

WELL, EXCUSE ME

“... you are standing together side by side with one strong purpose -- to tell the Good News.” Philippians 1:27b (LB)

The Good News

God **CREATED YOU ON PURPOSE AND FOR A PURPOSE.**

God **KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU, YOUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.**

God **LOVES YOU, AND CALLS TO YOU JUST AS YOU ARE.**

Romans 5:6-8 (NLT) ⁶ When we were **utterly helpless**, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ⁷ Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. ⁸ But **God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.**

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV) ... it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is **the gift of God**— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ **For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

Mark 2:1-12 (NIV) A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ² They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³ Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’? ¹⁰ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, ¹¹ “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Lessons on Faith

1. Faith is **ROOTED** in **CONVICTION.**

- Mark 2:3
- Hebrews 11:6

2. Faith **COMPELS** us to act in **COMPASSION.**

- Galatians 5:6

- James 2:14

3. Faith MOTIVATES COOPERATION.

- Mark 2:3
- Ecclesiastes 4:9

4. Faith AWAKENS our COURAGE

- Mark 2:4
- Ephesians 6:12
- 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

5. Faith INSPIRES CREATIVITY

- Mark 2:4
- John 9:6
- Matthew 11:19a

6. Faith produces a divine CONGRATULATIONS!

- Mark 2:11
- Matthew 25:21
- Ephesians 2:10

...I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. (Isaiah 6:8)