

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What does it mean to “preach the Word?”
2. What makes a “good” preacher?
3. How might we imitate the four friends?
4. What kind of faith moves mountains? Explain.
5. How can we receive forgiveness of sins today?
6. What obstacles get in our way which prevent us from getting close to Jesus?

SUMMARY:

The compassionate Savior “preached the Word” to the eager crowd. The four faithful friends, overcoming every obstacle, brought the paralyzed man to Jesus. The compassionate Savior, seeing the need, and seeing their faith, granted forgiveness and healing.

How wonderful these words: *“thy sins be forgiven thee.”* **Every** sin. **My** sin. *“if the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”* (John 8:36)

Are your sins forgiven?

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #6

November 9, 2014

Fourth Quarter

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS

LESSON TEXT: *Mark 2:1-12*

LESSON SETTING: In Capernaum

TIME: The beginning of Christ’s ministry.

I. THE HELPLESS SUFFERER. Mark 2:1-4

- A. The Word Preached (vs. 2) Acts 8:4; Romans 10:8, 17; 2 Timothy 4:2
- B. Bringing Someone to Jesus (vs. 3-4) John 1:41-42; 4:29, 39-42; Romans 10:14
- C. Faith Moves Mountains (vs. 4) Matthew 17:20; 21:21; Luke 11:5-10; 18:39, 42

II. THE COMPASSIONATE SAVIOR. Mark 2:5

- A. Jesus Sees Faith (vs. 5a) 1 Samuel 16:7; Ephesians 2:8-10; James 2:18-24
- B. Jesus Grants Forgiveness (vs. 5b) Matthew 1:21; Acts 10:43; 13:38-39

III. THE MURMURING SCRIBES. Mark 2:6-7

- A. Scribes Think Jesus Blasphemous (vs. 6-7)
- B. God Only Can Forgive Sins (vs. 7) Isaiah 43:25-26; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5

IV. THE POWERFUL HEALER. Mark 2:8-12

- A. Christ Proves His Authority (vs. 8-12) John 1:11-12; 17:2
- B. Jesus Heals (vs. 11) Psalm 103:2-4

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . ***THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE.***

Mark 2:5b

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18
SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 139:1-23

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: THE CHRISTIAN'S MOTIVES

INTRODUCTION:

As a part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, our lesson today deals with our attitudes of honesty and sincerity. It is so important that we have proper motives in all that we do and the only proper motive for a Christian is to do all things as to the Lord. (Colossians 3:23) In the living of our Christian lives, in our worship and in our prayers we should do these as though God were our only witness. Whenever we serve God with the thought that we can impress men, we are on the wrong track. If our service to God is not from the very depth of our heart it borders on shame or hypocrisy and these then bring reproach upon the Christian life.

A minister in a gospel meeting where a collection plate was passed through the congregation suggested that "folding money" be placed in the plate. The minister illustrated by openly displaying a \$5.00 bill which he put in the plate, even announcing the amount of the contribution. How does this fit in with Jesus' teaching in our lesson that "*ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them?*"

Likewise, in our self-denial, the example mentioned by the Lord was fasting, we must not do it to be seen of men, but rather make every effort to keep it hidden from public view so that God who looks on the heart and knows our way of life may reward us openly.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Our giving, praying, and fasting must be done with utter sincerity if they are to further the kingdom of Christ.

GOLDEN TEXT: *THY FATHER WHICH SEETH IN SECRET SHALL REWARD THEE OPENLY.*

Matthew 6:6

The promise of God is that He will reward us for a life lived in Him if we meet the conditions mentioned in our lesson. The indication is that we can "put on a front" so that we may seem to be religious to men and may even win their recognition for living this way. Our lesson teaches that when we do these things to win man's approval we have already received our reward. On the other hand, if we do these things as a part of the natural outliving of our lives, if they become such a part of us that we do them without thinking about them, they will still be seen of God and He who searches the heart will reward openly. It is God's desire that all we do should be done to glorify Him. It should be the very desire of our heart. We shouldn't even have to think about it. It should be just as automatically a part of us as moving our arms or legs which we also do without thinking through each move. We are in grave danger when we do things a certain way because we think someone is looking and then do differently when we think our actions are hidden. Let us remember our Golden Text.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 10 - 16

M. The Perishing Hope of Hypocrisy. Job 8:1-13
T. Warning Against Hypocrisy. Job 15:31; 16:2; Matthew 23:23-33
W. The Reproach of a Hypocritical Friend. Psalm 55:12-23
T. The Vanity of Hypocritical Worship. Isaiah 1:11-15
F. Turning from Hypocrisy. Isaiah 1:16-26
S. *The Christian's Motives. Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18
S. Faithfulness Rewarded. Matthew 20:1-16