



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - February 24, 2013

### Sermon

Conversations with Jesus-  
Who did Jesus talk with  
and what does this teach  
us?

#### A Paralyzed Man

Luke 5:17-26

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember  
about this sermon...

Monday 2/25/13

Luke 5:17

The scene is set in this story with Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting near Jesus as he was teaching. They came from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. The Pharisees were recognized as authorities who were experts in the strict observance of the law. What do you think they were listening for as Jesus taught? Do you think they were there to trap him? How would you feel if you were teaching and experts of the law were there in your class?

Tuesday 2/26/13

Luke 5:18-19

A paralyzed man was being carried by some men and they wanted to bring him before Jesus. Remember, in the previous verse, we hear that the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal. But these men could find no way through the crowd to bring the paralyzed man to Jesus. So, they went up on the roof and let him down through the roof so he could be near Jesus. Are you this persistent in helping your friends? What does this story say about friendship?

Wednesday 2/27/13

Luke 5:20

This verse includes an interesting detail: Jesus saw their faith--how they were persistent in finding a way to put the paralyzed man before Jesus. And then Jesus said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." He saw **their** faith. Faith demands action! It is one thing to say, "I believe." It is quite another to put your faith into action. How are you backing up your faith with action today? Can others tell you are a believer by your actions?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*Find some concrete ways to put your faith into action!*

*Look at the events you encounter and determine if any of these events are filled with the wonder and awe of God's presence.*

*Ask Jesus to forgive your sins today.*

*Ask Jesus for healing in your life today.*

Thursday 2/28/13  
Luke 5:21

The Pharisees were less impressed with the healing and more concerned with Jesus' words about forgiveness. You see, the belief was that only God can forgive sins. They were discussing all this among themselves, but loud enough for at least some others to hear their discussion. They wondered who Jesus was and why he was speaking blasphemies. Do you ever ask questions?

Friday 3/1/13  
Luke 5:22-23

Jesus heard the Pharisees' questions; well, actually the scriptures say he "perceived" them. Jesus confronts their questions with a logical question of his own: "Which is easier to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or 'Stand up and walk?'" Which do you think is easier? Then to put this question into action, Jesus told the paralyzed man, "I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home." This is pretty convincing, isn't it?

Saturday 3/2/13  
Luke 5:25-26

The paralyzed man stood up before them--the crowd, Jesus, his followers, and the Pharisees and teachers. They all saw it! Notice, too, that Luke uses the word "immediately." There was no hesitation; it happened right away and it was decisive. Verse 26 sums up this encounter by stating that "amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, 'We have seen strange things today.'" When are you amazed at what you see? Do you ever witness strange and amazing things? How do you put words to these awe-inspiring events? Do you glorify God when amazing things happen to you? Do you dare tell anyone else about it?