

MARK'S GOSPEL STUDY 3. QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

1. Have you ever been so sick or injured that you were totally dependent on others? What happened? What was it like?
2. **Read Mark 2:1-12**
Notice the hints that are given about the friends who carried the paralytic. What can we assume about them and what does the passage tell us about them?
3. Do you have a close friend that you would love to see come closer to Jesus? What is it that prevents that process from occurring?
 - a. They never seem to show interest.
 - b. I don't want to push my faith down their throat.
 - c. I'm not too sure how to share my faith.
 - d. I'm not too sure my friend would enjoy our church services.
 - e. Some other reason.
4.
 - a. The sermon talks about more than one form of paralysis. What may cause you to 'freeze'?
 - i. Difficulties at work or at home?
 - ii. When asked to speak in public?
 - iii. Injections, the dentist, etc.
 - iv. Thinking about the past?
 - v. Thinking about the future?
 - vi. Fears associated life transitions? (Children leaving home, retiring, grandchildren arriving, etc)
 - b. What are you doing about these fears?
 - c. What would you like to do about them?
5. Why does Jesus tell the paralysed man that his sins are forgiven? Why not start with healing him of his affliction? What is his greatest need at this time?
6. What do you know about the Scribes and the Pharisees? Why did Jesus clash with them?
7. **Skim read Mark Chapters 2 and 3.**
 - a. What are the problems here that Jesus has with the Scribes and Pharisees?
 - b. What do the following passages have in common?
Mark 2:15-17, 18-19, 23-24, Mark 3:1-6, 22.
 - c. What are the complaints?
 - d. How does Jesus handle them?
 - e. What does this tell us about Jesus?
8. Have members of the group look up Mark 2:10, 28, 8:31, 38, 9:9, 12, 31, 10:33, 45, 13:26, 14:21, 41, 62.
 - a. What is the title Jesus uses of himself? Do you see any patterns?
 - b. What does this title mean?
 - c. What are other titles used of Jesus?
 - d. Which one do you find yourself using most frequently?
9. **See Mark 2:6, 12**
Note the reaction of those who witnessed the healing. Imagine what the other reactions would have been from the following:
 - a. The house owner (e.g. *what about this gaping hole in my roof?*)
 - b. The four friends
 - c. The Scribes
 - d. The man who had been paralysed.
10. Where would you put yourself in this scene? Would you be one of the friends, the paralysed man, a part of the incredulous crowd, or would you identify most with the owner of the house?