




WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH



Faith *in* Action

LUKE 5:15-26

Pastor Mike Holloway



Luke 5:16-26

- 16 So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.
- 17 Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.
- 18 Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him.

Luke 5:16-26

- 19 And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus.
- 20 When He saw their faith, He said to him, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”
- 21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”
- 22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, “Why are you reasoning in your hearts?

- 23 Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise up and walk’?
- 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the man who was paralyzed, “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.”
- 25 Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.
- 26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things today!”

“Fame vs. Fellowship: The Priority of Prayer”

- **So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. Luke 5:16**
- “Great multitudes came...” but He withdrew
- Popularity is not purpose
- Ministry demand ≠ divine direction
- Prayer is not optional—it is sustaining

“Fame vs. Fellowship: The Priority of Prayer”

- If the Son of God needed prayer, how much more us?
- Withdrawal is not weakness—it is wisdom
- Spiritual power flows from communion, not crowds
- **Challenge leaders:** Are you driven by need or led by God?
- Develop discipline of intentional withdrawal

“The Power of the Lord Was Present”

- there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by.. Vs 17**
- Right environment ≠ right heart
- Religious leaders present but resistant
- The presence of power does not guarantee participation
- Power was present—but who accessed it?

“The Power of the Lord Was Present”

- Jesus is the Center of divine power
- Not ritual, not law—Christ Himself
- **Application:**
- You can sit in church and still miss God
- Examine: Do I come to observe or to receive?

Paralyzed...

- Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed.. Vs 18
- Spiritual Paralysis – Inability
- Sin – Cripples
- Sin distorts purpose
- You were created to walk with God—but sin cripples your ability to do so

Sin disables us from functioning as we were created—to walk in righteousness.

Intercessory Faith

- ...they went up on the housetop.. Vs.19
- This is about active, visible, sacrificial faith—and intercessory faith.
- Realize when you need help!
- Faith is demonstrated, not just declared
- Their actions proved belief
- True faith overcomes obstacles
- Crowds didn't stop them

Intercessory Faith

- Faith can be intercessory
- “He saw their faith”
- Jesus addresses the deeper need first: sin
- “Your sins are forgiven”
- Application:
- Are you bringing people to Jesus or just talking about Him?
- Faith that doesn’t act is not biblical faith

Power to Forgive Sins...

- ...Man, your sins are forgiven you.”
- Who can forgive sins but God
- Their theology was right but their conclusion was wrong
- But when Jesus perceived their thoughts
- Jesus shows his divine omniscience

Purpose of Miracles

- Miracles authenticate identity, not entertain crowds
- Healing proves authority to forgive
- The greatest miracle is not physical—it is spiritual
- Forgiveness > healing