

WANTED:



STRETCHER- BEARERS!

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**The miracle we discuss
today demonstrates
POWER, AUTHORITY
& RESPONSIBILITY**

→ Authority of Jesus to forgive sins

→ Power of Jesus to heal

**→ Responsibility of believers to
bring others to Jesus**

**We also will examine the
characteristics of the unnamed
heroes of our story**

Mark 2:1-3 King James Version

1 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.

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

WHO WERE THESE FOUR MEN?

→ No names/ages/stages of their lives are given

→ No indication of their faith in Christ or how long they have believed

**WHAT DO WE KNOW
ABOUT THEM?**

**They were concerned
about a sick friend**

**They believed Christ
would meet his need**

**They were burdened
enough to go**

**WHEN PEOPLE DON'T GO,
THEY OFTEN DIE IN THEIR SINS**

Acts 8:4 King James Version

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

Ephesians 4:11-12 King James Version

11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Mark 2:4 King James Version

(The Roof)

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.

**It was too crowded to get to
Jesus from the outside**

**THERE ARE ALWAYS OBSTACLES
IN BRINGING PEOPLE TO JESUS!!!**

**The four men look up,
and find a solution**

**FEW SOLUTIONS COME WHEN
WE ARE DOWN AND/OR
ARE LOOKING DOWN!!**

**LOOK UP TO FIND YOUR
WAY TO JESUS!!!**

**First century houses had flat roofs
made of branches and dried clay
supported by wooden beams**

**It would have been costly to break
up the roof and make a hole**

**IT WILL BE COSTLY TO BRING
PEOPLE TO GOD!!**

Mark 2:5 King James Version

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

Forgiveness has priority with GOD

**HOW MANY TODAY SUFFER WITH
GUILT/SHAME/DEPRESSION/FEAR?**

**THESE ARE MEANT TO KEEP
US LOOKING DOWN,
NOT LOOKING UP TO CHRIST**

**The lame man came for physical
healing, but Jesus wanted him to
know the true spiritual healing
of forgiveness of sins**

Mark 2:6-7 King James Version

6 But there was 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?

**Compare the response/actions of
the scribes to that of the four men**

WHERE WAS THEIR FAITH?

Mark 2:8-11 King James Version

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,)

11 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

REJOICING OVER THE CONVERSION & HEALING OF THE LAME MAN

- Heaven rejoiced
- The man rejoiced
- The four men rejoiced

**When this story started,
four men had faith**

It ends with five men having faith

**WHO WAITS FOR YOU TO COME
AND BRING THEM TO JESUS?**

**WHAT OBSTACLES ARE YOU WILLING
TO DIG THROUGH TO BRING YOU
OR SOMEONE ELSE TO GOD?**

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