

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Luke 5:17-26

Review

- Describe a family tradition from your childhood.
- If you had to move far away, what would you miss the most?
- Share about a time when you felt trapped.
- What advice would you give to a new Christian?

Remind

- Where had the “Pharisees and teachers of the law” travelled from to see Jesus (v.17)?
- How many men carried the paralysed man to the house to see Jesus (v.18). See Mark 2:3.
- What was the roof made from and had to be moved (v.19)?
- In v.20, whose faith was Jesus referring too?
- How do the Pharisees respond to Jesus forgiving sins (v.21)?
- Did Jesus physically hear the Pharisees’ criticism (v.22)?
- What 2 options did Jesus offer (v.23)? Which was easier? Why?
- What reason did Jesus give for doing what He did (v.24)?
- How long did it take before the paralysed man stood (v.25)?
- Who was praised as a result of the healing (v.26)?

Respond

- ‘Son of Man’ (v.24) is Jesus’ most common title for himself. Other than in the Gospels, where else does this title appear? (e.g. Dan 7:13-14, Acts 7:56, Rev 1:13)? What does this say about Jesus’ character and personhood?
- In Bible times, the Jews thought that all sickness was due to sin (see John 9:1-2). Could this still be (partially) true today?
- How would you define ‘forgiveness from sins’?
- As a Christian, how do you explain to a non-Christian that our sins must be forgiven?
- You could end by reading together Luke 5:20

Luke 5:17-26 (NIVUK)

¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal those who were ill. ¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralysed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven.'

²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, 'Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?'

²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, 'Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Get up and walk"? ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' So he said to the paralysed man, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.' ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, 'We have seen remarkable things today.'