



## Mark 2:1-12

### INTRODUCTION

The paralytic, with the help of his friends, makes his way to Jesus and receives more than he asked for, as he discovers that Jesus is more than he ever imagined.

### INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

### OPENING DISCUSSION

- Read **Mark 2:1-12**
- What do you find interesting/compelling/confusing about this passage?
- What do you learn about Jesus from this passage?

### REVIEW

- Why does Jesus forgive the paralytic's sins?
- What are the ways that Jesus is different from other religious founders?
- Why do the Pharisees accuse Jesus of blasphemy?
- Why does he forgive the paralytic's sins, when he has not done that in any other healing?
- Why does Jesus forgive without apparent repentance? What does that say about Jesus?
- What is harder: to say "your sins are forgiven" or to say "rise and walk?"

### APPLICATION

- Their faith is clearly seen. Where is your faith clearly seen in your life? Are there areas where your faith wavers?
- What does this story teach you about your willingness/efforts to bring people to Jesus?
- Describe what it feels like to be forgiven by God?
- Do you struggle with forgiving others? Struggle with bitterness? What gives people the power to forgive?
- How much time do we spend addressing sin compared to the time we spend addressing physical needs in our prayers? What does that say about our understanding of the gospel?
- How can we become more intentional about meeting the needs of our neighbors?
- How do you know if you are disciple and not just one of the crowd?

### PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?