



Journey through Gospel of Mark: Jesus in the House

June 11, 2023

Speaker: Pastor Joel Schmidgall

Scripture: Mark 2, Mark 2:1-12, 1 Samuel 23:16

Sermon Overview: Faith-filled prayers are our weapon to push back the darkness from our world and usher in the life-giving light of Jesus. As we walk through our daily routines, may our prayers be filled with an intentional, tenacious, unified, and focused faith. When we actively trust in Jesus, we open our eyes to how God is working around us, firmly lay hold of the promises of God, and walk in the unity of the Spirit with other believers. We focus our eyes on the One who has overcome the world with a white-hot passion for the things of God, and we will find that we are walking in the deep waters and bringing Heaven to Earth.

Sermon Series Question:

1. Who do you say that Jesus is? Does your answer match how you live your life? Is He truly your Lord? Or is there something else that compels you (expectations, desire to please, ambition, etc.)?

Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. **Intentional Faith** is not just wishing; it's practical; putting your faith to action. Think about the friends in the Mark 2 passage who used sweat equity to carry, press through obstacles to present the man to Jesus for his healing. How have you exercised your faith to impact someone else's miracle? How have you put yourself at risk for someone else or your neighbor(s)? How has your miracle come from the other side of someone else's active faith and trust in Jesus?
2. Jesus forgave the paralytic man's sins and healed that man when He saw the friends' faith. Jesus saw the faith of the friends – not the paralytic man's faith. For whom are standing in the gap?
3. **Tenacious Faith** is fueled with white, hot passion, pushing in and pressing through 100% or more to get into the presence of Jesus to see the promise(s) of God manifested. We may have lost the tenacity in our faith; half way in, not pressing through. If we are living without this kind of faith, where do you need to exercise tenacious faith?

4. After the man's friends succeeded in reaching Jesus, Jesus forgave the man's sins first. Jesus addressed the man's eternal need as His primary concern. What is one problem with which you are struggling right now? What is the "problem beneath the problem"? What is the root cause underlying your problem? If you don't know, ask God to reveal it to you. Find a promise from God and pray that promise over your problem.
5. **Focused Faith** is on Jesus being in the house; Jesus is the object of our faith. Our faith begets faith and it multiplies into blessings beyond what we originally sought Jesus. He rewards those who diligently seek Him. When was your focused faith multiplied into manifold blessings more than what you asked or believed?

Digging Deeper:

1. Read through the story of the four friends again in Mark 2.

Practical Application:

- What is your mission field? Is it where you work, live, or play? Pick a focus and sign up for the 40-day prayer walk challenge by texting the word "Walk" to 844-504-0861 or going to ncc.re/prayerwalk.
- If you are already participating in the prayer walk challenge: ask the Holy Spirit to put five people on your heart, for whom you can pray by name this week. Pray that the Lord would BLESS them in their (B)ody, (L)abor, (E)motions, (S)ocial relationships, (S)piritual well-being. Be specific in your prayers.
- Download the NCC app or visit ncc.re/daily to listen to short, daily teachings M-F accompanying this series.
- Make a Bible reading plan and/or gratitude journal a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).
- Join a group this summer!!! Check them out at ncc.re/groups.