

**Text Outline****Luke 5:17-26**

- I. <sup>17</sup> One day Jesus was teaching,
- A. and
1. (people who were present)
    - a) Pharisees
    - b) and teachers of the law were sitting there.
  2. They had come
    - a) from every village of Galilee
    - b) and from Judea and Jerusalem.
- B. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.
- II. <sup>18</sup> Some men
- A. came
1. carrying a paralyzed man on a mat
  2. and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.
  3. <sup>19</sup> When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd,
    - a) they went up on the roof
    - b) and lowered him on his mat through the tiles
      - (1) into the middle of the crowd,
      - (2) right in front of Jesus.
- B. <sup>20</sup> When
1. Jesus
    - a) saw their faith,
    - b) he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."
  2. <sup>21</sup> The
    - a) Pharisees
    - b) and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves,
      - (1) "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy?"
      - (2) Who can forgive sins but God alone?"
  3. <sup>22</sup> Jesus
    - a) knew what they were thinking
    - b) and asked,
      - (1) "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?"
      - (2) <sup>23</sup> Which is easier: to say,
        - (a) 'Your sins are forgiven,'
        - (b) or to say, 'Get up and walk'?
      - (3) <sup>24</sup> But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."
  4. So he said to the paralyzed man,
    - a) "I tell you,
      - (1) get up,
      - (2) take your mat
      - (3) and go home."
    - b) <sup>25</sup> Immediately he

- (1) stood up in front of them,
  - (2) took what he had been lying on
  - (3) and went home praising God.
5. <sup>26</sup>Everyone
  - a) was amazed
  - b) and gave praise to God.
  - c) They
    - (1) were filled with awe
    - (2) and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

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## Conceptual Outline

**Theme: Jesus demonstrated His power to heal and forgive proving that He is God.**

### I. Jesus was teaching

- A. The Pharisees & the teachers of the law from everywhere were there
- B. The power of God was with Jesus to heal the sick

### II. Healing the paralyzed man

- A. Because of the crowd, some men went through the roof to bring a paralyzed man in front of Jesus
- B. Power to forgive sins
  - 1. Jesus recognized the men's faith & proclaimed forgiveness to the paralyzed man
  - 2. The Pharisees' secret grumble
    - a) Jesus spoke blasphemy
    - b) only God can forgive sin
  - 3. Jesus revealed Himself as God
    - a) he knew their secret thoughts
    - b) Question of easier to heal or to forgive sins
    - c) Jesus has authority to forgive sins
  - 4. Miracle of healing
    - a) command the man to get up
    - b) the man immediately stood up and praised God
  - 5. Everyone praised God

## Questions

1. Have you ever prayed for something but received something else instead? How did you feel? Why do you think God did not give you what you asked for?
2. Read the entire passage. Who were present to listen to Jesus' teaching in v. 17-19? Where did they come from & what were they looking for?
3. What hindrances did the man & his friends have to go through in order to come to Jesus? What were they looking for? Why didn't the crowd or the Pharisees offer to make room for this man?
4. How did Jesus respond to the intruders? What did Jesus offer the man in v.20? Since Jesus saw their faith & had the power of the Lord to heal (v.17), why didn't he heal the man? How might these men's faith be affected by yet another hindrance? What is Jesus trying to do with their faith? What did Jesus call this man? What is the significance of this address? What is more important in His eyes than to heal the man's paralysis?
5. What was the Pharisees & the teachers' response? Why was Jesus' statement so troublesome?
6. How did Jesus address their concern? In your opinion, which one was easier to say? Why? In forgiving this man, what is Jesus claiming? What did Jesus do to substantiate His claim?
7. If you were the paralyzed man & had to choose between being healed or being forgiven, what would you choose? What factor(s) would influence your choice?
8. In healing the paralyzed man, what commands did Jesus give to him? How did he respond to Jesus' command? Why was each one of the command important to this man?
9. In this event, how many miracles did Jesus perform? How did each of them prove His Deity and His priority?
10. Consider the priority Jesus gives to forgiveness of sin, what priority do you give to your need for forgiveness? What would happen if you do not put your forgiveness as a priority? If Jesus were to give you a command today, what might it be?
11. What was everyone's response to the miracles? What is lacking in their response?
12. Consider the various responses to Jesus, what is lacking in your relationship with Jesus? What would you need to do to mend the relationship?

## Questions & Potential Answers

1. Have you ever prayed for something but received something else instead? How did you feel? Why do you think God did not give you what you asked for?
2. Read the entire passage. Who were present to listen to Jesus' teaching in v. 17-19? Where did they come from & what were they looking for?
  - Pharisees & teachers of the law from all over Israel probably to check Jesus out.
  - The crowd probably to see Jesus' miracles, to hear Him, or to be healed.
  - The paralyzed man & his friends looking for healing of this man.
3. What hindrances did the man & his friends have to go through in order to come to Jesus? What were they looking for? Why didn't the crowd or the Pharisees offer to make room for this man?
  - They had to carry the man because he's paralyzed.
  - They couldn't find a way in because crowd, the Pharisees & the teachers of the law would not make room for them or give up their seats.
  - Climbing up the roof with the paralyzed man and taking the roof off were easy even if there were steps to the flat roof.
4. How did Jesus respond to the intruders? What did Jesus offer the man in v.20? Since Jesus saw their faith & had the power of the Lord to heal (v.17), why didn't he heal the man? How might these men's faith be affected by yet another hindrance? What is Jesus trying to do with their faith? What did Jesus call this man? What is the significance of this address? What is more important in His eyes than to heal the man's paralysis?
  - He was obviously impressed by their faith as he saw their faith.
  - He offered forgiveness of sin.
  - v. 24 stated that He wanted the Pharisees to know that He has authority to forgive sin. He must know that this man needs forgiveness.
  - They might doubt if He could heal or if He cared. It must be disappointing for them to have tried so hard and at the end, Jesus only forgave his sin.
  - Test or grow their faith.
  - Friend. This address is significant because a sinner could not be friend with God. Yet because of Jesus has to power to forgive, this man can be a friend of Jesus. As a friend, Jesus would care more than even his friends who carried him. As a friend of Jesus, he'll have much more than being healed.
  - It's far more important for this man to recognize Jesus as God and to be right with God so that his sins can be forgiven & he can have eternal life.
5. What was the Pharisees & the teachers' response? Why was Jesus' statement so troublesome?
  - They began to judge Jesus in their minds accusing Him of blasphemy which according to Leviticus 24:16 is punishable by stoning to death.
  - No human has right to forgive someone else's offense. When Jesus claimed to have the authority to forgive, He is claiming to be God. Of course, the Pharisees didn't believe that.
6. How did Jesus address their concern? In your opinion, which one was easier to say? Why? In forgiving this man, what is Jesus claiming? What did Jesus do to substantiate His claim?
  - V. 22 Jesus raised a "rhetorical" question for which is easier to say healing or forgiving.

<b>Forgiving Easier</b>	<b>Healing Easier</b>
No proof is required.	No one can forgive someone else's sin.
Anybody can say it. Lip service would do.	Only God can forgive.
Healing requires supernatural power.	Jesus had to die to forgive our sins.
	No one was able to forgive before.
	Prophets/apostles were able to heal.

- In claiming the power to forgive, Jesus is claiming to be God.
  - He substantiated His claim by performing the outward miracles of reading minds & healing.
7. If you were the paralyzed man & had to choose between being healed or being forgiven, what would you choose? What factor(s) would influence your choice?
  8. In healing the paralyzed man, what commands did Jesus give to him? How did he respond to Jesus' command? Why was each one of the command important to this man?
    - get up, take your mat, go home
    - He responded immediately & exactly to the commands and added praising God
    - Get up is an outward witness to the inward healing. Once healed, he needed to move out of his old condition to act & behave differently. Take your mat might symbolize his need to take his own responsibilities. No longer will he need his friends to carry him. Neither should he remain dependent on them. He can & needs to take care of his own stuff. Go home is going to where he'll be most effective in witnessing. There may remain relationships that needed mending and restitutions needed to be made.
  9. In this event, how many miracles did Jesus perform? How did each of them prove His Deity and His priority?
    - Reading the Pharisees' minds - we could only guess, but Jesus knew what they were thinking in their hearts. Only God can do that.
    - Forgiving sin - only God can.
    - Healing - V. 17 says that God's power was with Jesus
  10. Consider the priority Jesus gives to forgiveness of sin, what priority do you give to your need for forgiveness? What would happen if you do not put your forgiveness as a priority? If Jesus were to give you a command today, what might it be?
  11. What was everyone's response to the miracles? What is lacking in their response?
    - They were amazed, filled with awe, praised God but focused on the things they saw instead of the person they saw. The miracles did not affect they relationship with Jesus. It did not affect them long term.
  12. Consider the various responses to Jesus, what is lacking in your relationship with Jesus? What would you need to do to mend the relationship?