



Raise the Roof: For The Broken | Discussion Questions

SERMON RECAP

What does it truly mean to sacrifice for something greater than ourselves? In this week's message, Jacob Bales explored the biblical story of four determined friends who literally tore through a roof to bring their paralyzed companion to Jesus. Through their remarkable example of faith-driven sacrifice, Jacob challenged us to consider how far we're willing to go to bring others to Christ. He emphasized that Jesus sees beyond our physical actions to the spiritual conviction of our hearts.

GET STARTED

- The holiday season is almost here. **Have you ever gone on a quest to hunt down and search for a gift for someone? If so, share a story.**

TAKE IT IN

- **What encouraged and/or challenged you from the message this week? Why?**

TALK IT OVER

Read Mark 2:1-12

- The four friends in the story went to extreme lengths to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus. **What stands out to you about the determination of the four friends, and how does their faith challenge or inspire you? What are some obstacles that might prevent us from bringing people to Jesus today?**
- In the sermon, Jacob talked about sacrifice being pleasing to God when it comes from genuine faith. **How can we ensure our acts of service and giving come from authentic faith rather than just going through the motions?**
- Jesus saw beyond the physical need to address the spiritual need first, even though that wasn't what the man came for. **What does this reveal about our greatest needs? In what areas of your life might you be focusing on physical solutions when there are deeper spiritual needs to address?**

- Jesus cares about physical aspects of our lives because He cares about our hearts and spiritual condition. The sermon emphasized that physical issues can be spiritual opportunities. **How can viewing challenges through this lens change the way we approach difficulties in our lives?**
- In Mark 2:12, the people were amazed at what Jesus did and praised God saying, “we have never seen anything like this.” **What does it mean to be truly amazed by God's work, and why might we sometimes miss seeing God's amazing works in our lives? When was the last time you were genuinely amazed by something God did in your life, and how did it impact your faith?**
- Sacrifice can include time, comfort, money, reputation, and physical labor. **What are some practical ways we can sacrifice to bring others to Jesus in our daily lives?**
- The paralyzed man would not have made it to Jesus without his friends. In fact, Jesus responded to their faith (v. 5). **How can our faith be visible to others, and what impact might that have on those around us? Who do you need to intercede for in prayer and action? In what ways can our group intercede for you in prayer and action?**

LIVE IT OUT

The story of the four friends in Mark 2:1–12 shows how determination and faith can lead us to bringing others to Jesus. Sacrifice, whether time, comfort, or resources, reveals our faith in action. Visible faith can influence those around us. Reflect back on the final question. Who do you need to intercede for in prayer and action? Maybe you need to help guide someone to Jesus. Maybe you need to help guide someone into a deeper relationship with Him. In both cases, you may face challenges. Don't forget, challenges are opportunities to see God work in unexpected ways. Pray over the final discussion question and go live out Mark 2:1-12 with the people God has placed in your life.

MEMORIZE

“When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Mark 2:5

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, inspire us with the faith and determination of the four friends in Mark 2, so that we may overcome any obstacles in bringing others to Jesus. Help us to offer our sacrifices from a place of genuine faith, and open our eyes to see the spiritual opportunities within our challenges. May our lives reflect Your love and grace, drawing others closer to You. Amen.