

"Carried By Four"

⇒ **Text:** Mark 2:1-12

⇒ **Introduction:**

- Capernaum had now become our Lord's "Own City" and was to be His base of operation through the Galilean Ministry.
- Much like our Church ought to be our base of operation for the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We have a miracle of physical healing which is a picture of Bible Salvation.
- Physical Healing pictures Spiritual Healing.
- Notice with me 4 individuals that stand out in this part of God's Word:
 - V-1 - He (Jesus) - the Savior
 - V-3 - Sick of the Palsy – Sinner
 - V-3 - The Four - Soul Winners
 - V-4-6 Religion Scribes – Skeptics
- The Lord uses this physical miracle to illustrate the new birth and our privilege to be a part of bringing sinners to His presence.
- Notice this story with me today, please:

⇒ **I. IT WAS NOISED THAT HE (JESUS) WAS IN THE HOUSE**

- (Mark 2:1) "**And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house.**"

- A. It was NOISED (reported by) these people that Christ was in the house.
- B. This is the business of God's people!
- C. We should be making noise about Christ:
 - 1. School
 - 2. Office
 - 3. Neighborhood
 - 4. Family
 - 5. Everywhere
- D. We should be reporting Jesus to EVERYONE, everywhere!

⇒ **II. THE RESULT OF THE WITNESS OF THESE PEOPLE WAS**

- (Mark 2:2a) "**And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door**"
 - A. Straightway - immediately many were gathered together.
 - B. Why were they there?
 - 1. Someone had noised that Jesus was in the house
 - 2. Because someone had invited them to Come & See!
 - C. They followed the plan of God for soul winning:
 - (Luke 14:23) "And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."
 - D. Now, we can we can see why the house was filled in verse 22

⇒ **III. HE (JESUS) PREACHED THE WORD UNTO THEM**

- (Mark 2:2) ". . . **and he preached the word unto them.**"
 - A. Preaching was the center of attraction at this gathering.
 - B. This crowd was not gathered to be entertained, but that Christ might preach unto them.
 - C. This should and must always be our purpose in filling the House of God.
 - D. The center of all we do at EBC must always be **PREACHING, PREACHING and PREACHING.**
 - (Rom 1:16) "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

⇒ **IV. BORNE (CARRIED BY FOUR) - SOUL WINNERS**

- (Mark 2:3) "**And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.**"
- A. This is the way it ought to be in bringing sinners to Christ.
 - 1. They cared about this man.
 - They had compassion.
 - They knew he needed to be **SAVED.**
 - They wanted to do something about it.
 - 2. They went and got him and brought him to Jesus.
 - We need saints who will go out and bring the lost to the services of our church in order that they might be **SAVED!**

- 3. They cooperated with each other.
 - These 4 men all worked together to bring this one man to Christ.
- 4. They worked as a team for the salvation of this man.
 - No credit sought.
- 5. They had FAITH . . .
 - (Mark 2:5) "**When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.**"
 - Jesus is looking for saints that have enough faith to bring the lost to hear His message.
- 6. They were not easily discouraged. . .
 - (Mark 2:4) "**And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.**"
 - a. Willing to pay any cost to see him saved.
 - b. Uncovered and broke roof - out of their pockets.
- 7. They were rewarded with seeing their friend SAVED
 - (Mark 2:5) "**When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.**"

⇒ **V. WHEN PEOPLE GET SAVED, THE RELIGIOUS WILL ALWAYS**

QUESTION THE RESULTS

- **Read Mark 2:6-12**

- A. They don't ever win souls, they just steal away the weak sheep from the fold.
- B. They therefore, will just set around and criticize anyone that is winning souls.
- C. They are still around today questioning soul winning because they won't do it.
- D. Soul winners are still needed today.
- E. Will you be a part of the four?

⇒ **CONCLUSION:**

- **Read Psalm 126:5-6**