

Go Deep

Luke 5:17-26

1. *Read Luke 5:17-26.* What does this story add to our understanding of Jesus and his mission on earth?
2. *Read 5:17.* What does Luke mean by mentioning that “the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal”? Was it not always with Jesus? (see Mark 6:5).
3. *Read 5:18-20.* What do these verses tell us about the men who carried the paralytic? Why are they a good example for us? What can we know/guess about the paralytic from this passage?
4. How does Jesus deal with interruptions here and other places in the Gospels? How do you deal with interruptions?
5. Why does Jesus forgive the man’s sins? Is that what the man and his friends wanted Jesus to do?
6. Is faith necessary to be forgiven by God?
7. The word forgiveness in Greek also means “release.” What is the relation between being forgiven and being released?
8. *Read 5:21.* Why did they think it blasphemy for Jesus to forgive sins?
9. *Read 5:22.* Which is easier to say?
10. *Read 5:23.* Why does Jesus call himself the “Son of Man” here and what does that have to do with having authority to forgive sins? (See Daniel 7:13-14).
11. Does Jesus have authority to forgive someone who has sinned against you?
12. Can you forgive someone who does not want to be forgiven or is unrepentant?
13. *Read John 20:21-23.* Are these verses for us or only for the 11 apostles?
14. *Read 5:25-26.* Jesus’ words and actions bring praise to God His Father. How can our good deeds point people to God rather than to us?
15. How are people healed by forgiveness? Can our refusal to forgive prevent healing?