



context:

line by line: Mark 2:1-12

application:

BE PRESENT . . . to community

Use these questions in your community group time to dig deeper and discover how you can apply today's message to everyday life.

TEXT: Mark 2:1-12

People who follow Jesus have to be for the world what He was to the people of Israel while he walked the earth. Bringing healing and forgiveness to our communities. Some will oppose this. They may perceive God as uncaring or distant. We know differently, don't we? We strive to help others work through the crowd of doubt and dig through God's roof to find His presence. Some will be on a stretcher (literally), or on a mat of hurt, disappointments, broken hearts and failure. The only way they will ever find their way to the right house....the right roof....is on the shoulders of friends in community.

1. Read John 15:15-17. What does it look like to be a friend with Christ?
2. Read 1 John 4:19-21. How does this verse shape your outlook on friendship?
3. How does our love for others reflect our love for God?
4. In Mark 2, we discover 4 friends who go beyond a casual friendship. What if they didn't know the paralytic as a friend prior to this encounter? What does this say about being present with our friends who are believers?
5. Has someone else's "mat" ever prevented you from seeking out friendship with them?
6. Do you think your "mat" has ever stopped others from being present with you?
7. How has this passage changed how you look at being present with other believers around you?
8. How can the group pray for you this week?