



Word on Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor Kenneth Reece

October 7, 2026

FAITH THAT BREAKS THROUGH THE ROOF

Mark 2:1-12

A Few Messages from Mark's Gospel Part II

Mark wrote for a suffering, uncertain church that needed real, verifiable proof of who Jesus is, not just a story to admire from a distance. In a packed house in Capernaum, four friends dug through a roof to get a paralyzed man to Jesus. Before the story ends, Jesus claims the authority to forgive sins and proves it in front of everyone.

Jesus has the authority to forgive, and He proves it with changed lives.

Whose faith is carrying me, and whom am I willing to carry to Jesus?

EVIDENCE FOR A CHURCH UNDER PRESSURE

Mark 2:1-2

The house was so packed there was no room left, not even at the door. This is the first of five conflict stories (Mark 2:1 through 3:6), each one fresh evidence of who Jesus is.

Why does evidence matter so much when faith is under pressure?

I. FRIENDS WHO CARRIED HIM

Mark 2:3-5

The friends dug through the roof and lowered the man to Jesus. Mark 2:5 says, "When Jesus saw their faith..." The paralyzed man never says a word.

Somebody else's _____ can carry you to Jesus when you can't carry yourself.

They need _____ instead of condemnation, and _____ instead of preaching.

Galatians 6:2 • James 5:16 • Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

For the believer: Real love does not leave you lying where it found you. It carries you when you cannot carry yourself.



Why do you think Jesus responded to the friends' faith?

Who has been "on your roof" at some point in your life?

Whom am I willing to carry to Jesus this week?

II. FORGIVENESS THAT CONFRONTED HIM

Mark 2:5-10

Jesus spoke forgiveness before healing. The scribes asked, "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" They were right about God, and wrong about who stood before them.

Jesus ties what you cannot _____ to what you cannot _____.

Not a payment _____, but a complete _____.

Isaiah 43:25 • Psalm 103:2-3 • Daniel 7:13-14 • 1 John 1:9

For the believer: You may not have a receipt in your hand, but you have evidence in your life.

Why do you think Jesus addressed the man's sins before his legs?

What evidence of God's forgiveness can you point to in your own life?

Where have I been waiting to feel forgiven instead of trusting what Jesus has spoken?

III. FREEDOM THAT FOLLOWED

Mark 2:11-12

The man rose, picked up his mat, and walked out in front of everyone. The crowd was amazed and glorified God.

The same bed that once _____ him, he now _____.

The clearest evidence that grace has spoken is that you are no longer _____ where guilt left you.

John 8:36 • 2 Corinthians 5:17 • Psalm 40:2-3



For the believer: Don't hide the mat you were carried in on. Pick it up and let your life testify.

Why do you think the man carried his mat out instead of leaving it behind?

What "mat" from your past has God turned into a testimony?

What would it look like for me to pick up my mat and walk this week?

FROM CAPERNAUM TO THE CROSS

Mark 14:61-64

The charge of "blasphemy" whispered in Capernaum became the charge that sent Jesus to the cross. But the grave couldn't hold Him. He was not blaspheming. He was telling the truth.

TAKING IT HOME THIS WEEK

Pick one to practice before we meet again:

- ☐ Carry. Name one person who needs to be carried to Jesus. Pray for them daily and take one practical step toward them.
- ☐ Confess. Read Psalm 103:1-12 each day this week and thank God for forgiveness already spoken.
- ☐ Testify. Share with one person what God has brought you out of.

Memory Verse: Mark 2:10 says, "But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

CLOSING WORD

Four friends carried him in. Jesus forgave him. He walked out carrying his mat.

The same Jesus who got this man off his mat got up out of the grave.

Pick up your mat and walk.