



**Mark 2:1-12** "A few days later..., Who can forgive sins but God alone?"...But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins... This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'" (NIV)

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**Mark 2:3-4** "Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on." (NIV)

**Hebrews 4:16** "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (NKJV)

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**Mark 2:1-2** "A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them." (NIV)

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**Mark 2:5** "When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'" (NIV)



**Job 4:7** "Think! Has a truly innocent person ever ended up on the scrap heap? Do genuinely upright people ever lose out in the end?" (Message)

**John 9:3** "'It isn't because this man sinned,' said Jesus. 'It isn't because his parents sinned. This happened so that God's work could be shown in his life.'" (NIV)

**Mark 2:10** "But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . ." (NIV)




**Mark 2:10-12** "He said to the paralytic, 'I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.' He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'" (NIV)

- 1-Determination
- 2-Difficulties
- 3-Deliverance
- Forgiveness
- healing



 **WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?** Field any related Q's to the sermon or reading.

 **GROUP WARM UP** Mark 2:1-12 (read it aloud if some did not hear the sermon)  
What these four friends did for this man was pretty incredible. What has been the most meaningful thing a group of friends has ever done for you?

**SPIN OFF Q&A'S** (questions and applications)

Can you reflect on the feelings you had when you first were forgiven by Jesus?  
What is it about forgiveness that makes it so strong - so powerful?

Talk about the difference between being forgiven for sin in-general and specific sins you are aware of. **Does the difference affect the impact the forgiveness you seek has on you?**

This section of Mark does make the clear case that Jesus was indeed God. If one did not accept this, the only alternative was that this Jesus was a fraud and a blasphemer. No one had ever come around behaving so appropriately, God-like... ever. No one could. **Why was this the necessary conclusion? What other Scriptural evidences can your group cite that support the belief that Jesus was God?**

**RELATED SCRIPTURES**

We have been looking at the early parts of Mark and how he portrayed "the beginning of the gospel of Jesus, the Son of God". Look at the similar section from the gospel of John that leads to the point where John the Baptist comes on the scene (**John 1:1-18**). **How does John's perspective differ from Mark's? What do we learn about Jesus from John?**

Later in this gospel, (8:32) Jesus states that "*the truth shall make you free*". This therefore, has been a rallying point (verse) for us to be bearers of truth. And we should be...

However, if we want to be truth bearers, we must then equally be grace bearers.

I think this is a consistent theme throughout Jesus' ministry. What verse from John 1 sets the stage to see Jesus' ministry this way (and therefore the type of person Jesus was)? I think this is a very important qualifier for what it means for us to be a truth bearer. **Why would it be so important to understand this distinction?**

 **What light does Ephesians 4:15 and 16 shed on this?**

Can you think of specific examples, where speaking truth without grace could be damaging?

**FURTHER READING** (Scripture for Daily Reading)

Day 1 Exodus 5 Day 2 Exodus 6 Day 3 Mark 12  
Day 4 Psalm 16 Day 5 Exodus 7 Day 6 Psalm 17