



Forgiven

Mark 2:1-12

www.muncherian.com/sermons.html



WARM UP QUESTION

1. Just to make sure we're together: What is the difference between a "secondary thing" and the "main thing"?

THE SECONDARY THINGS - verses 1-5a

1. What were the secondary things that needed to be overcome in order to bring the paralytic to Jesus?
2. What secondary things was the paralytic experiencing?
3. How did Jesus respond to the paralytic and his friends? HINT: Think carefully about what Mark tells us Jesus was looking at.
4. What does this help you to understand about Jesus?
5. How did Jesus respond to the secondary things of the paralytic?
6. What are the secondary things in your life?
7. Why do you think that our secondary things often seem to assume a greater importance in our lives than the main thing of where we are spiritually in our relationship with God?

THE MAIN THING - verses 5b-12

1. What was the main thing that Jesus is dealing with?
2. How did Jesus deal with the spiritual need of the paralytic? How did Jesus deal with the spiritual need of the many gathered there?
3. How did Jesus prove His authority to forgive sin?
4. These days, what does it mean for you to know that Jesus has authority to forgive your sin?

PROCESSING ALL THAT...

1. Consider that the deepest needs of our lives are not physical, but spiritual. The account of the paralytic man helps us to see that God is continually calling us to reorientate our thinking to focus on what He is focused on. This week, what can you do to help you avoid placing your physical needs ahead of your spiritual needs?
2. The conflict between the religious leaders and Jesus (what eventually leads to the cross) is originally unspoken. There is a warning in that for all of us. Proverbs 4:23 encourages us to do what? This week, what steps will you take to "keep your heart" (ESV)?

BONUS QUESTIONS - thinking about the "stretcher diagram"

1. Who are your stretcher bearers? This week, challenge yourself to let them know how greatly you appreciate them.
2. Who are you "lifting" with (those who serve with you to bear the stretchers of others)? This week, challenge yourself to let them know how greatly you appreciate them. Maybe you can even pray together: 1) About those God has given you to lift up; and 2) About new opportunities to serve in lifting up others.
3. Who has God given you the opportunity to lift up and bring to Jesus? This week, spend time in prayer and ask God to show you the person(s) He has placed in your life who need to be brought to Jesus.

