



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: *Reset*

Scripture: *Mark 2:1-18*

Date: January 12 & 13, 2019

Message: *Resetting Your Attitude*

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—[ LET'S START ]—

So many people were encouraged by Pastor Dale's sermon a week ago. The quote, "The Father of Jesus is very fond of me," struck a chord with many. One 12-year-old girl put reminder cards on her family's mirrors to remind her family members of God's unconditional love. What are some of your favorite Bible verses or inspirational sayings that have encouraged you throughout your life?

—[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. **GRATITUDE:** What happened last week for which you are thankful?
2. **PRAYER:** What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? As a group, take some time to pray. Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work, and pray about the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
3. Have one person in your group read Mark 2:1-12. Everybody else should close their eyes as the story is read. Try to put yourself in the story. Now, have one person re-tell the story from the perspective of one of the characters in the story.
4. What does this passage teach us about God?
5. What does this passage teach us about people?
6. Why do you think Jesus chose this moment to teach those who were in the home a lesson about forgiveness?
7. Pastor Dales said, "The greatest attitude of all is Jesus' attitude of forgiveness." Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
8. How can you practice receiving and celebrating God's gift of forgiveness in your life?
9. Read Mark 2:15-18. What additional insights do we learn about Jesus and about people from this passage?

—[ LET'S ACT ]—

Everyone deals with pain. There is not a person who hasn't been hurt by someone else. Let's encourage each other today to be people of reconciliation. Where it is possible to seek forgiveness, do it. Where you can offer forgiveness, give it. As a group, pray that God would help us to have an attitude of forgiveness, living out what God has modeled for us.

—[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- Having the right attitude is one of the most important possessions you can own in life!
- Jesus spoke the good news of the Kingdom in such a way that it drew people's interest, His illustrations, humor, stories caused people to want to lean in, listen and discuss it among themselves.
- What is that one miracle that could change the trajectory of your life?
- The men who brought their friend to Jesus brought him to Jesus for healing. The first thing Christ gave the man was forgiveness. The man's biggest problem was not his suffering but his sin, and that is true for all of us. Jesus loved the paralytic enough to deal with his most dangerous paralysis, the paralysis of his soul.
- The greatest attitude of all is Jesus' attitude of forgiveness! It is easier to forgive than heal. To heal, Jesus needed to simply use His words, "Be healed," and it was done. To forgive would take Jesus giving His own life.
- Being forgiven is more important than what's been done to me, than all the bad breaks I've had in life, than the injustice I've suffered. Being forgiven saves your eternal soul.
- As Christ's followers we should commit, by God's help to daily practice receiving and celebrating God's gift of forgiveness in my life!
- Theologian Marcus Borg says, "One of the most striking features of Jesus' ministry [was] the meals he shared with 'sinners' – that is, outcasts. Pharisees (and others) would not eat with somebody who as impure, and no decent person would share a meal with an outcast."
- We know if the attitude of forgiveness is taking hold of our life when we stop judging people. Forgiveness frees you. You realize that Christ could have judged you but didn't, instead he forgave you.
- Superficial, hypocritical, harsh and unforgiving, self-righteous, and untrue judgement is wrong. We are called to confront sin but to do so humbly, lovingly and very aware that if not for the grace and forgiveness of God I'd be in the same or similar situation.
- Make it your aim to daily practice not judging others but instead forgive others.
- Forgiveness is not easy. It is costly. It took Jesus' life to forgive you and me. It meant putting His own rights aside. He was innocent. Will it cost you to forgive others? Yes. To the extent that we allow Christ's love and forgiveness to take us over, His nature will become ours and like Him we to will seek and save.

—[ NOTES ]—

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