

Home Community Study & Discussion

Week of October 27, 2013

Read through Mark 2:1-12.



Questions About the Text Following Up on the Sermon

- Some people naturally lean toward caring more for physical needs over spiritual needs or vice versa. Which best describes your natural tendency? Why?
- Discuss what a church might look like that leans heavily toward the first option.
- Discuss what a church might look like that leans heavily toward the second option.
- The sermon on Sunday suggested that both physical need (Mark 2:3) and forgiveness of sin (Mark 2:5) serve an even more important goal: to bring us close to God through Jesus (Mark 2:10). Discuss what Beacon Communities could look like if we embodied this well.
- Read verses 4-5. Have the practical fruits of another's faith ever been a strong encouragement to your own faith? Can you share this with the group?

Questions From the Text Not Addressed by the Sermon

- What do you think might have been the content of Jesus' preaching in verse 2?
- Why does Jesus call the man "son" in verse 5?
- In what ways are the scribes right in verses 6-7? In what ways are they wrong?
- What is meant by the title, "Son of Man" in verse 10? Compare the Old Testament source of this title in Daniel 7:13-14.

In What Ways Does God Reveal Himself in this Passage? What Do We Learn About God Here?

- Discuss how the Son of Man can stand in God's presence (Daniel 7:13), much less be given glory and dominion in God's presence (Daniel 7:14)?
- Discuss how the Son of Man can have the authority to forgive sins against God? (verse 10)

What Ethical Questions Does this Passage Raise? Right vs. Wrong? Moral vs. Immoral?

- Is it right to ignore a man's physical suffering and merely offer him spiritual benefits? (see verse 5)

In What Ways Do You See the Gospel Foreshadowed in this Text? Does it teach us about God's Holiness? Does it teach us about sin? Does it teach us about repentance? Does it teach us about God's grace?

- What does this passage reveal to you about the seriousness of our sin?
- What does this passage reveal to you about the power of God's grace in Jesus?

How does this passage help us grow in our love for and trust in Jesus?