

YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN

Mark 2:1-17
Key Verse 2:5

1. When such a large crowd gathered, what did Jesus do for them, and why? (1-2) Who interrupted Jesus' teaching? (3) How did they overcome the obstacles to get to Jesus? (4) How did Jesus see them? (5a) What can we learn from these men? From Jesus?
2. What did Jesus declare to the paralyzed man? (5b) Why did Jesus think his sin was more serious than his paralysis? In what sense is paralysis like sin-sickness? (Ro 5:6) What does "Son, your sins are forgiven" mean to you? Why did some teachers of the law get upset? (6-7) How did Jesus demonstrate his authority on earth to forgive sins? (8-12a) How did people respond? (12b)
3. After teaching the crowd, whom did Jesus notice? Why was this man sitting at the tax collector's booth while the people were following Jesus? (16) Why were tax collectors social outcasts? How might he represent, in some regard, all of us today?
4. What did Jesus say to him? (14a) How did he see him differently from others? How did this invitation kindle a new hope in Levi's heart? What did Levi's response show about him? (14b) What does it really mean to "follow" Jesus?
5. How did Levi celebrate his new life? (15) Why did the Pharisees criticize Jesus to his disciples? (16) Read verse 17. How did Jesus see people differently from self-righteous people? How can sin-sick people like us be healed? (5b,14,17)