

Dear Friends,

"When Jesus saw their faith...."
Mark 2:5 (NIV)

On Sunday we reflected on the story found in Mark about the four friends who rip through a roof to get their friend to Jesus. It is a beautiful story and the thing that stands out is how Jesus possesses the ability not only to recognize the need for forgiveness, but in the story Jesus has the ability to recognize faith. The faith of friends.

We don't know a whole lot about these four. Mark does not go into great detail about them. We can infer they know how to tear through carpentry. Was this the last ditch effort? Hail Mary? They had grown weary of seeing their friend suffer? Whatever the case they put their faith on the line, they put everything at the feet of Jesus. These friends are brave, risk takers, determined, creative, and together have built up enough faith to do something that no one had seen before.

Which makes the story all the more beautiful. Perhaps you have a story like this.

Think of the friends who have carried you to God. Put their faith on the line for you bearing the burden you have, supporting you when you felt paralized with grief, overcome with sorrow, sidelined with illness, ground down in guilt.

Perhaps you are being called to help carry someone to Jesus. Start right now with prayer and let God take care of the rest.

## Blessings,

Pastor John

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