

Passage Study Guide

This week we will be studying The Healing of the Paralytic. We have included the pertinent Scripture passages for you to read and study. We have also provided a series of exercises and follow-up questions for you to consider as you study this week.

Study Exercises

1. What's the same?

Spend time reading the passages from each of the Gospels. Then look for what's the same in each of the Gospel accounts. When you identify something that is found in all of the accounts underline them.

2. What's different?

Spend time reading the passages from each of the Gospels. Then look for what's different in each of the Gospel accounts. When you identify something that is different go ahead and underline them in a different color.

3. What's unique?

Spend time reading the passages from each of the Gospels. Then look for what's unique to each of the Gospel accounts (if applicable). When you identify something that is unique go ahead and highlight them.

4. What concepts or ideas are discussed?

Make a list of the concepts or ideas that are discussed by the Gospel writers in regards to this passage.

5. Key thoughts and crucial questions

What do you think the author was intending to communicate / get the reader to consider when writing the following —

- Why were the Pharisees and teachers of religious law always following Jesus around? What do you think their motivation was? Is it possible there are multiple interpretations to their intentions?
- These friends of the paralytic ... when you think about what they did, how they did it, and why they did it ... how do you feel about them as friends? What qualities do you think they had that you would want in a friend?
- Jesus forgave sins without a request; in other words, the paralytic [nor his friends] ever said, “Jesus, forgive me.” What’s up with that? Why do you think that happened? How does the phrase, “seeing their faith” play into this event?
- In Luke 5:22, it indicates Jesus ‘knew what they [the religious leaders] were thinking’ ... Have you ever sensed — rightly — what others are thinking? How did Jesus respond? How would you have responded?
- The paralytic was healed! What was his response? What was the crowd’s response? What should our response be when people find healing through Jesus?

6. Common Threads

Pastor Ken offered five observations and one challenging thought — can you remember what they were? Which one struck you the most?

7. Takeaways

Pastor Ken’s bottom line was this — How could you go out of your way to help someone who’s experiencing pain or suffering. Can you think of any specific ways you can do that in the next 30 days?



Tweetable Tweet

Great news! Jesus understands our weakness and wants to help!

#HealingOverHouses

#PeopleOverStuff

#TrendingInTheGospels

#OWC

Application

Do you have any friends who are hurting, struggling, or suffering?
Make a short list of people who quickly come to mind.

When you think about your friends, what practical ideas come to mind
of ways you could help them or reach out to them? Make a short list of
ways you could help.

How could you become someone who's less worried about the conse-
quences, perceptions, or appearances you might face as a result of
reaching out to your friends?

Prayer

Write out a prayer to God, asking Him to help you become a person
who's more concerned with people than stuff, who desires healing in
the lives of the people around you.

#HealingOverHouses
#PeopleNotStuff



The Healing of the Paralytic

Matthew 9:1-18

Jesus climbed into a boat and went back across the lake to his own town. 2 Some people brought to him a paralyzed man on a mat. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Be encouraged, my child! Your sins are forgiven."

3 But some of the teachers of religious law said to themselves, "That's blasphemy! Does he think he's God?"

4 Jesus knew[a] what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you have such evil thoughts in your hearts? 5 Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? 6 So I will prove to you that the Son of Man[b] has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

7 And the man jumped up and went home! 8 Fear swept through the crowd as they saw this happen. And they praised God for giving humans such authority.

Mark 2:1-12

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. 2 Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, 3 four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. 4 They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. 5 Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven." 6 But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, 7 "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!" 8 Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? 9 Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? 10 So I will prove to you that the Son of Man[a] has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and

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said, 11 "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" 12 And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

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Luke 5:17-26

17 One day while Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and teachers of religious law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was strongly with Jesus.

18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a sleeping mat. They tried to take him inside to Jesus, 19 but they couldn't reach him because of the crowd. So they went up to the roof and took off some tiles. Then they lowered the sick man on his mat down into the crowd, right in front of Jesus. 20 Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven."

21 But the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to themselves, "Who does he think he is?

That's blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

22 Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? 23 Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? 24 So I will prove to you that the Son of Man[d] has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

25 And immediately, as everyone watched, the man jumped up, picked up his mat, and went home praising God. 26 Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, "We have seen amazing things today!"

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No record of the
"Healing of the Paralytic"
in the book of John

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