

JESUS' AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS

Luke 5:17-26

Key Verse: 5:24

"But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins....' He said to the paralyzed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.'"

Study Questions:

1. Read verse 17. Describe the atmosphere. What was in the minds of the religious leaders? Why? What was Jesus doing? (18-19)
2. How did the paralytic look and how does the Bible define such a person? (Ro 5:6) Describe the four friends of the paralytic (Mk 2:3).
3. What is the concept of friendship in the Bible and what do we learn about friendship from Jonathan (1Sa 20:30-33,42) and Jesus? (Jn 15:13) How did Jesus view the actions of the friends and the paralytic? (20a)
4. When Jesus said to the paralytic, "Friend," what do you learn about Jesus? Why did Jesus have authority of forgiveness of sin? (Jn 1:29; Mk 10:45; Rev 5:12) Why did Jesus forgive his sins first?
5. What was the Pharisees' response? (21) How did Jesus appeal to the consciences of the Pharisees? What risk was involved in healing the paralytic? (21-24; Jn 10:11) When the paralytic was healed, how did the paralytic and all the people express their joy? (*Here people are comparable to all mankind. Why is this so?*)