



The Cause

community church

P.O. Box 9727, Brea, CA 92822-9727

tel: 909.592.2059 | fax: 909.592.0795 | web: www.faithinoc.com

“Sharing Life Together”

Gabbing about Life (Icebreaker)

Who was your best friend in Junior High school? What do you remember first about that person?

Reading from the Book of Life (the Bible)

Mark 2:1-12

Grappling with Life’s Issues (Questions)

Mark 2:1-12 is a story of four men who carried a paralytic to Jesus, going to the extreme measure of cutting a hole in the roof in order to drop this man close to Jesus. The commitment and desire of these men created the opportunity for the paralytic to see Jesus. They brought Him into Jesus’ presence and Jesus did the rest.

As I read this story two things stand out. First, it is extremely important to have friends who can carry us from time to time. You need people who are willing to walk through life with you, people who will drop their burdens to help carry yours. What are some practical ways in which you can help carry another’s burden?

Second, I am challenged by this story to make an opening so that my friend, neighbor or coworker can see Jesus. This may be as simple as opening up my house for a meal or a quick word of encouragement, but the most impacting way is opening up your life with them and revealing who you are and what God has done and is doing in your life. When you do that, you are making an opening for your friend, neighbor or coworker to see Jesus in the midst of everything that goes on. When was the last time you were like the four and carried another person to Jesus?

Final Thought: While it is easy to revel in the miraculous healing, the heart of the issue is that Jesus forgave the paralytic’s sins. Heading there that night there were four men carrying a paralytic. Going home that night there were five men with one carrying a mat and ready to start fresh in life. What area do you need to start fresh in life?

Praying through Life’s Challenges

Join together in praying that each member might find the strength and resolve to carry others to Jesus and the humility to allow others to carry you to Jesus.

“For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world...”

John 18:37 (NKJV)