

NOTES:

Drawn to Jesus's Word

- Jesus teaches inside a house in Capernaum the size of an average living room
- In Jesus's day, most people assumed paralysis was the consequence of misbehavior

Carried by Strangers

- Four people carry someone they had not met before and "unroof the roof" to get this person to Jesus. Jesus takes action on their faith, not that of the paralytic.
- Courageous faith is resourceful faith; they brought people to Jesus
- The Pharisees were sin managers; they built a life on interpreting and enforcing the consequences of misbehavior

Forgiven of the consequences of sin

- Jesus shows the paralytic mercy. He forgives the consequences of his behavior and releases him from the past and future burden of sin
- A cure without forgiveness would lead to future sinfulness in the life of the paralytic
- Forgiveness without a cure would allow the Pharisees to remain stuck in self-righteous moralism
- Jesus does not condone whatever he did to get him into this condition. He releases him from the consequences so he can follow as a disciple

Rising to walk as a disciple

- "Rise"-- same word for resurrection in Mark 16:5
- The mat becomes an object lesson for sharing the Word at home.
- Jesus invites you to rise from the consequences of sin and from trying to manage sin in order to walk with Jesus.