

HOW FAR WILL I GO WITH JESUS?

Mark 2:1-12

INTRODUCTION

- A. LK 5:17-26
- B. Times in my life that I vowed to be faithful.
 - 1. When I went into the military.
 - 2. When I got married.
 - 3. When I became a Christian.
- C. There will be times of temptation in our lives to be unfaithful.
- D. Our being faithful to God will give us a home in heaven.
 - 1. MT 25:21, 23.
 - 2. LK 12:42 – Jesus asked a question.
 - 3. 1 CO 4:2.
 - 4. 2 TI 4:1-8.

DISCUSSION

- I. HOW FAR WOULD YOU AND I GO TO BE WITH THE CHRIST? MK 2:1-4.
 - A. The men tore open a roof to get their friend to Jesus.
 - 1. They had no scaffolds, no plywood roof, etc.
 - 2. They broke through the mud and brushwood roof to let him down.
 - 3. These tiles that Luke refers to, LK 5:19, would then be sun-baked mud.
 - 4. Luke wrote to the Romans who knew about Roman tiling of the colonnade/veranda.
 - 5. This was not an easy task.
 - B. Here we see a tremendous desire to get to the Christ.
 - 1. Acts 8:26-40. Cf. RO 10:1; 1 PE 2:2.
 - 2. 2 PE 1:10.
 - 3. Desire to worship – JN 4:24. How often do we miss?
 - 4. Desire for knowledge – 2 TI 2:15 – Bible Classes.
 - 5. Desire for Christian fellowship – 1 JN 1:7 – Youth Devotionals, Snak & Yak.
 - 6. Question: If one will not even participate in the above, “how far will one (you and I) go with Jesus?”
- II. HOW FAR WOULD YOU AND I GO TO HAVE OUR SINS FORGIVEN? MK 2:5-7.
 - A. Why did Jesus pronounce this man’s sins forgiven?
 - 1. Because of His faith.
 - 2. It was a working faith. JA 2:24; cf. JN 6:29.
 - 3. This man desired to be with Jesus. These 4 friends wanted to get him to Jesus.
 - B. How impressed is Jesus with our faith? Have we gone out of our way to show our desire to be with and near Him?
 - 1. MT 8:5-13 (v. 10 – the centurion showed his faith by not even allowing Jesus to go to the sick servant, but just speak and it will be done).
 - 2. MT 9:18-26 (v. 22, the woman who had an issue of blood sought just to touch the clothing of Jesus and she would be healed).
 - 3. MT 15:21-28 (v. 28, the Canaanite woman begged Jesus to heal her daughter, knowing she was despised by the Jews).
 - 4. The faith of these impressed Jesus.
 - C. Questions.
 - 1. Would you and I forsake our families and friends to have our sins forgiven?
 - a. It may be necessary for you to disagree with them.

- b. It may be necessary for you to look at “how” you were saved.
 - c. It may be.....
 - 2. Would you demand a different work schedule in order to be able to attend worship?
 - 3. Would you...?
- III. HOW FAR WOULD YOU AND I GO TO RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS FOUND IN JESUS? (MK 2:8-12).
 - A. These men came seeking a physical blessing and received a spiritual blessing.
 - B. EP 1:3-8 – all spiritual blessings are in Christ.
 - 1. Blessings from heaven – v. 3.
 - 2. Holy and blameless – v. 4.
 - 3. Adopted children of God – v. 5.
 - 4. Accepted in Christ – v. 6.
 - 5. Redemption and forgiveness – v. 7.
 - 6. Wisdom and prudence – v. 8.

CONCLUSION

- A. Has our faith make itself known to the Christ?
- B. Has our faith stood out for some reason?
- C. How far will I go:
 - 1. To see Jesus?
 - 2. To have the forgiveness of sins?
 - 3. To have the blessings found in Christ?
- D. How far have I gone already to please the Christ?