

TAKEAWAY

The Radical King

Transformation through the story of Jesus

THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS SUNDAY 25TH APRIL 2021

INTRODUCTION

On Sunday we looked at the first passage of Matthew chapter 9 where Jesus encounters a paralysed man, but what happens is about so much more than healing....

READ

Matthew 9:1-8

DISCUSS

1. What had been going on just prior to this passage? Imagine yourself being a first century Jew packed into Peter's home listening to Jesus teaching and seeing all this happen before your eyes, how do you feel?
2. Jesus is touched by the concern the trouble the friends take with the paralysed man, in what ways can we move the heart of Jesus for our friends? How can our faith be about expression not just conviction?
3. What does it tell us about how Jesus relates to us? What is the character of Jesus like? How does it make you feel to know that Jesus knows all your thoughts and motives?
4. What was the system for forgiveness of sins up to this point? What effect did the claim Jesus was making have on the Jewish audience? How was Jesus fulfilling the Jewish scriptures? What new thinking was now required of the audience?
5. What universal need does the paralysed man represent? What is the point of this miracle? In what ways does this living demonstration show us what God is actually like? How can we continue to grasp how amazing God's forgiveness is and not take it for granted?
6. What would you say to a friend who thinks of Jesus as only an admirable human being or moral teacher? How would you explain our need of Jesus' forgiveness to them? In what ways can we all fool ourselves about our sin?
7. In what ways are we like the crowd and the religious leaders? How can we be different, especially in the context of returning to in-person church?

PRAY

Spend time being in awe of Jesus.

Thank Jesus for the great privilege of being able to have our sins forgiven.

Pray for the reconnection of us all as church reopens.