

Kingdom of God 19 – Leader's Guide

See Bible study at bottom of the page

- 1. What is the centurion's big problem? (A servant whom he really values is dying; he's paralyzed and in pain.)**
- 2. How is the centurion in the story different from other centurions? (The centurion in the story cares about his slave and is not abusive. Also, he loves Israel and has many Jewish friends. He even gave the Jews money to help build their temple).**
- 3. What message does the centurion send to Jesus before he gets to his house? (He says he's not good enough for Jesus to come under his roof. He tells Jesus just to say the word and his servant will be healed.)**
- 4. Why is Jesus amazed? (He has never met a person with such great faith, even in Israel.)**
- 5. What is often the key to healing? (A person's faith!)**
- 6. What happens when Jesus speaks the healing word from a distance? (The messengers return to the house and find the slave healed!)**
- 7. Why were religious Jews in the house with Jesus? (They had organized a group from many towns to spy on Jesus; they were critical and jealous.)**
- 8. Describe the scene at the house. What is Jesus doing? (The house is packed! There is no room even by the door. Jesus is teaching God's word.)**
- 9. How do the 4 men get their paralyzed friend to Jesus? Why is it hard? (They dig a hole in the roof right above Jesus. Roofs had thick clay, straw, branches to dig through. It was dirty, messy work!)**
- 10. When Jesus sees the active faith for the 4 men, what is the first thing he tells the sick man? (He tells him his sins are forgiven.)**
- 11. What are the religious Jews thinking about Jesus? (They're thinking only God can forgive sin. They think Jesus is claiming to be God. They're angry!)**
- 12. How does Jesus prove to the religious leaders that he has authority to forgive sins? (He commands the paralyzed man to get up and walk, and he does!)**

13. How are we like the paralyzed man? (We can be paralyzed by sin in our souls. We need forgiveness like he did.)

Kingdom of God 19 – Healing Paralytics

1. Mark 2:1-12 Who Is Jesus?

- **Makes his home base in Capernaum – probably at Peter’s house v.1**
- **Popular. Attracts crowds. v. 2**
- **Preaches the word, message about God v.2**
- **Looking for faith v. 5**
- **Sees the faith of 4 men v.5**
- **Knows what religious leaders are thinking v.8**
- **Confronts people who are criticizing him v. 8**
- **Doesn’t worry about what people think. Does miracle in front of his enemies.**
- **Son of Man v.10**
- **Proves he isn’t fake, can forgive sins by healing the paralytic v. 10-11**
- **He does the easy thing (saying that the man’s sins were forgiven – no way of proving that) and the hard thing – healing.**
- **Has authority on earth to forgive sins v. 10**
- **Heals the man with a COMMAND! v. 11**
- **Forgives sins and heals!**

Who Is Man?

- **Spread news about Jesus very quickly v.1**

- **Attracted to Jesus. Hungry to hear his teaching. Crowd inside the house, near the door. v.2**
- **4 men work together to carry paralyzed man to Jesus. Need a TEAM! v.3**
- **Face obstacles. Can't get near Jesus. v. 4**
- **4 friends have ACTIVE FAITH! BOLD!**
- **Don't give up. Determined. Creative idea! Do hard, messy work of digging a hole in roof. Remove branches, thick clay, boards v. 4**
- **Lower the man on his mat right in front of Jesus v. 4**
- **Religious teachers of law travel, follow Jesus to spy on him v.6**
- **Religious teachers: angry, critical, question Jesus, debate him! v.7**
- **Paralytic: Obeys Jesus' command v. 11**
- **Healed by Jesus**
- **Shocked! Amazed! See a miracle! Praise God for healing. v. 12**
- **Never saw anything like that before v. 12**

So What?

- **Am I hungry to hear Jesus' teaching?**
- **Do I have faith? Jesus is looking for faith so he can do miracles!**
- **Is there a friend that I can bring (or help bring) to Jesus?**
- **Jesus knows my thoughts!**
- **Jesus has power to forgive me!**
- **Jesus has power to heal me!**
- **I need to keep seeking Jesus even if I face obstacles**