



THE MIRACLE WITH A MESSAGE

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SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Luke 5:17-26

MAIN POINT: Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, has authority to forgive sins, and he is still doing that today.

KEY IDEAS:

- Galilee is buzzing with the reports of Jesus' displays of power and authority.
- For the first time the Pharisees and teachers of the Law have come to check out Jesus.
- Jesus Christ makes an incredible declaration that he is able to forgive sins – something only God can do.
- Luke records Jesus referring to himself as the "Son of Man" for the first time in this gospel.
- Jesus is the only one aware of the greatest need of man.

FELLOWSHIP STARTERS:

Truth Reigns...

1. How has this passage helped you understand the fuller significance of who Jesus is and what he came to do?
2. Why did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of blasphemy?
3. What is the significance of Jesus' referring to himself as the Son of Man (cf. Dan 7:13-14)?

Humility Grows...

4. Which group of characters in the story do you most identify yourself with – the 4 desperate men, or the Pharisees and teachers of the law? Why is that so?
5. Do you have the same urgency and desperation to bring the lost to Jesus as the 4 desperate men? Are you digging through anyone's roof to get friends/family to Jesus? How must you change?
6. If you are a Christian and have experienced the forgiveness of sins, how should you respond to this passage? What will that look like for you?

Prayer Covers...

7. Take time to give thanks to God for how he has forgiven your sin and healed you from "spiritual paralysis" due to sin.
8. Take time to pray for and ask God to give you an urgent heart to bring your unbelieving friends/family to Jesus, and that he would give you courage and power to not let anything stand in the way.