



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Week of October 10, 2021*

*Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.*

### **Sermon Text**

Luke 5:17-26

***17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.[d] 18 And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, 19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. 20 And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you." 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 22 When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." 25 And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. 26 And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today."***

*If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiKaichurch.org/sermononline>*

### **Summary**

In our passage this week a paralyzed man is brought before Jesus to be healed. Seeing true faith, Jesus pronounces the man's sins to be forgiven which upsets the Jewish religious leaders, for no one can forgive sins except God. Jesus responds by not only healing the paralytic, but also

showing that our greatest need is not physical, but spiritual - our sins must be forgiven.

### Discussion Questions

1. How did the paralyzed man's friends show they had great faith in Jesus' power and ability to heal? Today, how do we know when faith is genuine? What do you think it means that "faith works and it works very hard"? Are we saved by our works?
2. The paralyzed man's friends ripped through a roof to bring their crippled friend to Jesus. What did their actions reveal about their desire to be with Jesus? Compared to the men in this story, how would you rank your desire to be near to the Lord? What barriers do you have to break through in order to be closer to Jesus?
3. Why do you think Jesus asked the question, "*Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'?*" What was the greater need that Jesus was trying to show to the Pharisees? If a person truly understands their greatest need, how does this show up in the way they live their lives?
4. The miracle of the paralytic's complete healing was insufficient to bring the Pharisees to faith. What can we learn from this as we share our faith with our family and friends? Rather than focus on all the 'good things' Jesus can do to change a person's life, what should the focus of our evangelism be?
5. How and why should the forgiveness of our sins help us to "not sweat the small stuff"?