THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 6, Episode 12

A Dirty Mat and a Clean Heart

Mark 2:1-12

This passage presents one of the clearest demonstrations of Jesus' divinity. Jesus doesn't just heal the paralytic physically—He forgives his sins, making an undeniable claim to be God.

Discussion Questions

- 1. What do you think the paralyzed man and his friends may have believed about Jesus?
- What does their determination to get him to Jesus reveal about their faith?
- 3. Why do you think Jesus first forgave the man's sins instead of healing him immediately?
- 4. How does this passage challenge the religious leaders' understanding of who Jesus was?
- 5. What is significant about Jesus knowing their thoughts (Mark 2:8)?
- 6. Why is it important that Jesus calls Himself the "Son of Man" here? (see Daniel 7:13-14)
- 7. How does this story highlight the connection between faith and forgiveness?
- 8. The scribes accused Jesus of blasphemy. What does this reveal about their expectations of the Messiah?
- 9. How did the crowd respond to this miracle, and why was their reaction significant?
- 10. If you were one of the people in the room that day, what would have stood out to you the most?

Application Questions

- 1. What are some barriers that keep people from coming to Jesus today?
- 2. How can we be like the four friends in the story—bringing people to Jesus?
- 3. Are there areas in your life where you need to show persistent faith like these men did?
- 4. Do you ever struggle with believing that Jesus has the authority to forgive *your* sins? Why or why not?
- 5. How does Jesus' ability to forgive sins shape the way you see Him?
- 6. The scribes questioned Jesus in their hearts. Are there any unspoken doubts or struggles you need to bring to Jesus today?
- 7. In what ways do you need Jesus' healing—spiritually, emotionally, or physically?
- 8. What does this passage teach us about Jesus' priorities? How should this shape our own priorities?
- 9. How does knowing that Jesus sees your heart impact the way you live?
- 10. What practical steps can you take this week to live with faith like the friends in this passage?

Prayer Prompt

Spend time thanking Jesus for His authority to forgive sins. Ask Him to increase your faith and give you boldness to bring others to Him. Pray for those in your life who need both spiritual and physical healing.

Additional Resources

- Related Scriptures:
 - Daniel 7:13-14 (Son of Man prophecy)
 - 1 Samuel 16:7 (God sees the heart)
 - Jeremiah 17:10 (God tests the heart)
 - James 5:14-16 (Healing and confession of sins)
- Long Hollow Sermons: Look up messages from Pastor Robby Gallaty on faith, healing, and Jesus' authority.
- Book Recommendation: The Forgotten Jesus by Robby Gallaty
- BEMA Podcast: Episodes discussing 1st-century Jewish perspectives on Jesus' miracles