

A Compassionate Friend

Sunday Morning, October 6, 2024 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: A Compassionate Friend

Message Text: Mark 2:1-12

Introduction

Can you imagine facing a debilitating physical condition in the first century without the modern care we enjoy today? According to a 2024 study, Americans have access to over 1.1 million primary and specialist physicians. Those facing disabling conditions are supported with handicap accessibility in most public places to enable them to function in life. For the man with the *palsy* in Capernaum, this was not the case. He would have faced neglect by most of society. Begging for food and money would have been his lot in life. Many in his town would have presumed that he had done something really bad to deserve such a condition. Legitimately, this man had an incredibly rough life. There was no hope, until Jesus came into town.

1. The _____ of His Condition (1-3)

A. A _____ Christ (1-2)

Mark 2:1–2 And again he entered into Capernaum, after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. 2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.

CAPERNAUM — A village on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus based much of his ministry.

John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

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DEFINITION—WORD: gospel; the content of what is preached about the good news of Jesus' way of salvation.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

B. A _____ Man (3a)

Mark 2:3a And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy...

DEFINITION—PALSY: paralytic; a person disabled in the feet or legs.
(See Matthew 8:6)

HE COULD NOT HELP HIMSELF

HE COULD NOT GET TO HELP

QUESTION — Why do bad things happen to good people?

Genesis 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

NOTE — Sin and its consequences holds all humanity captive.

Quote: A friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. —Anonymous

2. The _____ of His Companions (3b-4)

A. They were _____ (3b)

Mark 2:3 And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

DEFINITION—BORNE: to be carried; to be moved while being supported.

B. They were _____ (4)

Mark 2:4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

NOTE — Most buildings in ancient Palestine had flat roofs made of a mixture of clay and brush, reinforced by wooden beams. —FSB

DEFINITION—UNCOVERED: to unroof; to remove or make an opening in the top of a building.

DEFINITION—BROKEN: to dig out; to remove by digging or as if by digging.

John 5:7 The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

Jude 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

3. The _____ of Christ (5-12)

A. The _____ Jesus Extended (5-10)

Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

NOTE — Their *faith* is was noticed by Christ.

THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

NOTE — His greatest need was the forgiveness of His sin.

WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ONLY

Mark 2:6-10 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, 7 Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? 8 And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? 9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? 10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

Acts 10:43 To him [Jesus] give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

B. The _____ the Paralytic Experienced (11-12)

Mark 2:11-12 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house. 12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

John 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

NOTE — His forgiveness and freedom caused God to be praised.

Conclusion

Mark 2:16-17 And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners? 17 When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Questions to Consider

1. Would be like the four friends who were united and undeterred in getting the paralyzed man to Jesus Christ?
2. Have you been forgiven of all your sins by Jesus Christ?



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