**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. July 16, 2023**

**Jesus Heals And Reveals His Identity**

Matthew 9:1-8

**Key Truth**: Because Jesus is God in the flesh, He alone has the authority and ability to forgive our sins.

**The Actions Of Four Courageous Friends:**

1. They were determined to get their friend to Jesus. Mark 2:1-5

2. Their love for their friend and faith in Jesus was

 demonstrated in their actions.

**The Ignorance Of The Scribes:**

1. They accused Jesus of the deadly sin of blasphemy!

2. They understood that Jesus was declaring to be God by

 saying He forgave sins.

**The Loving And Merciful Savior:**

1. Jesus understood that forgiveness of sins is what the man

 desperately needed.

2. Jesus demonstrated by physically healing the man His

 spiritual identity.

3. Jesus made the claim to be God throughout His teaching

 ministry. John 5:17-18, John 8:57-58, Mark 14:61-65

4. Christianity stands out above other religions because we

 believe Jesus is God! Philippians 2:5-11

**We Learn:**

1. Jesus desires to forgive us of our sins.

2. Jesus is worthy of our praise, obedience, and worship

 because He is God our Savior.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Come to Jesus for forgiveness of sins! Go tell others about Jesus, love, grace, and mercy.

**Food For Thought:**

If you found yourself in a crisis and could call on four people, who would you call and why?

When has someone gone above and beyond your expectations to help you when you were in need?

Read Matthew 9:1-2: Where do you see people in need within your community? What kinds of needs exist in your community? How do you typically respond to those needs?

Is it easier for you to recognize physical needs or spiritual needs in the lives of people around you? Why is that?

Will you commit to bringing people to Jesus by sharing your faith and inviting them to church? If so, write down four names of those you want to share Jesus with, and begin praying for them this week:

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