

## Cell group Material Healing Part 2

**Welcome:** As a child what accidents did you have that caused injury?

**Worship:** Either songs focusing on Jesus as Lord or on healing – ‘Be still for the presence of the Lord’ would work.

Possibilities

*The Price is paid*

*We are all together*

*Where there once was only hurt*

*Light of the world*

**Witness**

How are you doing?

**Word**

Mark 2:1

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2:So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3:Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. 4:Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralysed man was lying on. 5:When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6:Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, 7:"Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8:Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9:Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? 10:But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . ." He said to the paralytic, 11:"I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12:He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Assign various members of the group to the following roles

One of the friends

The paralysed man

The Pharisees

The crowd watching

Get people to read the passage and jot down what they their characters reaction to the events would have been.

Imagine that you are filming a documentary after the event and that you are interviewing the various people. Then you as the interviewer ask them questions such as

What were you doing at the house?

Why were you there?

What happened as far as you are understand it?

How did you feel?

What do you feel about it all now?

Here in the passage Jesus deals with an internal issue that the man needs to be forgiven and to know that he is forgiven. In what other ‘internal issues’ do people need healing – i.e things which cannot be seen but which affect our relationship with God, our relationship with other people and our own behaviour. (The internal issues could be a fear, over anxiety, an inadequate understanding of God, sadness, depression, a sense of being unloved, hurt from the past etc – if you read these out straightaway you may limit the discussion.)

Can God heal these problems?

Then Jesus healed the man.

What physical healing do people need in the group?

What are the special characteristics of those who can pray for people to be healed? (None – other than being a Christian!)

**Work**

A. Now get the group to pray **clearly and directly** for each person that needs physical healing. {Ways to pray for them: where they sit - on a chair in the middle – with them standing – with them lying on the floor – touching the affected part – not touching the affected part – anointing with (olive) oil (Motor oil is not so great)) Please think about this before hand and whilst being open to the Spirit go with what you feel is best for the group.}

B. Now get everyone to lie on the floor, if they can, and imagine they are paralysed by that internal issue that was touched on even if they did not mention it earlier. Get them to struggle against that paralysis without them actually getting free of it for a minute or so. Then ask them to ask Jesus to heal them – probably silently but it may work better out aloud. Then say ‘Jesus has healed you!’ and get them to come out of the paralysis slowly to the point where they are stretching up and out and even touching their toes if they are able.

Ask the group how they felt during this. (Not everyone will appreciate this approach but for some it can be very powerful)

**Have a cup of tea! And coffee and walnut cake.**