

Eight Weeks of Conversation Café Week Four: Bible Topic- Jesus' Compassion and Authority

Jesus did many miracles on earth, including healing people physically, spiritually and emotionally. Read the passage together. Then answer the following questions.

Mark 2:1-12

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ²They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. ³Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. ⁴Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming (*speaking untrue things about God*)! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

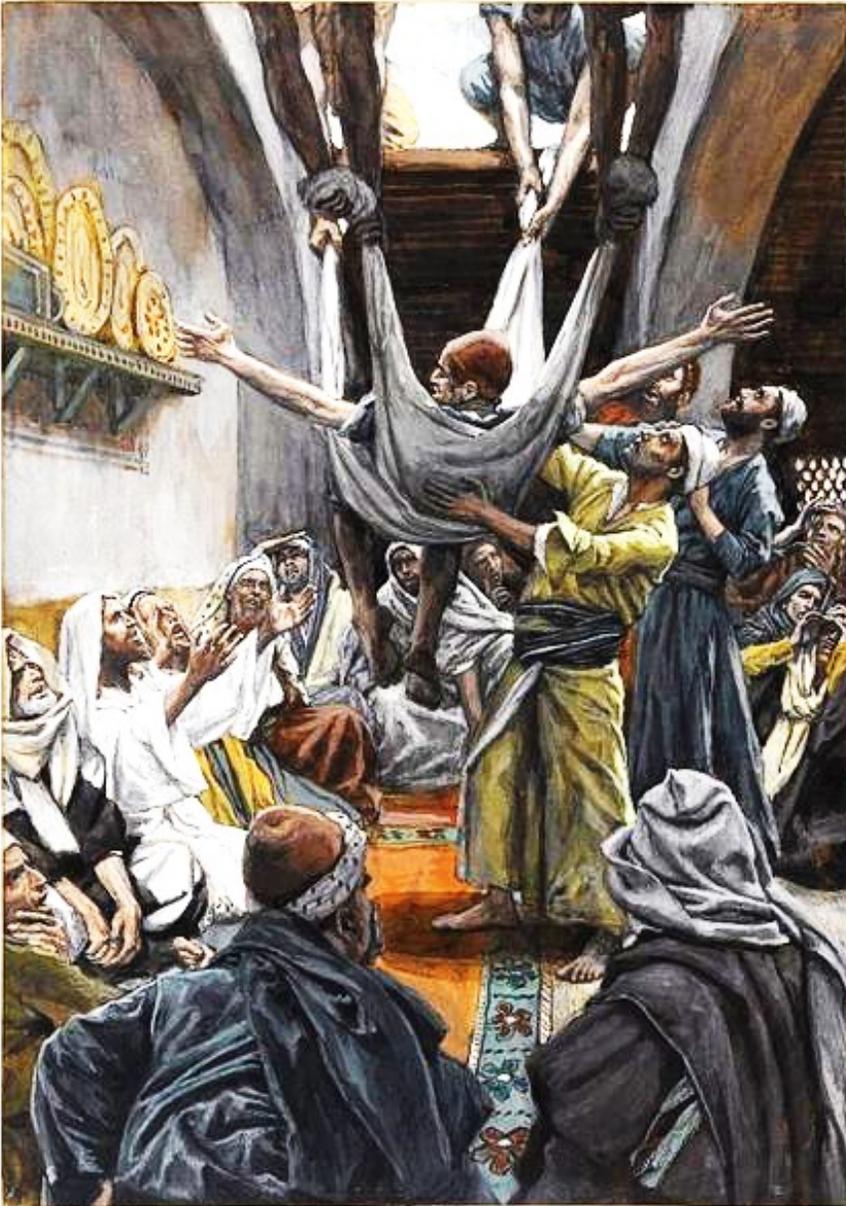
⁸Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? ⁹Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? ¹⁰But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the man, ¹¹"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ¹²He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

For Further Discussion

1. *Discuss unfamiliar words.*
2. *Retell the story in your own words.*
3. *What do you think is the main message of this story? Is there more than one message?*
4. *How did the friends and the lame man demonstrate faith?*
5. *Today, how do people today show their faith in Jesus?*
6. *What other questions would you like to ask?*

Describe what you see in this painting.

In what way does it show the story?



James Tissot. The Paralytic Let Down Through the Roof c. 1885-1894. Opaque watercolor over graphite on gray wove paper. 23.7 x 16.7 cm. Brooklyn Museum, New York City