

No Name

Pt. 1 – Four Friends on a Mission

Mk.2:1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that He had come home. 2So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and He preached the word to them.3Some men came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four of them... 5When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6Now 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?"...8and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...." He said to the paralytic, 11"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12He 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 from the four friends:

1. No one celebrated the bigger miracle – forgiveness.

Forgiveness is not a bonus, it's our greatest need.

2. The four friends didn't receive a reward.

The reward for serving others is a miracle in their lives.

3. I need to be more passionate, creative and determined about bringing people to Jesus.

My effort + Jesus' power = someone else's miracle.

4. The paralyzed man was excluded by the crowd, included by his friends, and welcomed by Jesus.

Don't ever exclude someone Jesus is ready to welcome.