

# Community Group Discussion Questions

“Unknown Friends”     Mark 2:1-12     3/30/19

## Getting Started:

When you are on the outside looking in, hoping to be heard, given hope and healing, but you can't move another step, could we believe that what seems final is not finished?

When has God moved gracefully into your life, bringing you help and hope when you weren't sure you could go another day? Tell us about it...

## Going Deeper:

**There was a KNOWN Concern:** “And **they** came, bringing to him a *paralytic* carried by four men.” (Vs. 3)

- **They Saw Him**
- **They Served Him**

You will notice at each point of this story, that the paralytic man had friends. “They” is the repeated phrase. One of the main reasons we suffer needlessly in our lives is our refusal to live in relationship with other healthy Christian people who can be that strong, supportive community for us. God exists in community (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit). If it's necessary for God, it must be necessary for us.

Who are your people?

Who does God want you to encourage to join your group or another group?

**There was a KNOWN Conviction:** “And when **they** could not get near him because of the crowd...” (Vs. 4a)

- **Jesus was and is the Answer!**

The paralytics’ friends knew something. They knew that getting into the presence of Jesus would change everything. In the presence of Jesus is hope, healing, and health.

How do you get in the presence of Jesus? Is it in a personal quiet time, a bible study, a worship service, a morning or evening walk? Tell us about it...

**There was a KNOWN Commitment:** “...**they** removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, **they** let down the bed on which the paralytic lay.” (Vs. 4b)

- **Counted to the Cost:** Somebody had to pay for that roof!
- **Cooperated with Courage:** No one person can hold all four ropes!

Because of Mark 2:1, many scholars believe that the house where Jesus was teaching was His own home, and that’s why Jesus didn’t mind at all that the roof was damaged. He doesn’t mind a little damage or dust when lives are being changed because of great faith!

What level of ‘uncomfortable’ are you willing to allow in order for ministry to happen in your world?

Who are you partnering with to see others come to know Jesus?

What unique strength/passion do you have to offer those who need Jesus?

**There was a KNOWN Confession:** “And when Jesus saw **their** faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” (Vs. 5)

- **Called Him Son:** New Identity
- **Cleansed Him from Sin:** Faith leads to Forgiveness
- **Commanded Him to Stand:** “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” (Vs. 11)

The ‘their’ in ‘their faith’ also included the faith of the healed paralytic. And how amazing is it to consider that it was his faith to want to see Jesus, and the faith of his friends who knew what Jesus could do that brought about the healing and the forgiveness of sins. His life was changed. He went from paralyzed to walking!

What has Jesus done for you since you placed your trust in Him as your Savior?

How have you gone from paralyzed to walking to dancing?

**Take Away:** Today, there is a rope to hold that lowers you to grace or a call to hold a rope that leads you towards giving grace. When this happens, “X” marks the spot!

If you are in need of grace and help, please let CBC know how we can help you.

If you are willing to becoming a ‘rope holder’ for others who need what only Jesus can give them, please start serving as a volunteer in the ministry you are passionate about.

**Prayer Requests:**