

Be Reformed – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

Be Charismatic – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

Be Community – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

Be Missional – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

Mark 2:1-12

1 And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. 3 And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. 4 And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are

forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— 11 "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." 12 And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Also read:

Isaiah 61:1
1 Cor 1:18
Romans 8:12-18, 31-39
2 Tim 3:12-13
John 16:33
Rev 21:3-4
Psalm 16:4
2 Cor 4:7-18

Study Guide 31 Oct 2010 – Can Jesus Heal My Pain?



Summary

Jesus reveals sin as the root of the problem of pain. Our present pain is simply the symptom of a far more dangerous condition – sin.

Sin is the root cause of pain. Sin is failure to meet God's perfect standard, incurring His righteous judgment. Because Jesus was the perfect, sinless God who died to pay the penalty for sin, He can heal us from our sin, which ultimately results in our freedom from pain when we are in heaven.

Meanwhile our response to pain, the effects of pain and the meaning of pain are changed. We do not blame God for pain, instead finding comfort in His promise to ultimately remove it. We identify ourselves as primarily spiritual people. We recognize the urgency of salvation and forgiveness above the removal of present pain. We do not mistakenly expect all pain to be healed.

Our own pain is meaningful because it shapes us into the likeness of God when we identify with His response to sin. Finally, we long for the day when Christ will return and abolish pain for those He has saved forever.

Key points

Sin is the source of our pain. Jesus forgives sin.

Explanation

- >>Why is there pain and suffering in the world?
- >>Is God to blame for sin and pain?
- >>What does the bible say God is doing about it?
- >>Does God heal everyone of every pain? Why or why not?
- >>How does Jesus' forgiveness of sin change the effect and meaning of pain?
- >>Which does Jesus show to be more important – the removal of pain or the forgiveness of sin?

Application

- >>How should a Christian respond to his or her personal pain?
- >>How should a Christian respond to the pain of others?

Final thoughts

We must be rightly focused on the problem of sin – forgiveness through Jesus Christ – in order to properly address the problem of pain.