

Faith and Friendship: Lessons from the Man Lowered Through the Roof



Explore faith, perseverance, and community
through the story of the man lowered through the
roof, unveiling deep spiritual truths.

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Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study plan focused on faith, friendship, and God's power as seen in the story of the man lowered through the roof. This account found in *Mark 2:1-12* illustrates how faith and community can break barriers and unlock divine healing and forgiveness.

Imagine being part of a crowd so large that a man's friends go to extraordinary lengths just to bring him to Jesus. Their faith moved them to innovate — literally roofing a house — just to get their friend to Jesus' presence. **This passage beautifully captures the essence of persistent faith and the power of intercession.**

Over the next seven days, we will walk through various facets of this story to understand what it means to believe deeply, to support others in their spiritual journey, and to witness God's miraculous power. Each day will guide you to reflect, pray, and journal your insights.

Prepare to be inspired by faith that doesn't give up, friendship that crosses barriers, and the profound compassion of Jesus who not only heals physical ailments but forgives sins, offering restoration on every level.

May this study encourage you to be that kind of friend, that kind of believer, and to experience Jesus' transformative power in your life and the lives of those around you.





Day 1: ✂ Faith That Breaks Barriers



Day 1: ✂ Faith That Breaks Barriers

Your Verse

Mark 2:1-5 NIV - "And when he saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Hebrews 11:1 - "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."*
- *James 2:17 - "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."*



Day 1: ✂ Faith That Breaks Barriers

Devotional: Bold Faith Breaks Down Barriers

Faith often requires bold action. In Mark 2, we see friends who refuse to let obstacles stand between a paralyzed man and Jesus. Their faith propelled them to dismantle a roof just to reach Jesus, illustrating faith that overcomes barriers.

This story challenges us to examine our own faith — is it passive or active? True faith moves us to take courageous steps for the sake of others and ourselves. Sometimes, faith requires creativity and persistence in the face of opposition or difficulty.

Moreover, Jesus sees *their* faith, not just the faith of the paralyzed man. This inclusion reminds us that faith expressed through community support is powerful. Our faith impacts not just our circumstances but those around us too.

Today, consider where God is asking you to step out in faith boldly, even if it means tearing down some barriers in your life or in someone else's.



Reflect and Apply

1. What barriers have you encountered that require faith to overcome?

2. How can you support others in their faith journey with practical actions?

3. In what ways does your faith inspire courageous steps today?



Day 1: ✂ Faith That Breaks Barriers

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time your faith pushed you beyond comfort.

2. Describe obstacles you need to break through in your spiritual walk.

3. Journal prayers requesting courage to act faithfully for others.



Day 1: 🧰 Faith That Breaks Barriers

Prayer for Today

Lord, grant me **bold and active faith** that does not shy away from obstacles but seeks creative ways to honor You and help others. Strengthen me to be persistent like those friends who lowered their friend through the roof, trusting that *You* can heal and restore beyond expectations. Help my faith inspire action and trust in Your timing and power. In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏





Day 2: 💛 The Power of Friendship in Faith



Day 2: 🧡 The Power of Friendship in Faith

Your Verse

Mark 2:3-4 NIV - "Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 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."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Ecclesiastes 4:9 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."*
- *John 15:13 - "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."*



Day 2: 🧡 The Power of Friendship in Faith

Devotional: Friendship Amplifies Faith's Reach

Friendship is a powerful conduit for faith. The friends in this passage were willing to go above and beyond—not simply metaphorically but literally—to see their friend restored. Their persistence and love reflect the depth that true friendship can have in spiritual transformation.

True faith communities don't just encourage belief—they act together, confronting challenges for the sake of their loved ones' wholeness. This story serves as a powerful reminder that we are not called to walk alone. Being part of a community and support system strengthens spiritual growth and healing.

We are challenged to ask ourselves: Who in my life needs this kind of loyal, faith-driven friendship? How can I be that faithful friend who carries the burdens, both physical and spiritual, of those around me?

Friendship combined with faith can tear through hardships and bring new life.



Day 2: 🧡 The Power of Friendship in Faith

Reflect and Apply

1. How have faithful friends impacted your spiritual walk?

2. What can you do to strengthen your friendship with those in need?

3. In what ways can your community break barriers together for healing?



Day 2: 🧡 The Power of Friendship in Faith

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a friend who has encouraged your faith.

2. List ways you can be a supportive friend like those in the story.

3. Reflect on moments when friendship helped you overcome challenges.



Day 2: 🧡 The Power of Friendship in Faith

Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for the gift of friendship that pushes us towards healing and wholeness. Help me to be a faithful friend—persistent, loving, and bold—carrying others with the same passion those friends demonstrated. May our relationships be rooted in grace and strength to overcome obstacles by faith.

Amen. 🧡💖🙏





Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God



Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God

Your Verse

Mark 2:4 NIV - "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."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 7:7 - "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."*
- *Isaiah 58:12 - "Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."*



Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God

Devotional: Tearing Down Walls to Find Jesus

Sometimes approaching God requires breaking through walls—literal or figurative. The friends in Mark 2 didn't wait politely or give up; instead, they created a new way to bring their friend to Jesus. This action symbolizes persistence and determination in faith.

Walls can be anything that blocks our access to Jesus—pride, fear, distractions, or societal expectations. The question becomes: Are we willing to break through these walls with prayer, community, and faith?

God honors those who seek Him relentlessly and creatively. The story encourages believers to look beyond limitations and obstacles. Through faith-driven action, what seems impossible becomes possible.

Today, reflect on what walls might be between you and a deeper experience with God, and pray for courage and faith to tear them down.



Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God

Reflect and Apply

1. What 'walls' are blocking your relationship with God?

2. How can you creatively overcome spiritual obstacles?

3. Are you persistent in seeking God, even when access seems difficult?



Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God

Journaling Prompts

1. Identify barriers to intimacy with God and how to remove them.

2. Journal about a time you saw God open a new path for you.

3. Write prayers asking God to help you break down personal walls.



Day 3: 🏠 Breaking Walls to Reach God

Prayer for Today

Lord, break down every wall that stands between me and You. Give me the faith and creativity to seek You relentlessly, even when obstacles seem insurmountable. Help me be persistent in prayer and community so that I may experience Your healing and presence deeply. Amen. 🏠 🙏 ✨



Day 4: 💖 Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness



Day 4: ❤️ Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness

Your Verse

Mark 2:5 NIV - "When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'"

Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 103:12 - "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."*
- *1 John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."*



Day 4: ❤️ Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness

Devotional: Healing Begins with Forgiveness

This passage reminds us that Jesus' power goes beyond physical healing; He offers forgiveness and restoration of the soul. Forgiveness is the foundation of true healing, and Jesus addresses the man's deepest need first—sin's burden.

Often, we focus on external struggles while spiritual brokenness is the root of pain. Jesus demonstrates compassion by first declaring forgiveness, signaling the restoration of relationship with God.

We are invited to bring our whole selves, including our hurts and mistakes, to Jesus. His invitation is not just to be cured but renewed completely. Trust in Jesus' compassion provides freedom from shame and opens the way to new life.

Reflect today on your need for forgiveness and accept the healing that only Jesus can bring.



Day 4: ❤️ Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness

Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' forgiveness impact your view of yourself?

2. Are there areas where you need to accept His forgiveness fully?

3. How can knowing you're forgiven affect your daily walk with God?



Day 4: ❤️ Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about what forgiveness means in your life.

2. Reflect on burdens you want to release to Jesus today.

3. Journal prayers asking for help to receive and extend forgiveness.



Day 4: ❤️ Jesus' Compassion and Forgiveness

Prayer for Today

Gracious Jesus, thank You for Your unfailing compassion and for forgiving my sins. Help me to receive this forgiveness fully and allow it to heal the deepest parts of me. Teach me to forgive others as You have forgiven me so that I may walk in freedom and love. Amen. ❤️ 🙏 🕊️



Day 5: ✨ Witnessing God's Miraculous Power



Day 5: ✨ Witnessing God's Miraculous Power

Your Verse

Mark 2:11-12 NIV – "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all, praising God."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Luke 18:27 – "Jesus replied, 'What is impossible with man is possible with God.'"*
- *Ephesians 3:20 – "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."*



Day 5: ✨ Witnessing God's Miraculous Power

Devotional: God's Power Changes Everything

Jesus' healing of the paralyzed man is a powerful demonstration of God's miraculous ability. When Jesus commands the man to walk, the response is immediate and undeniable, showing divine authority and power.

Miracles serve not only to restore but also to inspire faith and bring glory to God. This man's healing became a public testimony to Jesus' identity and compassion.

We are invited to trust in God's power, even when circumstances look hopeless. Our God is the same—able to do more than we could ever imagine, transforming lives and situations.

Reflect on the miracles God has worked in your life or in the lives of others, and trust Him for those that are yet to come.



Reflect and Apply

1. What miracles have you witnessed in your life or community?

2. How does God's power shape your faith during difficult times?

3. Are you open to seeing God work in unexpected ways around you?



Day 5: ✨ Witnessing God's Miraculous Power

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time God worked powerfully in your life.

2. List areas where you want to see God's miraculous power.

3. Journal prayers inviting God to display His power in your life.



Day 5: ✨ Witnessing God's Miraculous Power

Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for Your limitless power that works miracles in seen and unseen ways. Strengthen my faith to believe in Your ability to restore, heal, and transform. Help me to be a witness of Your goodness and share Your glory with boldness. Amen. ✨ 🙏 💪





Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking



Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking

Your Verse

Luke 11:9 NIV – "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 4:2 – "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."*
- *Philippians 4:6 – "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."*



Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking

Devotional: Persisting in Prayer with Faith

The friends' persistent effort to bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus parallels the nature of persistent prayer. They didn't give up when the door was closed by the crowd; instead, they found another way.

Prayer is our spiritual action of faith, continuously seeking God's presence and intervention, even when answers take time.

Persistence in prayer demonstrates trust and dependence on God. It shows that we value His timing and power over our own limitations.

Today, be encouraged to develop a prayer life marked by dedication, hope, and persistence. Trust that God hears and responds according to His perfect will.



Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking

Reflect and Apply

1. How persistent is your prayer life when faced with delays?

2. What encourages you to keep knocking and seeking God?

3. In what areas could persistent prayer deepen your faith?



Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about prayers you've persistently prayed and their outcomes.

2. List areas you want to focus persistent prayers on.

3. Journal a prayer commitment for consistent seeking of God.



Day 6: 🙏 Prayer as Persistent Seeking

Prayer for Today

Lord, teach me to be persistent in prayer, faithful in seeking Your guidance and intervention. Help me trust in Your timing and listen attentively to Your voice. May my prayer life draw me closer to You and deepen my faith every day. Amen. 🙏👉📖





Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith

Your Verse

Mark 2:12 NIV - "He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all, praising God."

Supporting Scriptures

- *James 2:26 - "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."*
- *2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"*



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith

Devotional: Faith in Action: Living Renewed

The healed man's immediate action—rising and walking—illustrates the natural response to encountering God's grace. Faith that transforms motivates us to live differently, praising God openly and embracing new life.

Renewed faith invites us to a lifestyle of worship, service, and testimony that glorifies God.

What you have experienced in your heart should overflow into real life changes. Just as the man took up his mat and walked, we are called to carry our story boldly, showing others the power of Christ's healing.

Reflect on how your faith has renewed you and consider ways to live it out actively today and beyond.



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith

Reflect and Apply

1. How is your faith prompting you to act and live differently?

2. What changes has God made in your life that you can share?

3. How can your story encourage and inspire others in their faith?



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about how your faith has transformed your daily life.

2. Plan specific actions you can take to live out your renewed faith.

3. Journal prayers dedicating your life as a testimony to God's work.



Day 7: ✨ Living Out Renewed Faith

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me live out the faith You have renewed in my heart. Empower me to be a bold witness of Your grace and love, praising You in actions and words. May my life reflect the transformation only You can bring, inspiring others to seek You. Amen. ✨ 🙏 🤲





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