

# Healing the Paralytic

**MAIN TEXT:** Luke 5:17-26

## **PASSAGE OUTLINE:**

### **I. THESE MEN HAD A MISSION.**

Mission drives us, doesn't it? It drives us as individuals, and it also drives our culture. Some of you are All-Conference Christians. You have a mission statement for your family. You've even got them painted by some really artsy person, and it hangs over your fireplace. We develop mission statements for our companies to help keep us on course. When we get off course from our mission statement, all of a sudden, we're not doing what our company was created to do. It defines the basics and essentials. Jesus had a mission statement: "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10, CSB).

### **II. THESE MEN HAD AN EAGER EXPECTATION.**

They actually believed that Jesus could heal this man. They thought, "Maybe, just maybe." They took a risk because of the mission. This is true of men and women throughout the Bible (e.g., Joshua leading the Israelites into the Promised Land or Elijah on Mt. Carmel). We now live on the other side of Jesus' work on the cross and through the empty tomb. How much greater should our expectations be?

### **III. THESE MEN ENCOUNTERED AN OBSTACLE.**

Because of the crowd, there was no way to Jesus. At this point, many of us give up. We throw up the white flag of surrender. There's no way in—or so it seems. We assume that an open door is equal to the path of least resistance. Imagine for a moment if the apostle Paul would have only walked through open doors? Half of the New Testament would have never been written. These men saw the obstacle, but because their hope and belief were so strong, they kicked open that closed door.

### **IV. THESE MEN GOT MORE THAN THEY BARGAINED FOR.**

Don't settle for the mundane when Jesus wants the miraculous. People thought the primary need was external. What Jesus did in this passage is true for everyone. He shows us that the greatest need is an internal posture of a heart that needs to be changed. And, when Jesus addressed the deeper need, the people were filled with awe! I love the order that takes place here. It's actually the heart of the gospel.

## **CONCLUSION:**

It's time to start bringing our friends to Jesus. Who's the one you're willing to break a roof for?  
Who's your one?

## **DGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- What drives you?
- What things, spiritually, has God put on your heart that you long to see come to fruition in your lifetime?
- Do you have kingdom dreams (such as people coming to faith in Christ), or are your dreams all tied to this life?
- When was the last time you stopped to think about those dreams?
- Do you have an eager expectation of someone coming to faith?
- Does your eager expectation move you to action?
- What obstacles have derailed you from the mission?
- What would it look like for you to dig a hole in the roof?
- How did others play a role in your trusting in Jesus?
- In what ways has Jesus transformed your life?
- Why would you not long for this same type of transformation in others?