

Sermon Discussion Guide

Jesus' Authority to Forgive Sins

Mark 2:1–12

Jesus shows us we're more deeply broken than we realize (1–5)

Heb. 11:6; John 9:1–3; Ps. 32:1-2; 51:4; 2 Sam. 12:13; Eph. 1:7; 2 Cor. 12:7–10

- The paralytic came to Jesus for physical healing, but Jesus gave him spiritual healing. What does this tell you about Jesus' mission?
- Why is sin your biggest problem?
- What do you want most from Jesus? Would he still be good if he only forgave your sins? How does this change your perspective on your current circumstances?

Jesus proves he has authority to make us truly whole (6–12)

Ex. 34:6–7; Ps. 103:2–3; Isa. 35:5–6; 43:25

- What did the scribes get right about Jesus' claim to forgive the paralytic? What did they get wrong?
- What did the healing of the paralytic prove about Jesus?
- How do the characters in the story (i.e. the crowd, the scribes, the four men and the paralytic) illustrate various responses to Jesus? What is the only proper response to Jesus?