**Sermon Notes**

**“Razing the Roof”**

Mark 2:1–12

1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” 6 Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7 “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” 8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins….” He said to the paralytic, 11 “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

**Six Questions**

1. Where are you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
2. Do you have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus?
3. Are you one of these\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?
4. Are you willing to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to connect people to Jesus?!
5. Do you see your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ need?
6. Do you see \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Questions for Discussion**

1. If you could summarize the sermon in one minute for group members who didn't hear it, what would you say?

2. If the home mentioned in v. 1 was indeed Jesus’ home, how does this change the story for you?

3. Take a few minutes to read over the story a few times, picturing as many details as possible with each reading. Which person in the story do you most identify with personally and why?

4. Read Leviticus 24:10-23; Numbers 15:30-31, and Exodus 20:7. How do these verses help explain the religious teachers shock at Jesus statement “your sins are forgiven”? What would they have felt the appropriate response to Jesus should have been given these texts?

5. Jesus calls himself the “Son of Man.” This is Jesus’ favourite way of referring to himself in Mark’s gospel. This term is linked to a vision given to the prophet Daniel. Read Daniel 7:9-14. What do we learn about the “son of man” mentioned in these verses? What does that tell us about how Jesus saw himself and wanted others to see him?

6. “On the whole, people would rather have complete physical healing than complete spiritual healing.” Do you agree with this statement? What evidence do you see in our culture for your answer?

7. Discuss a few of six questions posed with your small group or a close friend this week? Which question(s) did you feel God nudging you to respond to? What does that response look like for you?

**Take Action**

In light of these six questions, how is God challenging you to respond? What practical steps could you take this week in response to God’s promptings?