**Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**Wednesday 21 September 2022 – Fall Semester**

**Queens Chapel UMC \* 7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**

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**The Gospel of Luke**

**Luke** **5:17-26**

**(NIV)**

**A Paralytic is Healed:**

 17 One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.

 18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

 19 When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

 20 When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

 21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

 22 Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?

 23 Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?

 24 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”

 25 Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

 26 Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

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**Is the Power of the Lord in Queens Chapel during worship?**

**If “yes,’ give an example**

**If “not” Why is it not there?**

**What would it take for the Power of the Lord to be present in Queens Chapel?**

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**Bible Study Lesson**

**Luke 5:17**

 “One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.

1. Jesus returned home

Mark 2:1-2

 “1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.

 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.”

1. The news about Jesus’ ministry had spread throughout the cities, towns and villages.

1. The “Pharisees and teachers of the law…come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem for the purpose of becoming hostile.
2. Their purpose was to find some type of accusation against Him
* This is the spirit of Satan prepared to attack the ministry of Jesus and those connected to Him.

**The spirit of Satan is permitted:**

 \****To blind the minds of Unbelievers***—**2 Corinthians 4:3-4**

 *3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who*

 *are perishing,*

 *4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do*

 *not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of*

 *Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.*

 \****Contend with the Saints***—**Ephesians 6:12**

 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but*

 *against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the*

 *darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of*

 *wickedness in the heavenly places.*

 \****To lie against the righteous***—**John 8:44**

 *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father*

 *you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and*

 *does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him.*

 *When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is*

 *a liar and the father of it.*

1. **“**And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick.”
2. Jesus had the power to save, heal and forgive

 Acts 10:38

 "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

1. The human heart must be **faithfully-focused** on Jesus Christ in order to receive divine healing.

Matthew 13:53-58

 53 When Jesus had finished telling these stories and illustrations, he left that part of the country.

 54 He returned to Nazareth, his hometown. When he taught there in the synagogue, everyone was amazed and said, “Where does he get this wisdom and the power to do miracles?”

 55 Then they scoffed, “He’s just the carpenter’s son, and we know Mary, his mother, and his brothers—James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas.

 56 All his sisters live right here among us. Where did he learn all these things?”

 57 And they were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.

Then Jesus told them, “A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his own family.”

 58 And so he did only a few miracles there because of their unbelief.

**How many times have we turned a death ear towards converted family members and/or members of our congregation that we felt, were not worthy to serve, teach or preach in God’s Kingdom because of their past lifestyle?**

**Who controls the saving power of Jesus Christ?**

Romans 9:18 (Holman Christian Standard Bible)

 “So then, He shows mercy to those He wants to, and He hardens those He wants to harden.”

**When Jesus Notices Our Faith**

**Luke 5:18-19**

 18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

 19 When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

Mark 2:

 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 Since 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. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

1. Determined faith.

**What is determined faith? Give an example?**

James 1

 2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

1. Persistence, not-taking-no-for-an-answer-no-matter-how-

 many-obstacles-are-in-the-way

1. When Jesus saw their determined faith, he acted on the

 paralytic's behalf

1. Faith compels us to act, to believe that with God anything's

 possible.

 D. It may drive us to do things that other people would consider

 outrageous, like digging a hole through someone's roof.

1. We may need that kind of determined faith if we want God to

 change the course of someone's life.

**When was the last time you believed God for someone who was either sick, needed help or needed Jesus Christ in their lives?**

1. The team efforts of these men were essential to changing the outcome of this man’s life.
2. The same can be the case for executing ministry: Aaron and Hur—Exodus 17:10-12

 10 So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill.

 11 As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning.

 12 When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady til sunset.

 13 So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

1. A team effort adds power to prayer when people come together in agreement—Matthew 18:19

 "Again, I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.”

**What has been your experience in solving problems or doing ministry as a team member in your church?**

**How important is it to work as a team in our current church-culture today?**

**Luke 5:20-21**

 20 When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

 21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

1. When Jesus saw their faith

**Whose faith did Jesus see?**

1. Faith that goes the distance

**Give an example of faith going the distance?**

1. Faith that brings a needy case to Jesus’ attention

**How do we get Jesus’ attention?**

1. When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

**Why did Jesus’ statement,** “Friend, your sins are forgiven.” Arouse the Scribes and Pharisees?

1. Jesus claimed **Deity**

 *“No reliable historical data that any of the founders of the world’s major religions ever claimed to be God, deity, or a comparative concept. In other words, at least no early, reliable writings attest such a claim by these founders on their own behalf. In fact, for several of them, their views are quite opposed to such a claim.”*

*Liberty University Digital Commons link for Pro. Gary R. Habermas research*

* **John 10:30-33**

 30 "I and My Father are one."

 31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.

 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"

 33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

1. 21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”
2. The Scribes and Pharisees were unwilling to admit that Jesus was the Christ, Son of the Living God

**Luke 5:21-22**

 21 The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

 22 Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?

1. Jesus knows our thoughts because he reads our hearts.

Why is this important?

**Matthew 15:18-19**

 18 "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

 19 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemy.

1. Salvation begins in the heart—the heart has to be changed through the power of the Holy Spirit

**Ezekiel 11:19-20**

 19 "Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh,

 20 "that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

Luke 5:23

 Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?

1. Jesus knew it was easier to say “Get up and walk” because:
2. There’s no way of telling if an individual’s “sins have been forgiven”
3. So, Jesus performs a miracle which they could physically see to prove to them that the man’s sins had been forgiven

**Why did Jesus perform miracles?**

* **Miracles were His Credentials**—John 2:19

 “Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

* **Miracles gave Authority to His Words**—Matthew 7:26

 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand”

* **It is part of His nature to perform miracles**—Psalms 77:14

 “You alone work miracles, and you have let nations see your mighty power.”

**Luke 5:24-25**

 24 But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”

 25 Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

 26 Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

1. But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.”
2. The “Son of Man” was emphasizing the Lord’s perfect humanity:
* One who is morally perfect,
* One to whom universal headship has been given
* One who would suffer, bleed, die, and rise from the dead.
1. Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.
2. Praising God is the correct response to a miracle—Psalms 50:23

 “Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; And to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God."

1. Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

**Home Assignment**

 **Read Luke 5:27-35**