

All That I Have
Perspectives

Luke 5:17-19

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; 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 middle of the crowd in front of Jesus.

REFLECTION

This week, we consider what we can learn from the perspective of the homeowner in this story of incredible friendship and devotion. ***As we continue to learn from the various roles in this story, take a moment to review what we've explored so far and how this aligns with Covenant's core values:***

Week 1-Solitude: The paralytic's perspective reminds us that in our brokenness, we must learn to seek solitude with God and understand our belovedness in God's eyes.

Week 2-Community: The friends' perspective reminds us that must actively practice the habit of community so our friends can carry us to Christ when we don't have the power to carry ourselves.

This week, the homeowner demonstrates the value of service by allowing their roof to be torn off and this miracle to unfold in the presence of a crowd. Consider the perspective of the homeowner as you read the passage. ***What emotions might they have experienced? Could the absence of the homeowner's objection to the chaos taking place teach us something?***

We are all inclined toward hospitality in different ways. Perhaps you love hosting people at your home, maybe you are more comfortable with other opportunities to serve others. The homeowner obviously was able to see past the mess and to view the occasion instead as an opportunity. ***What can you learn from this story about how we handle what we have been given from an eternity perspective? In what ways might you be called to consider your resources or gifts of hospitality from the witness of the homeowner?***

Heavenly Father, thank you for the power of this story and what it is teaching us about our own practice of the habits of solitude, community, and service. Reveal to us ways in which you want us to glorify you through what you have so generously give us. Amen.