

Bible Discussion Sample – Mark 2:1-12

Ask for someone to read Mark 2:1-12. Then begin asking the following questions and discussing them as a group:

1. Imagine you are making a video of this incident. Describe the setting and the characters. As the scene opens, what is going on?

Note: Jesus had taught and healed many people during a previous visit in Capernaum (Mark 1:21-33).

2. What indicates Jesus' popularity at this time?
3. Why and how is Jesus' preaching interrupted? How does he react to this interruption?
4. What do you think the paralyzed man's friends have in mind? How does that compare with what Jesus says in verse 5?
5. How do the scribes or teachers of the law react to this statement and why?

Note: Blasphemy is showing contempt or irreverence for God or claiming attributes that belong to God alone. Under Jewish law, blasphemy was punishable by death.

6. In your own words, what are the scribes thinking? What is the point of the question Jesus asks in reply (verse 9)?
7. What do you think Jesus expects to prove to the scribes by healing the paralyzed man?
8. How does the healed man express his faith? How do the people react to his healing?
9. To sum up briefly, what have you discovered about Jesus from this story? What impressed you the most, or what did you see for the first time?