

What Jesus Sees

Perspectives

Luke 5:17-26

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

But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the one who was paralyzed—“I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.” Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen strange things today.”

REFLECTION

We wrap up this sermon series with perhaps the most difficult perspective for us to consider – that of Jesus. Let’s review how we’ve tried to recognize ourselves as each character in this story:

- ***The paralytic – are we able to ask for help when we don’t have the strength?***
- ***The friends – what kind of friend can we claim to be?***
- ***The homeowner – can we see the opportunities that God can provide when we share?***

In [Luke 10:25-37](#), Jesus teaches that our relationship with God is what gives us life. We can think about whole life in regards to nurturing our relationship with God and others by looking at how we’re doing within each of these four categories: Emotional, Spiritual, Mental, and Physical. ***Make note of what you’re already doing in each category, and some practices you might want to add that can contribute to a more balanced, whole self.***

In this story, Jesus clearly finds himself in the middle of a very chaotic scene. Jesus’ actions show that his gifts and his calling were what focused him. ***Consider the question, “of all the things you CAN do, what MUST you do?” As you examine your own calling, how can this help you more clearly receive the things that God wants you to do?***

Jesus came to settle the issue of forgiveness through his sacrifice for us. The work he leaves for us is to bear with one another. Taking care of our own inner life first is necessary for the love and forgiveness of others. ***When God’s ways don’t align with your ways, how do you tend to respond? Where do you need God to change your heart?***

Heavenly Father, thank you for your living word to us, full of instruction on loving and forgiving others. May we first do the work of loving ourselves, claiming our belovedness in your eyes. Amen.