

Bible Study 1 – The Paralysed Man

Read Matthew 9: 1-8 Below

Jesus Heals a Paralytic

Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town. Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming!"

Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...." Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home." And the man got up and went home. When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men.

Discuss...

- 1 – Why did the teachers think Jesus was blaspheming?
- 2 – Why do you think the crowds praised God for the miracle?
- 3 – What do you think the main message behind the passage is?
- 4 – How could you relate this to social action?

Bible Study 2 - The Great Commission

Read Matthew 28: 16-20 Below

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in^[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Discuss...

- 1 – What do you immediately think when you read this passage?
- 2 – Jesus says 'teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you', can you think of some things Jesus commanded?
- 3 – How could these commands relate to social action?
- 4 – How could you relate this passage to social action?