

6.17.12

## Walking Dusty...

teacher: Dan

When Dan taught through Mark 2:1-12, I was amazed at Jesus' interaction with a paralyzed man. First, Jesus forgave the man's sins. Then, He healed him. As Dan pointed out, it was obvious that the man needed healing because he couldn't walk. But Jesus saw the bigger problem and forgave the man's sins. He knew that not walking was just a temporary inconvenience compared to the eternal separation the man would experience without forgiveness of sins.

I believe that's what I often get wrong. I think my problem is my disobedient son. Or I focus on my husband's lack of work. What I'm missing is that my sin has separated me from God. It's what nailed Jesus to a cross. In the big picture most of the things that frustrate me have no eternal value.

This made me stop and think about how I view others. Do I see the man at the Salvation Army as needing a home, or do I also see his need for a relationship with our Creator? Do I look at the single mom as financially burdened, or do I also see her spiritual need? Do I only share in others' physical wants, or do I also share with them the love, mercy, and forgiveness that I have had lavished on me by God? I think that's the main idea behind Jesus' example in Mark 2, and it's a shift in my perspective that I need to follow.

### Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39) When I love my neighbor, do I look at his physical needs and also his spiritual ones?

Dan asked . . . If I could have one wish granted today, what would it be? Does God have to protect me from my deepest wishes? What do I truly want in life? Is my wish centered around Christ?

What about the If-Thens . . . If you heal me, then I'll honor you. If you help me, then I'll worship you. What am I promising God in return for a favor?

In regard to the story of the paralyzed man . . . am I more impressed with the man walking or with the fact that Jesus forgave his sins?!?

In relation to Father's Day, do I look at my children's spiritual needs as much as I look at their physical needs?

Dan shared that eighty percent of men in prison are fatherless and 40-42% of children in public schools are fatherless. Is God calling me to serve in an area where I can help? How is this "Epidemic of the Fatherless" affecting our society? What is "The Father Wound?"

***This month's memory verse:*** *Go into all the world and preach the good news to all of creation.*

*Mark 16:15*

***Additional Verses:*** Mark 2:1-12

**Reminders:** Check out the website for upcoming events. [www.1mosaic.org](http://www.1mosaic.org)

***Radical Reminder:***

I will pray for the entire world.

I will read through the entire Word.

I will sacrifice my money for a specific purpose.

I will spend time in another context.

I will commit my life to a multiplying community.