

**Title:** Unknown Friends

**Text:** Mark 2:1-12

**Target:** 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?

- I. **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**
  
- II. **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!**
  
- III. **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!
  
- IV. **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)

**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 (insert logo)** marks the spot!