

- Sing one or two songs from morning worship (printed in bulletin, available at [redeemerprestemple.org](http://redeemerprestemple.org) under the “Resources” tab)
- Read the Scripture passage (printed below and in bulletin)
- Pray with a specific focus on people and situations in the group (spiritual growth, needs, encouragement, rejoicing)
- Pray for the truths discussed from the Scripture study to more deeply permeate our lives and empower us for service and mission together.

## Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever camped out or waited in an extremely long line for the chance to see or experience something special? Share your story.
2. Who were the Pharisees and scribes, and why did they have a complicated relationship towards Jesus?
3. Why were the Pharisees and scribes present on this day to hear Jesus' teaching?
4. Jesus pronounced the man's forgiveness of sins before healing his paralysis. Why do you think that is? What does this tell us about what our true greatest need is?
5. What was Jesus seeking to get the Pharisees to understand when he asked, "Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'?"
6. What would it look like for us to emulate the paralyzed man's friends in their love for him and zeal to bring him to Jesus? How can we cultivate greater love for others and zeal to bring them to Jesus?

## Announcements

- **EASTER** Muffins + Mimosas Sunday, March 31 starting at 8:30am. No Sunday School!
- **WOMEN'S IN-TOWN RETREAT** April 12-13. Signup is available on Church Center.

## Luke 5:17-26

<sup>17</sup> On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. <sup>18</sup> And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, <sup>19</sup> but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. <sup>20</sup> And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” <sup>21</sup> And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” <sup>22</sup> When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts? <sup>23</sup> Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? <sup>24</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.” <sup>25</sup> And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. <sup>26</sup> And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen extraordinary things today.”