

## **Recap of 3/12/23 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 2:1-5)**

**1.)** Mark 2:1 begins a new section in the book. The common theme from 2:1-3:5 is growing conflict with the religious leaders (Scribes and Pharisees) culminating in the decision to kill Jesus.

**2.)** Jesus, upon finishing His first ministry tour of Galilee returns to Capernaum, where the crowds come once again to Him at Peter's home. According to Mark 2:2 His primary ministry was to preach the Word to them.

**a)** To the throngs who filled the house and crowded about the door He proclaimed the message had come from heaven to deliver the Word of the kingdom. This was His chief mission during His 3-1/2 years of ministry. Healing sick bodies was a secondary thing, though to the people it doubtless seemed to be the most important. But sickness of the soul is far more serious than physical ill-health, and to bring to [mankind] the message of life is far more important than delivering them from bodily ailments." (Ironsides)

**b)** Jesus did not want to be known as a miracle worker/wonderworker. "He had come for a spiritual ministry. He had come to die upon the cross for the sins of the world.... I think we need to whittle this down to a very fine point. Our business is primarily to preach the Gospel." (McGee)

**3.)** Four men sought to enter the home with their friend, a paralytic, on a stretcher but could not enter for all the people, so they went onto the roof of the dwelling and, making a hole in the roof, lowered the paralytic to Jesus.

**4.)** Wiersbe says of the four men that:

a) they were deeply concerned about their friend and wanted to see him helped.

b) they had faith to believe that Jesus could and would meet his need.

c) they put feet to their faith.

d) they didn't let difficult circumstances discourage them. They worked together and dared to do something different.

**5.)** Jesus sees their action as faith and heals the man.

**6.)** Faith:

a) is taking God at His Word-laying hold of the realities of God.

b) expresses itself in some way. It manifests itself somehow.

c) means risk. Living by faith stretches us. What are we trusting God for that only God can do?