking for help? Why? What stops you from asking for more help? How can we as a community get better about asking?



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11. What “communities” are you part of that can come alongside you? In which ones have you seen “breakthrough?”