

Taking it Home:

- Nick identified three questions we must ask to address to join with God in proclaiming the Good News with urgency. Determine today to join God in advancing His kingdom. Discover the urgency of the need and be intentional by answering the questions below:
 1. Who in your life needs Jesus? (At work? At home? In your circle of friends?)
 2. What are you willing to do about it?
 3. Who is going to partner with you?

Whatever it Takes
Mark 2:1-12

Nick Hall
Bethel Church
October 9, 2011

Whatever it Takes

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit www.bethelfc.com.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of October 9, 2011

Mark 2: 1-12

Quick Review: Mark 2:1-12 is the story of a paralyzed man who longed for the healing touch of Jesus, but who was unable to get to him on his own. He was paralyzed. He was powerless. There was no way he could get to Jesus on his own. Instead, it took the determined effort of others to bring this man before the Savior. They overcame roadblocks, hurdles, and attitudes to do whatever it took to see their friend made whole again. Interestingly, when Jesus encounters the paralytic he doesn't cry, "Get up and walk," but instead, "Son, your sins are forgiven!" Certainly it must have seemed inappropriate and even irrelevant in the immediate situation but, in fact, Jesus' pronouncement of pardon is the recognition that man can only be genuinely whole when the power of death has been overcome through the forgiveness of sins.

My Story:

- Many of us have our own stories of the hurdles, roadblocks, and attitudes that had to be overcome before we had an encounter with Jesus. In your own opinion, what do you think are the hurdles, roadblocks, and attitudes of your peers that keep them from following Jesus?
- The paralytic was completely incapable of coming to Jesus on his own; it took the assistance of his four friends. Who are the people in your life that helped you make your way to Jesus? What sacrifices were made by these people on your behalf?
- Nick repeated again and again, "We will not see the harvest of God until we embody the urgency of God." In your own words explain what he meant by this.

Growing Deeper:

- This passage raises a number of questions about the person of Jesus. Read the following verses in Mark 2 and identify the truths that you discover about Jesus.
 - v. 2
 - v. 5
 - v. 8
 - vv. 9-10
 - v. 12
- The healing of the paralytic was more than a display of mercy to a wretched man. Instead it was a display of the inter-relationship of forgiveness and healing. What would have been the consequences if Jesus had chosen *only* to heal the man and not forgive the man (consider Romans 6:23)? Which did Jesus see as a priority? Why?
- **READ Romans 10:14-15.** In Mark 2 the friends of the paralytic risked reputation and sacrificed resources to bring their friend to Jesus. Here in Romans we see that our responsibility is to bring Jesus to our friends by sharing the Good News. What are the consequences when we fail to bring the Good News to the lost? What are the rewards when we do bring the Good News?
- **READ Matthew 28:18-20.** What did Jesus say in this passage that empowers you to proclaim God's Good News?
- **READ Hebrews 10:23-25.** The Paralytic in Mark 2 was surrounded not by just one, but by four men. What are the benefits of working together with others to bring the Good News to others?