

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Faith and Forgiveness

Jason Greene | Luke 5:17-26 | January 26, 2020

DISCUSSION

1. Read Luke 5:17-26. What is the most striking aspect of this story to you?
2. Compare Hebrews 11:6 with Luke 5:18-19.
 - A. What are some aspects of the faith of the paralytic's friends?
 - B. What lessons can we apply from this event to our lives?
3. How does Christ's response to the faith of these men validate Hebrews 11:6b?
4. The man who was let down through the roof was clearly in need of physical healing.
 - A. Why did Jesus respond to this physical need by forgiving the man's sins?
 - B. What does this tell us about our own greatest need?
5. In Luke 5:23, Jesus asks if it's easier to say your sins are forgiven or rise and walk. How would you answer His question?
6. Read Luke 5:20-26.

What did Jesus say that prodded internal outrage in the religious Jews?
Why do you think Jesus chose to "up the ante" by directly revealing and confronting the thoughts of the Scribes and Pharisees?
7.
 - A. What do you suppose the paralytic thought when Jesus said his sins were forgiven?
 - B. Share a time when the Lord answered a prayer differently than what you expected.
8. Do you think it was Jesus' original plan to not only forgive the paralytic's sins but also heal him? What clue does the text give us?
9. In vv. 25-26, the paralytic and onlookers shared a common reaction to the healing and perhaps to the forgiveness of sins.
 - A. What was that reaction?
 - B. Share a time when you expressed a similar reaction to something the Lord did.

APPLICATION

10. What "faith action" can you take this week to help move from the theoretical to the obedient in your walk with Christ?
11. Is there something for which you need to be forgiven? If so, repent and trust the Lord to forgive you.

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- I. Our greatest need in the world is **forgiveness** of sin. Lk 9:25

- II. Only Jesus has the **authority** to forgive sin. Ps 51:4

- III. Only by grace through **faith** does Jesus grant forgiveness Heb 11:1, 6;
Eph 2:8-9
Gal 3:11

- IV. Our greatest duty is to bring **others** to Jesus.
 - A. Be someone who brings **others** to Jesus. II Cor 6:2

 - B. Surround yourself with friends who take **you** to Jesus.

 - C. Partner with others in **faith** endeavors.