

Our Greatest Need

Luke 5:17-26



When we are going through deep struggles, many different needs arise...

physical, emotional, mental, financial, relational... but the most important is **our spiritual needs!**

Luke 5:31-32 →³¹ Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, **but sinners to repentance.**”

Overview

Our Greatest Need - Luke 5:17-26

Background on Luke

- i. The Faith** of the Paralytic's Friends. (V 17-19)
- ii. The Forgiveness** of the Paralytic's Sins (V. 20)
- iii. The Full Meaning** of Jesus Healing (V. 21-26)

Luke 5:17-26

17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.

18 And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, **19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.**

Luke 5:17-26

20 And when he saw their faith, he said, **“Man, your sins are forgiven you.”** 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, **“Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”**

22 When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts?”

23 Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?

Luke 5:17-26

24 But that **you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.”

25 And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. 26 And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, **“We have seen extraordinary things today.”**

Background

The Gospel of Luke was written to Jews but **uniquely for Gentile believers**. Luke wanted to lay out an **orderly account** of the events that happened (Luke 1:3-4)

*³ With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too **decided to write an orderly account for you**, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ **so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.***

Background

Luke 5 is about **establishing the Authority of Jesus.**

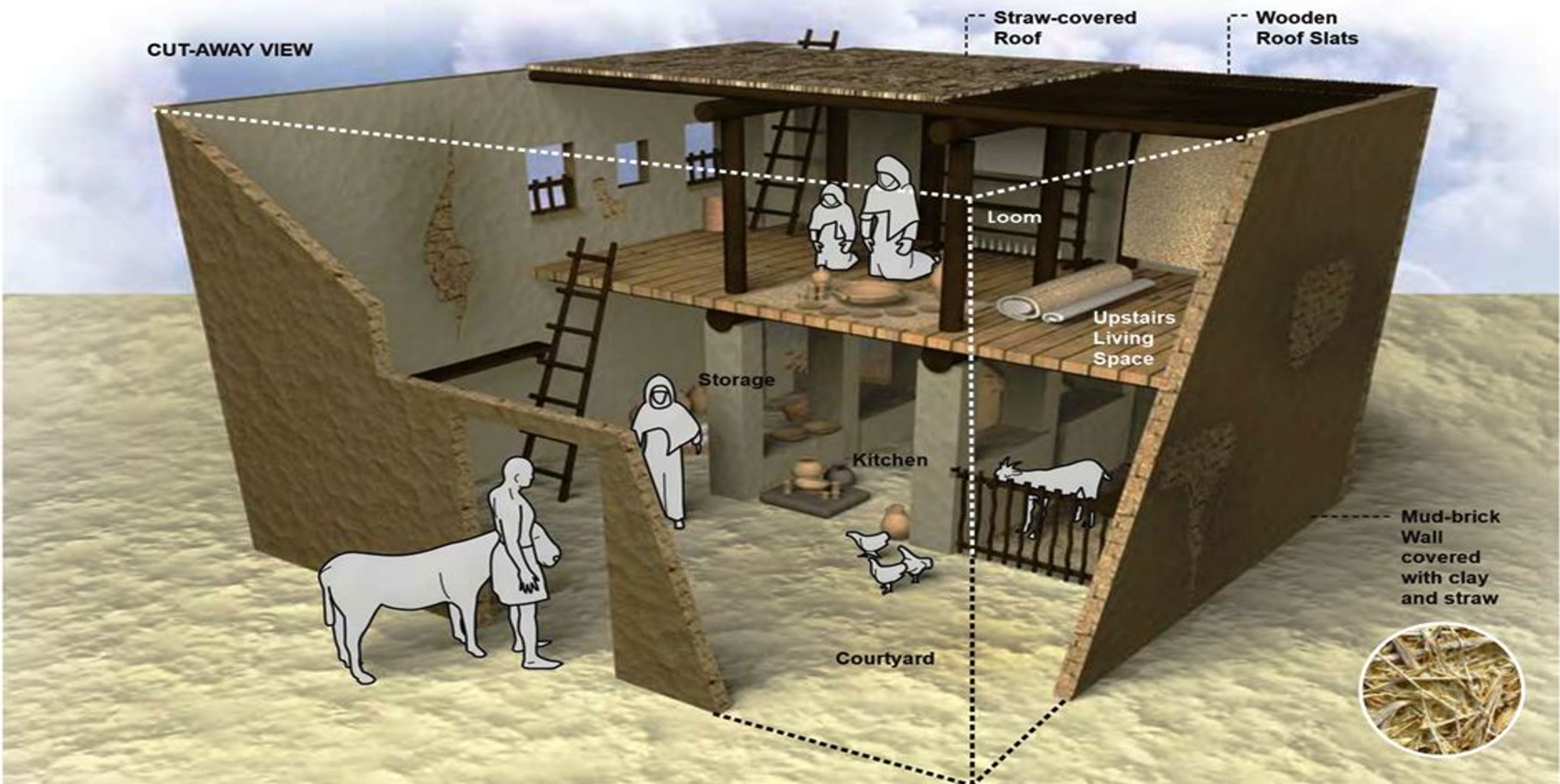
“¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick”

- The Pharisees and Teachers of the Law’s skepticism

I. The Faith of the Friends (v 17-20)

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.

The Paralytic is **an Outcast**

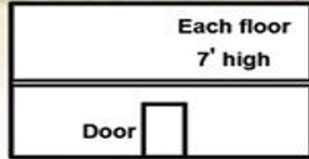


First-Century Israelite House

The homes of poor families were small and plain. They were built of rough stone (or mud-brick) walls and roofs of woven branches covered with clay. Living spaces were used for household work—cooking and weaving. At night, the family's domestic animals were housed in the lower level.

Size comparison:
First-century houses were smaller than modern double-wide trailers and accommodated an entire family.

Height
15'



Width 24', Length 24'

Double wide mobile home



Israelite home (front view)



I. The Faith of the Friends (v 17-20)

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.

The Paralytic is **an Outcast**

Jesus saw the **FAITH of this man's friends!!**

What type of **community** do you surround yourself with?

Do you **pray for your friends** and **do your friends pray for you?**



II. The Forgiveness of the Paralytic's Sins

20 And when he saw their faith, he said, “**Man, your sins are forgiven you.**” 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “**Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?**”

This is the first instance that the Forgiveness of Sin is mentioned in the Gospel of Luke

The Pharisees were **angry and defensive** → They had two great questions!

II. The Forgiveness of the Paralytic's Sins

22 When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?”

24 **But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins**—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.”

- Jesus asked **an even more challenging question**
- Jesus has come to not just heal, but to **forgive sins.**

III. The Full Meaning of Jesus Healing

1. The Son of Man **has Authority** to forgive sins
2. The **Ultimate Purpose of the Son of Man** is to heal our broken relationship, starting with God and Man.
3. Jesus has come to not just heal, but **to forgive sins.**

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS
CHRIST IS ONLY POWERFUL IF
WE KNOW WHAT WE ARE
BEING SAVED FROM



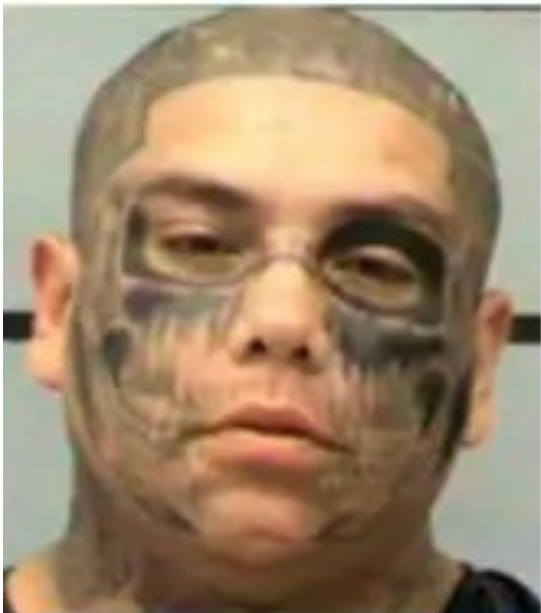
IV



JUNE 2013



AUGUST 2015



SEPTEMBER 2015



FEBRUARY 2016



MARCH 2017

“If you understand that **you are a child of Wrath...** you do not need good advice, **you need Good News.**”

– Pastor Voddie Baucham

Conclusion:

The Greatest Need... Forgiveness of Sins

- Jesus came to address mankind's greatest problem -- **A broken relationship with God.** We all need God's forgiveness.

→ **Be Desperate and Draw Near!**

Luke 5:32 → I have not come to call the righteous, **but sinners to repentance.**"

Conclusion:

2 Ways to Engage God when we are Hurting:

- 1. Seek God** and **fight** for time with Him (Repent and Confess) Psalm 51:10-12
- 2. Engage your Community** to pray on your behalf (James 5:13-16)