

# SON OF DAVID

JORDAN BIEL

SERIES: SAY IT'S IMPOSSIBLE | ROCK OF GRACE, KINSMAN CAMPUS 03.24.24

## Mark 2:1-12

In the passage before, we're told that Jesus heals a leper and the leper tells EVERYONE and apparently he was a known leper and the healing was obvious so... *Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter.* People were stirred and excited to see this "Jesus" guy who is a healer. Crowds gathered everywhere He went.

### Jesus Heals a Paralytic

**2** And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. <sup>4</sup> 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." <sup>6</sup> Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup> "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" <sup>8</sup> And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they questioned within themselves, Jesus 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'? <sup>10</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— <sup>11</sup> "I say to you, get up, pick up your mat, and go home." <sup>12</sup> 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!" ESV

K first let's not miss the obvious ...

### **This man was healed! Completely!**

I want to point out a few things. A few things that stood out to me. First the 3 things Jesus tells the paralyzed man but first, the phrase SON OF MAN. The disciple who wrote this, Mark, inserted the phrase SON OF MAN into the narrative to explain the significance of this event for his readers: that Jesus as the risen Son of Man **has authority** (*exousian*, the right and power) **on earth to forgive sins**, something the scribes did not fully recognize. Only here in the Gospels is the forgiveness of sins attributed to the "Son of Man."

The question is one of authority. This is why the pharisees say “WHO BUT GOD can forgive sins?”

In other words “WHO HAS THE AUTHORITY to forgive sins? Certainly not you!” They’re telling Jesus.

They of course don’t recognize Jesus as the Son of God and as Daniel called him when prophesying centuries before - the Son of Man.

Let’s turn there briefly ...

### Daniel 7:13-14

**<sup>13</sup> “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup> And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed**

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Da 7:13–14). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

The Pharisees, the religious leaders at the time, were very opposed to Jesus.

If you’re new to faith and I know many of you are, you may think “Why are all the pastors - all the religious leader mad at Jesus? Aren’t they on the same team?” Well, yes and no.

They’re Jewish and are children of Abraham but consider their right-standing with God simply by two things: their lineage - being Abraham’s descendants, second, their adherence to the Jewish law. They felt they earned it and deserved to be righteous. Jesus was welcoming very sinful people. In fact his next act was to call Levi a tax collector WHILE he was at his booth and invite him to be a disciple - a bible college student!

These phrases were ticked!

After all, He was taking their followers and their fame and this enraged them.

They were very familiar with the term “Son of Man” in the Torah. They knew it spoke of GOD - the one given ALL AUTHORITY so they questioned... how can this carpenters son be the Messiah ... the Son of Man.

They didn’t see the forest for the trees. They didn’t understand that “Son of Man” meant that God would come as a man - a human. That he would look just like one of them, talk like one of them and of course, ultimately die as one of them.

Jesus was I’m sure impressed by the faith of these guys to lower their friend through the roof and be so persistent in their desire to get him to Jesus.

Jesus responded with 3 commands.

2:11–12. Jesus commanded the paralytic to **get up** (which was a test of his faith), **take his mat (to remember the healing), and go home** (a demand of obedience to give grace to others). The man was enabled to do this immediately (*euthys*; cf. 1:10) **in full view of them all**, including Jesus' critics. They were forced to recognize that the man had received God's forgiveness. All who were present were forced to come to grips with Jesus' power and authority. (Including His skeptics)

Jesus said "in order to prove this to you" The New Living Translation that I primarily use says "I will prove it to you!"

Jesus is saying 'Don't believe me? DON't believe I have the power and right to forgive sin? I'll prove it! Hold my wine" lol

This showed that the salvation that Jesus was bringing to people was not only physical but wholistic! He was there to redeem EVERY PART of their lives **Everyone** (probably including the scribes) was **amazed** I clicked that word "Amazed" in Logos my Bible Study software and it means (*existasthai*, lit., "out of their minds"; and then what happened? They all **praised God** because of Jesus' display of supernatural power.

What is the result of YOU believing (get up) remembering (take your mat) and giving grace to others (becoming Christlike) ? What's the result of that process in the world around us? WORSHIP. PEOPLE who wouldn't normally worship and sing God's praises suddenly do!

People who wouldn't consider themselves to be religious are suddenly religious. People who are agnostic are suddenly "worshipping" saying ONLY GOD could have done this! Praise God!

### **3 Things Jesus Told The Paralyzed Man**

1. **"Get Up" Believe that Jesus can heal you (heart soul mind body)**
2. **Take Your Mat** (remember what He did - commit to community / go to church, life group, get a mentor ... don't just forget about Jesus and His grace)
3. **Go Home** (offer grace to the very people who hurt you the most)


### **Get up! Believe that JESUS can heal you.**

First let's address this idea "God accepts me as I am. I don't need to change. God loves me and if you insist I change then you're being hateful."

Well not really. God loves you and me enough to accept us and welcome us but **He does not affirm our sin. He invites us to be healed from our pains and forgiven of our sins and tells us to GET UP to CHANGE to let Him do a work in us!**

He's telling this man to trust Him. To let Him bring renewal.


He loves us enough to not leave us as we are. Rather He takes us by the hand “into pasture” according to John 10:10 into a life of peace with Him by giving us a right mind and new “better way” of thinking and living (according to Hebrews 11)

 John 9:1-3 “As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> And His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents,…”

Take them to the scripture where Jesus is asked “Who sinned to cause this? His mom or his dad...?” Jesus said “neither”

In that culture, when a child had deformities the parents often abandoned the child to fend for themselves and simply become a homeless beggar dependent upon the generosity of people walking by. It was a stigma of shame because they believed the paralyzed child was a sign of sin and they didn't want their sins exposed - who does? So they would leave their child on the streets unfortunately. This was a foster child who had aged out and was homeless and didn't know his identity. He had only the shame of rejection from his parents in his family history. He only could eat and survive if people walking by were more kind than his own parents. This is why Jesus' first words to him were “Son” “Son, your sins are forgiven.” This man lived with such shame - he felt it was HIS SIN that brought embarrassment to his parents and the defects he suffered from.

Please hear me today. There are things that happened TO YOU as a child that you did NOT do. It wasn't your sin. Some of you still feel shame from things that you suffered NOT from things you did. You

 Let God call you by name and call you “son” or “daughter” and from that identity let His grace work in your life. Don't let your victimhood / pain / suffering define you any more!

Everyone else called this man “the lame man by the gate” or “the paralytic” But Jesus called him “Son”  
WOW

 Believe that **Jesus** can heal you. Get up!

No one else can heal you.

Listen I'm a big believer in counseling. As you know I said it last week, we need to normalize counseling. But please be careful where you go to get counseling.


That counselor needs to have a basic foundation for his or her advice - a foundation of truth - the truth of God's Word. If not, there will be many helpful moments, sure, but also some HORRIFIC advice given. An ungodly counselor will ask you if you've considered having an "open marriage" where you're free to sleep with others when your needs aren't met.

An ungodly counselor will sure, have some good advice or good questions to consider but then will suggest something that leads to harm and separation not the marriage God intends.

An ungodly counselor might tell you that pornography can spice up your sex life in marriage. When in reality it will ruin your marriage.

An ungodly counselor might tell you to "cut ties" with the very people God is asking you to forgive.

Be careful to ensure that you're looking to JESUS and HIS WORD when you're facing difficulty and need advice or healing.

 Only JESUS and HIS WORD can bring the healing in your life (marriage, day-to-day mental health, etc) that you need!

The real question here again was that of authority.

The Pharisees said ... Who can forgive sins except for God!?!?

They were furious accusing Jesus of Blasphemy - claiming to be God without being God. Jesus however was God so He could make that claim.

Jesus is not just the Son of Man but He is the Son of David and the Holy Spirit reminded me of a similar story.

### **David adopted Saul's grandson, Mephibosheth**

Tell the story 2 Samuel 4:4

<sup>4</sup> Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son who was crippled in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse took him up and fled, and as she fled in her haste, he fell and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.

and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. <sup>4</sup> David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. <sup>5</sup>

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (2 Sa 5:3–5). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

**9** And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" <sup>2</sup> Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose

name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" And he said, "I am your servant." <sup>3</sup> And the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet." <sup>4</sup> The king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "He is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar." <sup>5</sup> Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar. <sup>6</sup> And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, "Mephibosheth!" And he answered, "Behold, I am your servant." <sup>7</sup> And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." <sup>8</sup> And he paid homage and said, "What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?"

<sup>9</sup> Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson. <sup>10</sup> And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. <sup>11</sup> Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do." So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. <sup>12</sup> And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants. <sup>13</sup> So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

[\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (2 Sa 9:1–13). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

So not only did this young man who was crippled and alone and depressed living in LoDebar - not only was he

WELCOMED TO EAT AT THE KINGS TABLE

ADOPTED AS A SON

GIVEN SERVANTS

HIS SON MICA WAS NOW BLESSED.

People brought this young man to David.

*This was a TYPE of Christ moment - a foreshadowing of what Jesus would do -* the story we just read in Mark chapter 2 - early in Jesus' ministry. Just as news was spreading about Him and His power to heal.

JUST as David became king and the news had spread, he asked his new servants "Who can I show kindness to?"

They said "Your enemy's grandson"

By the way, those guys wouldn't even have suggested this to David if they thought he was a cruel leader - a leader filled with ego or bitterness. In other words, David had earned a reputation for being merciful and kind. Why else would they even suggest this to him. I bet the second it crossed the servants mind, he thought "Oh David would totally do this?"  
 Why? They witnessed how he engaged Saul - forgiving him calling Him "Father" when he was trying to KILL David!

What an awesome reputation!

Young Mephibosheth was sitting in LoDebar, depressed and alone and wondering if God had forgotten him. The pain in his legs was probably intense but what was worse was the emotional pain of feeling neglected and forgotten. Church do you realize that is a LOT of people. So many people are living OUT of their pain and trauma - they've identified themselves in that way because they's all they've ever known and have yet to be healed of it by Jesus.

### **MessageMashUp Quote Moment / Clip**

You see the real miracle that God offers humanity is one of forgiveness not physical healing. Yes the physical healing is beautiful and it points to God's power. But until you can live graciously you have yet to fully grasp the Gospel.

David was able to show compassion to Mephibosheth, the grandson of Saul, the man who tried his best to kill and embarrass David. The man filled with rage and jealousy - the one who did all he could to take down David - YET - David showed his grandson empathy and compassion and gave that young boy - likely a 13 or 14 yr old - dignity.

That crippled boy was dropped as a child. It happened TO him. It wasn't his fault.

Maybe that's you today. Your parents were far from good parents. They said and did terrible things that left you feeling pretty crippled in life - unable to cope with stress - paranoid you'll be hit again or left to fend for yourself. Jesus, is like David.

He invites you into His family and calls you one of His own! He adopts you and gives you His name. You're now a child of the King of Kings! You're no longer an orphan - and you're no longer identified by your mistakes or how people blamed you. You're not the scapegoat. JESUS took the blame and the shame. He hung naked on a cross so that WE could be given dignity and a new name!


The crippled man that was brought to Jesus and lowered through the roof, he chose to BELIEVE. He chose to GET UP! He believed JESUS could change things!

Your pain isn't your fault but it is your responsibility. What you do with your pain is up to you.


The painful things that happened to you in the past were out of your control.

Whether you let them define you now IS in your control.

You can BELIEVE in JESUS like the man who was brought by four people on the mat. You get up, take your mat and go home and have an entirely different life. OR you can stay in painful memories of your past - you can stay bitter - you can stay angry. You can stay critical of your spouse, critical of your co-workers, always blaming and never praising OR you can GET UP TAKE YOUR MAT and GO HOME! You are one encounter from an entirely different life! One encounter with JESUS can change everything!

This is the purpose of Jesus' ministry! Jesus told us Himself. I've quoted it often but  **\*Luke 4 verses 18-21\* When Jesus announces His ministry in the synagogue here, He tells us that His purpose is to bring favor to people - to turn people who were His enemy into God's children! He promises freedom to those who are held captive and joy to those who mourn.**

In this story of King David and this young man, we find the same patter that I want us to review again ...

1.  **Believe that Jesus can heal you (heart soul mind body)  
Removing painful memories, painful words spoken to you,  
offenses that dictate today's joy.**

I wonder if Mephibosheth had refused going with them?

What if he had so normalized his pain and let it become his identity that he didn't leave and go to David's palace.



■ So many people have let their pain become their identity that they won't even let God heal them when He wants to.

### *STORY of John C.*

Years ago, I encountered this young man in our youth group. I won't give his name of course. He had a difficult home life. One that looked fine on the outside - more white collar than blue collar in terms of financial situation. Played sports did decently well actually. I went to some of his games. But man did he hate his dad. His dad was just really an awful person.

I had prayed with him a few times about it when he opened up to me at a Guys Night or after the sermon in the altar area. And he did receive some healing. I remember his face changing and forgiveness taking place.

He'd often go back to that critical, angry, short-tempered default position within weeks or even days, even as he became a junior then senior.

I ran in to him recently and he is still the same angry, critical, unhappy person, just 14 years later. As he became an adult, he never let Jesus truly heal him. He never let grace do its work. He stayed bitter, angry, resentful. Please hear me. That was HIS choice. He knew the Gospel. He knew that God forgave his dad and had forgiven him of all his sins - Jesus already paid for that. BUT he chose to stay angry.

What's your story? Where are you at today... emotionally? Are you like that crippled teen Mephibosheth, just 14, 20 or 30 years later? OR have you got a vision of Jesus? Have you heard him call you by name, call you SON or DAUGHTER, receive THAT identity and let Him heal you!?

Only JESUS can heal you from the pain of your past.

Jesus, God's Son, has always been in the mind of God as the means of which we would be saved and united with our Creator. In the time past, God revealed His message through prophets, even warriors and Kings but all of them served as a compass pointing towards Jesus who came at God's appointed time.

Jesus is able to do what no other can do!

Jesus is able to heal what no other can heal!

Jesus is able to restore what no other can restore!

2. ■ **Take your mat** (remember what He did - commit to community / go to church, life group, get a mentor... don't just forget about Jesus and His grace)

Elaborate

As I read through first and second Samuel, I saw vividly how in many ways David's actions reflect what we see in Jesus. It's not surprising that the prophet Samuel prophesied to David that he would be the "Head of Nations." David himself prophesied unknowingly about Jesus as he spoke about himself in many of the Psalms we've grown to love. One of those being Psalm 18:43–48: "43 You delivered me from strife with the people; you made me the head of the nations; people whom I had not known served me. 44 As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me; foreigners came cringing to me. 45 Foreigners lost heart and came trembling out of their fortresses. 46 The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation— 47 the God who gave me vengeance and subdued peoples under me, 48 who rescued me from my enemies; yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me; you delivered me from the man of violence." ESV

God, likewise, subdued Jesus' enemies under Him and exalted Him above all. God delivered Jesus from the grave! God made him the "Head of Nations" and Lord of all and gave Him all authority and all power.

David had just begun his Kingship role when he offered mercy to Saul's grandson. Saul had trigged to kill him! Over and over!  
David offered him mercy.

Jesus had just started his "kingship" role - His ministry on earth when he came across this man, paralyzed, angry, depressed. Jesus called him SON. David called Mephibosheth "son"

Two men, decades apart, encountered the love of Father God and it changed them forever.

### 3. **Go Home** (offer grace to the very people who hurt you the most)

Elaborate

What I mean by "Go Home" is to internalize the Gospel and embrace the Great Commission. So many people will go across the ocean but not walk across the room and forgive their parents or their spouse. Countless Christians will go to a new church before they go back to their home church and say the words "Please forgive me"  
It's getting quiet in here lol

"Go Home"

That crippled man did NOT want to go home. That's the last place he wanted to go!

He did NOT want to go look his father in the eyes - the man who should've cared for him, loved him, did fun things with him, taught him how to do things ... His father abandoned him and rejected him and now JESUS has the audacity to tell him to go home and forgive his father?!

He's been avoiding these people his entire life - likely begging for food and money - far from home.

🖱️ Maybe the last place you want to go is the very place Jesus is asking you to go to bring grace and mercy. Home. With family. Our deepest hurts come from those we love most. This is where we have to offer the most grace.

**“Go Home” meant go to the very people who hurt you most.**

For some of you it's your spouse. You're trying your absolute best but they refuse to change, refuse to make effort in the marriage and refuse to accept any responsibility. It will be difficult for you at times but I'm encouraging you to keep loving well. Keep being patient. Keep being Christlike. Keep serving them and then praying that God turns their heart around.

For us to walk fully in our calling and bring the Kingdom of God to the earth like Jesus expects us to - to become Christlike - we have to



### **Walk Humbly**

- Listen more than you speak
- Listen with the aim of understanding not being “right”
- Refuse to be offended
- Pray more asking God for help. \*When you pray, you are reminded of your weakness in light of God's holiness. You're also reminded of OTHERS NEEDS (in addition to your own)

### **Love Mercy**

- Enjoy giving grace. WHEN people (not if) they hurt you forgive them and see their pain
- When they speak negatively of you even tho you've done nothing except love them, show mercy - what God does for them. Be a conduit of Christ's mercy.
- Remind yourself of Gods grace towards you
- Find a way (or place) to serve others and show mercy to them intentionally / consistently

### **Act Justly**

- Romans 9. Truly love people and HATE what is wrong.
- Speak up against sin (disobeying God's Written Word)
- Speak up against injustice (sin that causes harm to others) Jesus gave a voice to the victim and the marginalized. Are you doing that?



**WHO ARE YOU BRINGING TO JESUS?**

You know out of all 12 verses I have a favorite in this story.

Out of every little phrase the Bible gives us to illustrate this story Jesus healing the paralytic, there's one little phrase that is SO powerful. "When Jesus saw *their* faith"

When Jesus saw the faith of those four friends, He responded and He healed this man.

Who are you bringing to Jesus?

Sometimes people get so low that they can't bring themselves to Jesus. They just can't do it. They don't even like God. They don't want to talk to God and you've got to be PERSISTENT in your aim to BRING them to JESUS! People who have walked away from their faith. People who experienced some hurt, they have some anger now that guides their life, they believe now if God is good then God would've stopped xyz from happening and if God isn't good then why serve Him?

Those people are like the paralytic man. They're hurting. They're grieving. They're lost. And They need YOU to bring them to Jesus. They're not coming on their own. Bring them to Easter next week. Bring them to Friend Sunday. Do like these four guys - carry them against their will lol. Make them get in the car and get them to church. =) Most of all, invite them to your house and let them see Jesus in you! YOU are the Body of Christ.

GET UP  
TAKE YOUR MAT  
GO HOME

And if you've had JESUS forgive and restore your heart from one of pain and anger to one of peace and joy, BRING SOMEONE to JESUS next week! It's Easter. Their heart will likely be open and we have plenty of room.